



Old Stratford Parish Council Newsletter

Autumn 2021

For Residents of Old Stratford and Passenheim

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Chairman's Update

It has been some considerable time since we produced and distributed a copy of our village newsletter due to the Covid pandemic. Firstly, we would like to say a big thank you to all those who volunteered to help during the Covid pandemic. Whether it be shopping, delivering newspapers or collecting medication for neighbours, leaflet dropping, or picking litter on your daily walk, community spirit has really shone through during these difficult times, and we hope it can continue over the coming years.

On behalf of the Parish Council, I would like to welcome our new Councillors Amanda Webster and Dawn Wallace. Both have lived in Old Stratford for many years and have become integral members of the Community.

We are still encountering a great number of speeding vehicles in Old Stratford and Passenheim. We have purchased new Speed Indicator Devices (SIDS), installed the necessary mounting posts with power supplies connected to them and now we await the connection of the units. I hope that the data we will be able to collect from these new units will give us the evidence we require to convince the Police that we DO actually have a problem, and which will enable them to prioritise enforcement in our Parish.

Dog fouling issues are still being reported to all members of our Parish Council, I would remind residents who own and walk their dogs around the village that it is their responsibility to clean up the mess and put in one of the many rubbish bins around the village.

Finally, I have to say that Old Stratford in Bloom have done the village very proud with the lovely floral displays around the village. Thank you to all the team for their creativity and work in maintaining the displays.

If you wish to report any issues relating to our village please contact our Parish Clerk: Mr Derek Everett by phone (01908 569053) or email clerk@oldstratford.org.uk

Tony Pateman,
Chairman

Old Stratford in Bloom (OSIB)

What a season the Old Stratford in Bloom team have had. The summer planting of petunias has made a stunningly colourful display, however during October OSIB will be removing the petunias and planting our winter display. The centre plant in the display is a variegated green grass and will be surrounded by red pansies, yellow polyanthus, marmalade and lime green hercuras with deep green ivy in the corners.



Petunias - Towcester Road



The area by the shop is now much improved and a variety of small bulbs and grasses will be planted to make a wonderful spring display.

Area beside the shop

Thanks to all our volunteers who have looked after the Boat Green, Hyundai Bed, the Memorial Hall area and other areas throughout the season. A special thank you to Malcolm for caring for the planting boxes by the bus stop and to Matthew Sturgess for volunteering as part of his Duke of Edinburgh award. Thanks also to the residents of Trinity Close, who have looked after the baskets on the railings.



Trinity Close Planters

Working parties will continue for the next few months, weeding, pruning and generally tidying up and in November, eight ornamental Cherry trees will be planted around the village.

The" Big Daffodil Dig" is planned in October / November, where we will be planting 5000 bulbs along the Deanshanger Road from the village sign at the no entry point as well as by the Travelodge. A leaflet will be delivered to the residents in Deanshanger Road when the team will be planting. If you would like to join us please bring a spade!

If anyone can spare a few hours occasionally to help with work parties please email to alan.holloway@oldstratford.org.uk or phone 01908 562761. OSIB thanks the Parish Council and the sponsors for their continued support.

Community Hall Update

After everyone has had a difficult year and a half, we are delighted to announce that the Community Hall is finally fully open and we can welcome back our groups and annual events.

Mr Tony Locke, who is a village resident, is now the new Hall caretaker/manager and Tony has helped enormously with getting the Hall ready for our regular groups to return whilst making sure we adhere strictly to the government Covid-19 guidance.

It has been an extremely tough time for the Hall where we saw our income plummet and all groups, except for pre-school, were closed and functions cancelled. But thankfully our groups are returning and bookings for functions are flowing in, so we are most definitely back in business!

We are delighted to welcome back our regular groups:- Karate, Short Mat Bowls, Zumba, Zumba Gold, Slimming World, Weight Watchers, MK Dance, Mums & Toddlers, and now have new groups joining us:- True Colours, Ragdoll Annie, Open University Orchestra, and a choir. You can find contact information and days/timings for these groups in the "What's on" section below. Please come and support the return of our groups - have a look in the hall foyer for further information and we look forward to welcoming you back to our Hall soon.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Parish Council for their continued support and yearly donation to the Community Hall, especially over the last year where we have struggled with loss of income.

We are trying very hard to bring as many groups as possible to the community but we are desperately in need of more support on our committee. If you would like to volunteer to join us, you would be made very welcome. Please contact the Hall via email or phone (oldstratfordcommunityhall2@hotmail.co.uk / 01908 307461) and we will get back to you with more information.

The Old Stratford Community Hall Committee

Senior Citizens Christmas Meal. December date to be confirmed

We are doing our very best to make sure this event is run this year but we are unable to confirm the date for you just yet. Once the date is confirmed we will be sending out invitations. Remember to reply promptly as we are restricted on numbers. If you are new to the village or have never been before and would like some more information, please contact the Hall on 01908 307461 and we will send you an invitation. If we don't know about you, we can't invite you! We welcome any resident of the village over the age of 65, however if you have a partner who is under 65, they are very welcome to join you.

Come along and enjoy a festive afternoon with us!

Fireworks Display

Saturday 6th November (5.30pm – 7.30pm)

Join in the fun at the Old Stratford Fireworks Display and help support your community groups. The gates open at 5.30pm, with the display starting around 6.30pm. You will not be allowed into the car park before 5.30pm due to stall holders still setting up.



Admission prices remain the same: FREE to anyone under 16 and only £2.50 for 16 and over. **Please remember**, for licensing reasons, only alcohol purchased in our on-site bar can be consumed at the event. Fireworks can be dangerous – please keep a close eye on your children and don't allow them to wander beyond the roped off area for their own safety.

Unfortunately there is NO on-site parking available for this event, including disabled parking, as the car park area is cordoned off for spectators and stalls. Parking along the Deanshanger Road gets filled up very quickly, so please walk to the venue if you can.

Senior Citizens Afternoon Teas

Our Afternoon Teas are returning! They are held on the last Friday of every month (except December), between 2pm and 4pm in the Memorial Hall, behind the village shop. Any senior citizen is welcome; you don't have to be a village resident to attend, so come and spend a couple of hours chatting with your friends.

What's On - Community Hall

Day	Time	Activity
Mon-Fri	7:30am-3pm	Old Stratford Pre-School
Mon	4:30 – 5pm	True Colours Performing Arts
	7 – 9pm	Karate
Tues	10am – 1pm	The Phonics Fox
	6:30-7:30pm	Zumba
	8-10:30pm	Short Mat Bowls
Weds	9:30am -12pm	Slimming World
	12:30-1:30pm	Zumba Gold
	5.15 – 7:30pm	MK Dance
	8.00 – 10.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
Thurs	9:30am -12pm	Ragdolly Annas
	1:30-4pm	Short Mat Bowls
	4:30-6:30pm	Brazilian Football
	6:45-8:15pm	True Colours Performing Arts
	8:30-10pm	Silver Sabres
Fri	9:30-11:30am	Cha Char Chimps
	4:30 – 8pm	True Colours Performing Arts
Sat	9:30am – 1:30pm	True Colours Performing Arts

Please don't forget that we offer discounted hire rates to village residents. **For more information regarding hall hire or activities, please phone Tony on (01908) 307461 or 07494 918331**

Old Stratford Pre-School

The Community Centre, Deanshanger Rd, Old Stratford,
Registered Charity no.1033454 OFSTED no. 219885

Old Stratford Preschool is a community preschool run by a parent committee. We offer children the opportunity to Play-Learn and grow together in a safe and stimulating environment while developing core skills in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage. We achieve this by Planning in the Moment, considering the child's key interests at that time and sharing our findings with the parents



Play-Learn-Grow

Old Stratford Preschool aims to:

- ❖ Provide a high-quality care and education for pre-school children
- ❖ Work in partnership with parents to help their children learn and develop
- ❖ Offer children and their parents a service that promotes equality and values diversity
- ❖ Promoting the life and well-being of our community

We are open Monday -Friday during term time from 8:30-15:00 offering full and half-day sessions (minimum two sessions per week)
We also offer a breakfast club from 7:30am.

**All children aged 2years until school entry are welcome.
Spaces available for our funded (15 & 30 hours) and non-funded sessions**

Please contact Dawn to learn more about the preschool and view our excellent facilities! manager@oldstratfordpreschool.co.uk
Tel: 01908 260664 <https://www.oldstratfordpreschool.org/>

What's On- Memorial Hall

Day	Time	Activity	Info / Contact
Mon	5:30-9:30pm	Dance	Juliet Ratnage 07780715837 juliet.ratnage@gmail.com
Thurs	5:30-7pm	Dance	Juliet Ratnage 07780715837 juliet.ratnage@gmail.com
Frid	2-4pm	Senior Citizen's Afternoon Tea	Last Friday of the month only

There may also be a craft club and a book club coming soon, so keep an eye on the Memorial Hall notice board for details.

Remembrance Sunday Ceremony



On Sunday 14th November, there will be a short ceremony of remembrance held at the Memorial Hall at 11am to pay our respects to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice, in the two World Wars and more recent conflicts. Everyone is welcome to attend; we will gather at

the hall from 10:45am.

Old Stratford Parish Clean Up

OSPC would like to send a massive THANK YOU to all those who have been active in litter picks and other activities around the village both during lock down and more recently (including the Parish litter pick on 16th October 2021). If anyone is looking to undertake any such tasks, please let our Clerk know so we can ensure you are covered by our insurance.

A reminder: Now the season of inclement weather is on the horizon, please could you check that your bins are secure to prevent accidental littering in high winds!.

Road Conditions and Pot holes

The Parish Council continues to report damage, such as potholes in roads and pavements, but we are frequently advised that the holes are not of sufficient size to merit repair.

Residents wishing to report an issue with our roads or rights of way can either get in contact with the Parish Clerk or report directly to <https://www.fixmystreet.com/>

Bag that Poo - Any rubbish bin will do!

Dog fouling – loose or bagged – is offensive, disgusting and a potential health hazard. The Parish Council has received complaints from residents about dogs fouling the footpaths, children's play areas and the playing field at the Community Hall.

We know most dog owners are responsible and do clean up after their dogs, however there are many sites around the Parish where bagged poo is repeatedly left or thrown into hedgerows. If a dog waste bin is not available, then the bagged poo can be placed into any rubbish bin.

Whalley's Apprenticing Charity

Applicants of 16 years and over, can claim up to £100 towards books and equipment required for their chosen profession.

For more information or application form please contact Derek Everett the Parish Clerk on **01908 569053**

Neighbourhood Policing Update

We will be strengthening the team shortly: you may be aware we recently recruited a new PCSO to the team, to complement the existing team, and we will also have a further established and experienced PC joining the team in December.

We continue to patrol Old Stratford and Passenham, and deal with any reported incidents as and when they arise. Recently we have dealt with a couple of cases of anti-social behaviour in the area, but currently there is no public risk. Looking from the wider Neighbourhood Policing area, the significant majority of anti-social behaviour is related to neighbour disputes rather than youth-related nuisance. We currently have no open cases involving anyone below the age of 18.

As you may have read recently the Office of the Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner and our Chief Constable have also funded the new Beat Bus, with one for West and one for the North area, we have dates already booked to get this out in our communities.

Due to the time taken in collating data, local crime statistics are no longer provided to Parish Councils. You can however find these statistics on the www.police.uk website.

We continue to ask members of public to record non-urgent matters at www.northants.police.uk, as this frees up the phone lines for our call-handlers to take 999 calls. 101 is still there for those who are not familiar with the internet. Anonymous information regarding drugs and crime can be reported to CrimeStoppers either on www.crimestoppers-uk.org or 0800 555 111.

Towcester Area Door to Door (TADD)

This is an urgent appeal to the people of Old Stratford to consider becoming a volunteer driver – you need a car, a few free hours a week and a desire to help your neighbours. For more details about becoming a TADD volunteer driver visit our website or send us a message.

There are lots of elderly and mobility restricted people in Old Stratford who rely on TADD for door-to-door transport to their medical and well-being appointments. The service is crucial to their ability to remain independently at home in the village. We have only 3 drivers based in Old Stratford to serve 10 members. As a result, in July, we had to repeatedly ask drivers from as far away as Towcester and Silverstone to travel to Old Stratford to take members to their appointments. This cuts across our objective of using local volunteer drivers to minimise wasted mileage costs but also to provide a friendly face from the member's own community.

<https://www.towcesterareadoor2door.com/>

Contact details

Councillor Contact Details

Role	Name	Address	Telephone
OSPC Chairman	Tony Pateman	32 Mounthill Avenue	01908 567907
		Tony.pateman@oldstratford.org.uk	
OSPC Vice Chairman	Nicky Laurence	11 Chapmans Drive	07967 756988
		Nicky.laurence@oldstratford.org.uk	
OSPC Councillors	Chris Allin	23 The Meadows	01908 565648
	Colin Carey	71 Dickens Drive	01908 569171
	Alan Holloway	45 Willow Grove	01908 562761
	Karen Morris	95 Deanshanger Road	07532 161875
	Lynda Murgatroyd	19 Towcester Road	07713 622328
	Linda Ritson	The Old Rectory, Passenham	01908 566014
	Ray Smith	18 Deanshanger Road	01908 564815
	Dawn Wallace	23 Dickens Drive	07540 777796
	Amanda Webster	1 Paddock View	07545 599949
	Councillor emails: <i>firstname.surname@oldstratford.org.uk</i>		
OSPC Clerk	Derek Everett	10 Deanshanger Road	01908 569053
		clerk@oldstratford.org.uk	
District Councillor	Kenneth Pritchard	The Barn, Puxley Road	07764 939070
		Ken.Pritchard@westnorthants.gov.uk	

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<https://en-gb.facebook.com/OldStratfordParishCouncil/>

Website: www.oldstratford.org.uk