

STONEY STANTON PARISH NEWS

Your Village, Your Council, Your Voice

January 2024

Happy New Year from everyone at the Parish Council



MEET YOUR COUNCILLORS

Hello. My name is Chris Stubbs and I'm one of the Parish Councillors. I've lived in Stoney Stanton now for 6 years and live here with my wife and 2 children (as well as 2 dogs). I'm an engineer by trade, mainly focussed on testing systems for automotive, but always with a passion for how things work and problem solving.

I joined the Parish Council originally in 2018 not long after we moved to the village. My primary purpose for joining was to meet new people as we had moved from Yorkshire and also there were a few bits I thought I could help with regards to some of the large planning applications as well as some of the facilities in the village that I felt needed some work. Never one to complain about something and not then try to do something about it I've been involved in lots of projects within the village such as the overhaul of the village hall, the output from the flooding village emergency preparations and many other bits. I was since voted in as the Vice Chair of the Council where I continue to try to make sure the voice of the village is heard in wider forums. I am usually wondering around the village with the dogs and my family, so if you have anything you would like to raise, please just let me know.

The Role of the Parish Council in the village and our precept.

We know that residents have had a tough time both emotionally and financially during this cost of living crisis and we would like to confirm that there will only be a small increase in the amount of the precept we will request from the District Council for the next financial year, and due to the changes in the tax base rate there is a 7.5% increase shown on the figures which will equate as an annual increase of £6.62 (55p per month) for a Band D household taking the annual cost of the parish from £84.53 to £94.45 per year. This will be shown on your Council Tax bill from the district council.

Some of what is the parish council is currently responsible for:

Grounds maintenance on 9 areas of land including the Persimmon Estate, Carey Hill Park & meadow, 3 Play Areas & outside gym, Run & maintain the Village Hall, Christmas Lights Installation and maintenance, Dog and litter bins, Public Events Newsletter, Supporting the Youth Club, Allotments, Run and maintain the Cemetery and its records, Michael's & Long Street Car Parks, Vehicle Activated Speed Sign, Village sign and planting, Planters on entry signs, Flag, pole & 5 street lights, Community Grants, Community Awards, Internal/ External Audit requirements, Parish Website, Employment of Parish Clerk, two part-time ground staff and hall cleaner.

Planning issues – The Council have contracted consultants to help with the fight against the HNRFI and are working closely with them to understand the process, how the Planning Inspectorate deals with such large scale planning applications and have responded to each deadline with written representations which can be found on the website under planning. The council have used funds from the reserves to pay for the consultants in this matter and the spent currently stands at £14,169.

FINANCING THE PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Funding – the Precept

The Precept is a tax, included within the local Council Tax, which enables the Parish Council to perform its functions.

Parish Councils can apply for other funding such as grants and funding awards, generally for specific projects, but they do not receive funds directly from central Government.

How is the Precept calculated?

The Parish Council is required (in law) to agree a budget before it can set its Precept and both must be agreed by the full Parish Council. Once the Parish Council has forecast its budget requirements for the following financial year, it requests this funding from its 'local billing authority' – in our case, Blaby District Council (BDC) – in the form of the Precept. BDC then converts the Precept into an amount per Council Tax payer that is added to the Council Tax bill (according to the property

The Tax Base is produced from the Council Tax system at BDC which gives a listing of all the properties in each town or parish in the District. It then adjusts this to take into account any discounts that are given, for example, single occupancy, second homes or homes that are empty or exempt.

The properties are then translated in to Band D equivalents using the following ratios:

Band A 6/9; Band B 7/9; Band C 8/9; Band D 9/9 (baseline); Band E 11/9; Band F 13/9; Band G 15/9; Band H 18/9

For example Band A is six-ninths of Band D and B and H is twice B and D.

Finally, the estimated number of Band D equivalents to be built in the year are added to the list. This then gives the total number of Band D equivalent properties to use for the Tax Base. The Tax Base is used to calculate the Band D charge for each town or parish which is done by dividing the total Precept requirement by the Tax Base. This figure will be compared with the previous year's Band D charge and supplied to the Parish.

There are a number of reasons why the Tax Base changes, it can go up if more homes are created but it can go down due to more properties in the town or parish claiming for discounts – most commonly an increase in the number of properties claiming the single occupancy discount.

STONEY STANTON FLOODING UPDATE

The last significant flooding that occurred in the village was 1st October 2019 and affected 40+ homes throughout the village and impacted peoples lives to this day. In the years between the flood and now changes to road surface drainage systems in Station Road, realignment of drainage systems and ditches to many areas of the village as well as the cleansing of many of the fresh water systems has taken place. The village has one of the most complex drainage systems many of the experts have ever seen.

One of the outputs from the initial flooding was to look at the weather patterns in terms of rainfall volumes over the land and understand if there is a pattern that follows the previous flooding events. What was noticed is that when a certain volume of water falls, it completely saturates the ground, meaning that when a significant volume of water then falls on this ground, it merely runs off as it falls into the surrounding water systems. On the 29/12/23 and 02/01/24, were two such events where nearly 25mm rain fell over an 18 hour period. Whilst it is not unusual for this volume of rainfall on an annual basis the amount of rainfall over a prolonged period starting in October was high and followed the pattern of previous events.

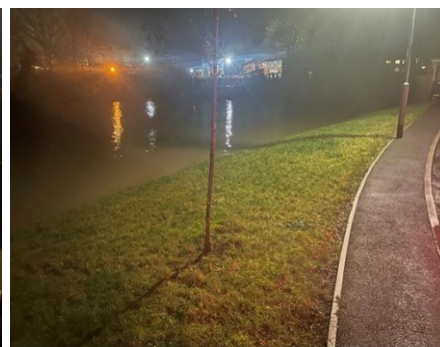
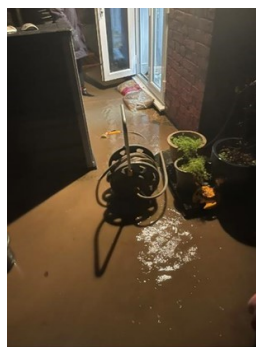


Foxbank Ind Estate entrance

On 29th December the water levels began to rise around 16:00 and by 21:00 there were a number of properties on Station Road that were are risk and the garage adjacent to 1 Station Road had unfortunately already flooded. Since the last flooding event people in the village have become more prepared and sandbags and a high volume pump were already in place to enable the water to be pumped from a manhole upstream of a blocked pipe. This enabled the water level to be managed and prevented the water from entering properties and as the rain stopped by 2:30 on 31st December the pumps were able to be stopped and the clean up could commence.

Over the next few days the level receded back to near normal levels of water flowing through the systems, but the ground was already completely saturated. The concern was the forecast for the 2nd January and the risk that it could pose.

On 02/02/24 the rainfall started with significant volumes around 11am, under normal conditions the flow in the various systems takes around 12 – 18 hours to respond with an increased flow.

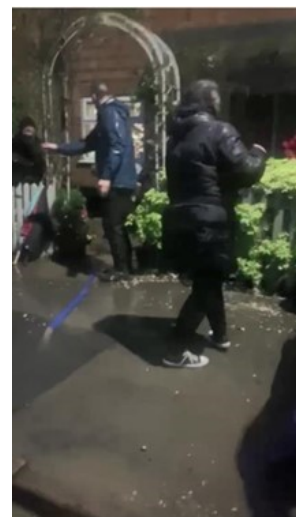


**Above: (L) Water level to the rear of a property & (R) Floodplain to rear of Godfrey Close
Right: Human chain bailing water**

On the 2nd the water levels began to rise within approx. 20 minutes of the start of the rain and continued to rise for the next 10 hours. During this period the water level encroached on 1, 2 and 3 Station Road and also posed a risk to the houses further downstream in Meadow Close.

As the water levels rose the pumps had to be started as the system backed up. The response from the residents and the village was brilliant to see, pumps were delivered, people came to support the bailing out of the front gardens and food and drink was provided.

The water level came within an inch of entering properties and if it weren't for the herculean efforts of everyone involved the water would have entered the properties. There is a full report with far more detail and pictures that can be found on the Parish Council website.



Revised byelaws for comment after the Secretary of State removed the gym height restriction, please forward any comments to the clerk@stoneystanton.org.uk by the end of February 2024. <https://www.stoneystanton.org.uk/uploads/updated-byelaws-2023-24.pdf?v=1702457031>

STONEY STANTON VILLAGE HALL

Available for bookings of all sorts from clubs to parties, wedding receptions to exercise classes. Follow the QR link.



Sunday 5th May 2024

1.00pm & 4.00pm

St Michael's Church Stoney Stanton



£15.00 & £10.00 (including afternoon tea)
07738 764245 julielawrence59@googlemail.com

Stoney Stanton
CARNIVAL

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY!

Sat 24th Feb Family Quiz Night

Sat 16th March Family Disco
& Royal Family Draw

Sun 12th May Family Fun Run

Sat 8th June ****Carnival****

Like and follow our FB page for
more details and to stay in touch



JUST GET INVOLVED 2024

Do you want to be more active in 2024? - We can help you!

JUST Get involved is a 9 week physical activity programme which aims to encourage and empower local women to try new activities and be more active!

Running from the 15th Jan to 17th March 2024, you can access a huge range of activities and claim FREE rewards for your attendance along the way! You don't have to be sporty or even have done an exercise class before, JUST is for women of all abilities.

Scan the QR Code to find out more and sign up!



justgetinvolved1@gmail.com @Justgetinvolved



SAPCOTE CRICKET CLUB

We are your local Cricket Club with a very close connection to Stoney Stanton. Many players both past and present have either lived in or still live in the village. We play in the Leics & Rutland League with our 1st XI in Div 7 and our 2nd XI in Div 9. We're always looking for new players, both experiences 1st teamers who are just looking for a change of Club, down to novices that want to progress their game.

We are a very friendly, sociable, supportive Club that prides itself on playing the game in the correct manner and having fun at the same time.

We run regular nets and have two coaches with ECB coaching qualifications. Our wickets, outfield and facilities are some of the best in the area. Come and join us in a fun, inclusive team atmosphere. You'll be made to feel very welcome.

We start winter nets on Sunday January 14th at Countesthorpe College 10.30-11.30am. If you are interested in joining us please phone or text Ian Root on 07971 619557.

Stoney Stanton Yarn Bombers need you!

Have you enjoyed seeing our display this Christmas on the village green? The yarn bombing team do love creating everything that we put out there for everyone, especially the children, to help brighten up the village. There aren't many of us at the moment, are any of you interested in finding out a bit more about us?

If you think you'd like help with learning either of these crafts, or refreshing memories, why not call in for a friendly chat. We are always looking for folk to help us, and not only to knit or crochet for us but we also struggle when it comes to putting out or taking down the displays. If you'd like to find out who we are, where we meet and how we go about things, we'd love to hear from you.

Please contact : Marilyn Langley - mal_langley@hotmail.com or Gaynor Jeffs - g.jeffs@sky.com



STONEY STANTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Website: www.stoneystanton.org.uk

NOMINATION TIME

The Parish Council Community Awards.

We would like to hear from you about groups, individuals, couples, young people that you think deserve one of our 2024 trophies, please email clerk@stoneystanton.org.uk with your nomination and the reason for the nomination, the awards will be given out in May.

Outstanding Service to the Community.

Outstanding Achievement for a Young Person

George Hill Cup for Sporting Achievement

Community Smile Award

Closing date is 1st April 2024



Companionship over a Cuppa

- A community led initiative that gives those living with memory loss, their carers and loved ones a supportive social network
- Find out about support services available in your area
- Meet and share experiences of living with dementia in a friendly and relaxed environment



Forget Me Not Café

Last Friday of every month

Time: 10 am—12 noon

Where: Stoney Stanton Village Hall, Stoney Stanton, LE9 4LQ

In partnership with the Parish Council and Social Prescribing

£1 contribution for beverages



STONEY STANTON ACTION GROUP NEWS

Hinckley National Rail Freight update: The HNRFI examination by the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) has been underway since September 2023. As part of this, PINS have held Open Floor Hearings (OFH) and Issue Specific Hearings (ISH). Members of the SSAG committee have attended these and made representations. The Examining Authority are due to finish their examination by 12th March 2024 and before then there will be at least one more Issue Specific Hearing (ISH) about transport and noise on January 24th which SSAG will also attend. Following that there will be a few more chances for Interested Parties to respond to new submissions. The ExA must provide their examination report to the Secretary of State by 12th June and following that the Secretary of State (SoS) should make a decision about whether HNRFI will be allowed to go ahead by 12th September 2024. The SoS will take other factors into account in his decision, although they will be guided by the report. The period

from April to August 2024 will be a good time for as many people as possible to write letters to their MPs. We will encourage this by providing as much information as we can.

Land West of Stoney Stanton: The consortium pushing the LWoSS proposal issued an end of year report in December 2023. The whole proposal is still very much at the ideas stage and if it goes forward it will need to go through a full planning process which will include consultation. SSAG will continue to attend meetings and will insist that the inter-village gap between Sapcote and Stoney Stanton is maintained, and will also insist that appropriate supporting infrastructure is provided which doesn't destroy the nature of our village if the proposal moves forward.

We need your help! SSAG was formed by a group of residents who had the view that just letting things happen around us was not an option. We have tried to obtain views from residents, represent them at the appropriate times and to let residents know as much as we can find out about what is going on. We would love to have more people involved in helping us to do this. If you want to get involved, either as a helper or as a committee member, please contact us at info@stoneystanton.co.uk. Also see our website at stoneystanton.co.uk.

Please clean up after your dog



Thank you to the Co-op Helping Hearts Charity for £200 towards the many Christmas hampers which were provided and distributed around the village with the aid of local donations, The Parish Council, Living Rock Church and Blaby District Council.



Don't forget to like our Facebook pages <https://www.facebook.com/stoneystantonpc/>

<https://www.facebook.com/StoneyStantonVillageHALL>

www.stoneystanton.org.uk

clerk@stoneystanton.org.uk

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