

News & Views

Inc. Stanford Rivers Parish Council News Letter

Jan/Feb 2017

Issue No. 89

We are not a dumping ground!

Like never before, we seeing an unprecedented amount of fly tipping taking place throughout the Parish, particularly in and around the rural roads and lay-bys of Stanford Rivers itself. The question is what, if anything, can be done about it. First, some facts:

- ① Fly Tipping is the illegal deposit of waste on land, contrary to Section 33(1)(a) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990.
- ① Local authorities and the Environment Agency both have a responsibility in respect of illegally deposited waste
- ① The estimated cost of clearance of fly-tipping to local authorities in England is around £50 million
- ① Local authorities dealt with a total of 900,000 incidents of fly-tipping in 2014/15
- ① Household waste which includes 'black bags' and 'other' is the largest waste type contributing to all fly-tipping incidents, accounting for around 66 % of all incidents.

Many people feel this increase is as a direct result of changes introduced by Essex County Council to the way in which Civic Amenity Sites now with the 'white van man' being specifically targeted. The questions is, what can we do to stop it!! The short answer, is not much. It is understood that high level criminal gangs are using Stanford Rivers and nearby areas as a dumping ground, and although the Police are aware this is a very difficult issue to deal with unless the culprits are caught in the act.

From a community point of view, the Parish Council is liaising with the Local Authority and neighbouring Council to see what we can do collectively, and the "**Stanford Rivers Neighbourhood Watch**" Facebook page is quickly becoming a very useful way

to highlight fly tipping to other members of the community (this should always be reported to the appropriate authority also).

Getting Rid of Household Waste

So what should you do if you need to get rid of any waste? If you are hiring a company to complete building or decorating works, it is YOUR responsibility to ensure the contractor you use has the appropriate waste licence. Householders have a duty of care to check that anyone they commission to take away and dispose of their domestic waste is registered. Householders should be aware that if they give waste to another person who then fly-tips, and if they are unable to assist the officers with any investigation, they may be prosecuted under the Duty of Care requirements. Failure to ensure your waste is disposed of correctly could leave you open to a fine of £50,000. As your hired contractor to supply you with a copy of their licence.

Who do I report fly tipping to?

It depends on the size of the load and where its dumped. If its a few black bags, the old sofa, tyres, or a 'car boot load' of general rubbish, you should contact your Local Authority – in our case, Epping Forest District Council. If its on a much larger scale, contact the Environment agency direct.



Small Load – Report to Epping Forest District Council 01992 564000

Large Load – Report to Environment Agency 0800 807060.

Some key points to consider if you witness any fly-tipping

- ✓ **Do not** put yourself in danger by approaching anyone you see dumping waste.
- ✓ Note the time and date of incident - Description of person(s) dumping waste, - Description of vehicle(s) involved, including registration numbers - Description of the waste dumped
- ✓ Photographs can also be very useful, but only if it is possible to obtain them safely
- ✓ If you make notes please keep them, even if they are scribbled notes on the back of an envelope. Actual notes taken at the time can be very valuable as evidence.
- ✓ Do not try to rummage through the waste yourself to look for evidence, as there may be hazardous or sharp items hidden among the waste.

Long Standing Councillor Retires

After over 40 years service to the community, Jean Gatward regretfully taken the decision to step down from her position as Councillor for Stanford Rivers Parish Council. Jean worked on the Toot Hill Village Hall Committee, and many of you will remember she ran the Disco for over 10 years that was held every Wednesday and once a month on a Saturday night for both families and children. These ended in 1988 Jean's service goes back to the early 70's, when she would organise coach trips to London and trips for the children to the seaside during school holidays. Jean also helped with Bingo night on a Monday. During her time as Councillor, Jean has provided so much support and guidance to her fellow Councillors, as well as being the font of all knowledge any historical queries Councillors had.

Cllr John Glover, Chairman of the Parish Council, said "Jean is the kindest, most selfless person I have ever met. Not only has she given much of her time to her community, but she cares for her family and friends alike, and I am truly blessed to call her my friend. Her leaving will be a loss to our Community".

Jean...on behalf of the whole community, we thank you, and wish you well for the future.



Hare Coursing – It's on the rise



What are the most obvious signs of a hare coursing event? A group of vehicles parked in a rural area perhaps by a gateway to farmland, on a grass verge, on a farm track or bridle path. There will usually be estate cars, four wheel drives or vans. They may contain evidence of dogs inside – such as muddy paw prints and dog hair. They often travel in convoy, with vans at the front and rear containing minders. They will often use binoculars to spot hares. Coursers will often walk along the edge of a field to frighten a hare into the open.

At the end of September last year, Essex Police and partner agencies came together to launch a new policing operation aimed at tackling rural crime. Operation Buzzard is an initiative to coordinate all rural crime related operations in Essex. These operations will make best use of all the specialist teams and help ensure the force is in the best position to tackle a range of rural crime offences. One of these offences is **Hare Coursing** – a crime that is becoming more and more prevalent in rural areas such as ours.

There have been numerous recent reports of possible Hare Coursing taking place both within this Parish and in the areas beyond.

What is hare coursing? Hare coursing is the pursuit of hares using hounds. Participants spread in a line across a field and disturb the hare from its home. They then release their dogs to give chase. A bet is made on which dog will catch the hare first with large sums of money changing hands.

Is hare coursing legal? No. The Hunting Act 2004 made hare coursing illegal. Anyone convicted of the offence can be fined up to £5,000 by a magistrates' court.

What should I do if I suspect hare coursing on my farm? These people are determined criminals often travelling huge distances, and evidence has shown they are frequently involved in other criminal activity too. Hare coursers are often engaged in illegal betting involving large sums of money, and would be prepared to use violence if disturbed so if anyone sees hare coursing taking place you are advised not to approach the criminals, but contact the police immediately. Calls from the public really do make a difference as it provides important intelligence that helps the Police coordinate their resources to combat crime more effectively.

REMEMBER....If you see an event taking place on your farm, police advise you to contact them immediately by **calling 101**. Do not approach the participants yourself.



Successful Dog First Aid continues at Toot Hill Village Hall

After the very successful inaugural Dog First Aid at the Village Hall late last year, there are plans to hold another in February. Knowing your dog, their weekly health check, understanding vital signs, recognising shock, safe transportation, restraining to treat if injured, treating foreign objects, choking, seizures, bleeding or wounds, dog bites, entrapment in wire or brambles, are all things that we can do initially if trained to react correctly.

If your dog is seriously injured then the treatment you can give them before reaching the Vet will be the difference between keeping or losing a trusted, entertaining and much loved member of the family.

The training will be certificated and give guidance about when to go to a Vet if you are unsure. The training meets the requirements of the Animal Welfare Act (Rights for Dogs) and will deal with everything already mentioned as well as First Aid Kits and Items you should have when you go out for a walk or journey (not just poo bags).

For further information please contact

07855170256 or email

matt.tallon@includingsport.co.uk

First Aid Trainer Humans and Canines

National Body Accreditation

This course and guidance is not a substitute for professional veterinary care. If in doubt, call or go to your vet as soon as possible. Always have the number to hand on your mobile phone.



How about some FOLK for you good folk!

Toot Hill Folk Club at The Green Man Pub.

Come along and enjoy an evening of ALL types of music from Irish/English/ Scottish/American/ European etc. folk to sea shanties to oldies you remember from your youth to up to date modern artists. You don't have to play or sing, some take off their shoes and hum, others (as John Lennon said) just rattle their jewellery. We have an established core of performers who entertain on a regular basis as well as a well-established backing singers group.

Some play their own compositions others sing their favourite song and if we can we join them. There are no divas, you will get to play/sing a song, possibly 2, then we move around the circle. If you like the Eagles, John Denver, Willie Nelson, U2, Tom Paxton, the Dubliners, Clancy Brothers, Ed Sheeran, Adele, Carly Simon, Beatles, Stones, Bob Marley then don't expect to see any of them at the Folk Club but do expect to hear some of their best tunes.

Established some 6+ years ago by some people who should have known better, The Folk Club has continued to attract some excellent entertainers. Our recent Christmas event was a great night for all. The Green Man, under recent new management, will provide reduced Folk Club Food for our Friday night groups. We reside in the newly furnished corner restaurant usually on the last or second last Friday of each month.

We have a website **www.Toothillfolkclub.com** please do have a look at it.

Brian, Bill and myself Matt would like to welcome you to the musical event of your life – well perhaps not your life maybe just the year or month or week! Look forward to seeing you there!

Next Meet: FRIDAY 24TH FEBRUARY 7.30 for 8pm start

Bogus Police – WARNING!!

On Monday 23rd January 3.30pm in Vicarage Lane, North Weald, a man was driving a van that he had just hired. A car, possibly a silver BMW, overtook him and pulled up in front of him with blue flashing lights. Three white males were in the car and once stopped, two exited the Vehicle and approached then Van. The first male was dressed in a black cap, black zip sweatshirt with a white check pattern (similar to that of a Police officer). The second male was dressed in a high visibility jacket and a similar cap. They shouted POLICE and told the driver to get out of the van where they handcuffed him and walked him to a secluded wooded area and pushed him not a ditch where he lay for an hour – his injuries including a broken ankle.

They then left the area in both vehicles. If you are ever concerned about the genuineness of being pulled over, the advice from Essex Police is:

Stop the car where safe – Not a secluded area – somewhere built up and busy if possible – remain in the vehicle

If you are genuinely unsure of the officers credentials, you can ask for a secondary ID being that of a warrant card which will always be presented by the officer. If you STILL are not happy, you can dial 101 and ask for the officer to be verified. A genuine officer will have no qualms with you checking his details.



Stanford Rivers Neighbourhood Watch

JOIN OUR FACEBOOK PAGE - All you need to do is search on Facebook for "**Stanford Rivers Neighbourhood Watch**" and then request to join the group. If you live anywhere in the parish the group is there for your benefit, why not use it. If you have any questions or comments about Neighbourhood Watch please get in touch. **Your coordinator is John Adams: srpcnw@gmail.com**
Tel 1277 362194

Editors comments

Since taking over production of News and Views, the copy included seems to be missing that *personal, local touch*. I would be really interested to hear of any interesting local stories, a bit of history, something fun happening, or events that you feel your local parishioners would like to know. Remember....this magazine goes to every house in the entire parish.

Additionally, if there is something specific you feel should be included in the magazine, please do let me know. We want this to be a magazine giving local residents what they want to see.

Please contact me at stanforddriverspc@gmail.com or call 077 377 36365

BBC

TWO

Do you own something broken that you'd love to see restored?

Nestled deep in the British countryside is The Repair Shop, a place where broken and battered beloved artefacts, antiques, and curios come back to life.

In a new Ricochet TV series for BBC TWO a team of Britain's most passionate and skilled crafts people will rescue broken objects and restore them to their former glory.

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St Margaret's Church Stanford Rivers



It has been nearly two years since Andrei Petrine, our vicar, left St Margaret's. Keen followers of News and Views will know about the many and inventive ways in which the congregation, PCC and local clergy have pulled together to maintain and indeed increase our activities during what the Church of England calls our "interregnum". Now is the time to acknowledge all their help. You are too many to mention by name but you, and God, knows who you are. Thank you. Our prayers have been answered and we have a new vicar - the Revd. Neil Taylor. His licensing will take place at St Margaret's at 7.30pm on Monday 13th March. It will be great for Neil to walk into a packed church as we start this new chapter in the history of our parish. Please make a note in your diary and join us.

Talking of packed churches you can see from the photograph that there was a full house for the Christmas Eve carol service. Led by Dan Wayte, the evening was a wonderful moment in the madness of Christmas preparations, for peaceful reflection on the simple message of Christmas – the triumph of life, goodness and love over death evil and hate.



The crib service was successfully revived and supported by lots of proud mums dad's and grandparents. The costumes were great and thanks go to Phillippa for all her hard work making the start of Christmas so memorable.

Services February to May 2017@ St Margaret's Church

5th February @ 10.30 Catch up Church
 19th February @ 10.30 Catch up Communion
 5th March @ 10.30 Catch up Church
 13th March @ 7.30pm Licensing Service
 19th March @ 10.30 Catch up Communion
 2nd April @ 10.30 Catch up Church
 16th April Easter Sunday Catch up Communion @ 10.30
 30th April Benefice Service @ 10.30 @ St Martins Ongar



**The PCC and congregation of
St Margaret's Church
Invite you to join us**

**For
Catch Up Church, with
Communion, Easter Egg
Hunt and Refreshments**

**Easter Sunday
16th April 2017
10.30am**

**St Margaret's Church
Stanford Rivers**

Please note that on dates where no service is listed, services are available at either St Andrew's Greensted or St Martin's Ongar-please see Ongar News for details



Toot Hill Village Hall - Hire the Hall

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Contact the booking secretary Vicky on 01992 523402

Want to Advertise in this Magazine?

**Contact stanforddriverspc@gmail.com –
deadline for copy 7th Mar, 7th May, 7th July**

Advert/ Frequency	Per edition (6 per year)	Per Annum (6 editions)
Quarter Page	£20.00	£100.00
Half Page	£30.00	£150.00
Full Page (A4)	£50.00	£200.00



Stanford Rivers Parish Council Newsletter

Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony

Once again this year, Jubilee Green was adorned with a beautifully lit Christmas Tree. Thank you to Gill and Martin Ellice for providing the rather essential electricity and to Philippa Giles for organising the charming Carol Ceremony. Our Clerk, Adriana Jones provided the mulled wine and mince pies and Santa arrived, with some help from Ongar Round Table to give sweets to the children and even let them sit in his sleigh.

Sadly this year it was rather poorly attended with numbers down considerably from previous years. So put the date in your diary now for this year's event: Sunday 3rd December at 5pm!

Highways

The VAS sign at Bridge Farm is still not working: Clerk to progress chase. It has been agreed to purchase a new reflective gateway sign for the Hare Street end of Stanford Rivers. Finger Post signs submitted for repair: Near Green Man, Toot Hill, opposite Toot Hill Road, Toot Hill sign, junction with Barnmead and Toot Hill Road, Sign on Smarts Green (as it turns in heavy wind!), No finger post at junction of Theydon Mount Road and Banks Lane: indicating Toot Hill, There is no sign for Toot Hill opposite Church Road on the A113

Budget and Precept 2017/2018

The Budget was considered and set by the Parish Council. There will be a NIL increase in the precept request for 2017/18: meaning the request would be £20,298. Full details are posted on the Parish website: www.stanforddrivers-pc.gov.uk

Annual Meeting of the Parish

Each year, a meeting of the Parish electors takes place between 1st March and 1st June. This meeting is for the local community to get together and celebrate achievements throughout the year, as well as addressing the Parish Council with any concerns you may have. This meeting will take place at 7pm on Thursday 11th May in Toot Hill Village Hall. Light refreshments will be available, and both the public and press are invited to attend.

Resignation of Councillor

As mentioned earlier in this edition, the Parish Council would like to thank Jean for her service to the community for all these years.

Dates for the diary

23 March 2017 – 5.30pm Parish Council Meeting

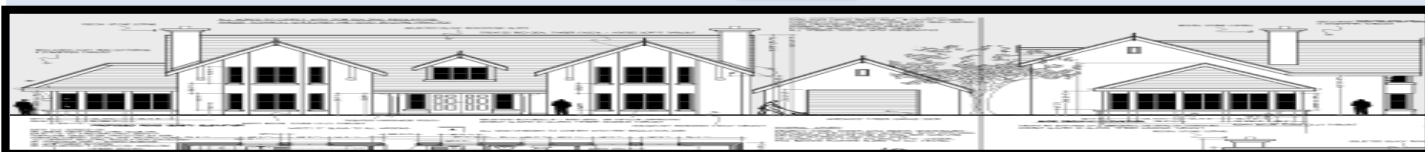
11 May 2017 – 5.30pm Parish Council meeting, 7pm Annual meeting of the Parish

13 July 2017 – Parish Council meeting

Please put the dates in your diary: everyone is welcome to come along. All Meetings are held in Toot Hill Village Hall.

WANT TO BE KEPT INFORMED?

If you would like to be kept informed via email of items of general interest, join our 'email update' list. Email the Clerk at... stanforddriverspc@gmail.com
Visit the Parish Council website – www.Stanforddrivers-pc.gov.uk



EFDC REF:	LOCATION:	DESCRIPTION AND COMMENTS
EPF/2859/16 EPF/2860/16	Widows Farm, Toot Hill Road	Change of use and conversion of former barn from private ancillary living accommodation to separate single dwelling house, plus Grade II listed building application for proposed change of use and conversion of former barn from private ancillary living accommodation to separate single dwelling house. NO OBJECTION
EPF/3275/16	Church Cottages, Church Road, SR	Detached timber carriage house. NO OBJECTION
EPF/3138/16	Grafton Cottage, 6 Toot Hill Road	Two storey rear extension. NO OBJECTION
EPF/3151/16	Knightlands House, 46 Berwick Lane, Stanford	Single storey side extension to create link between the house and garage. Garage to be converted with kitchenette and bedroom. Internal alterations to existing dwelling.

EFDC REF:	LOCATION:	DESCRIPTION AND COMMENTS
EPF/3065/16	Westleigh, Toot Hill Road	Demolition of existing conservatory to be replaced with a new insulated extension. Existing roof to be replaced with one of a higher pitch. Front porch to be added. Larger openings. New dormer window to the rear. New material palette on all elevations. NO OBJECTION
EPF/3105/16	4 Epping Road, Stanford Rivers	Single storey front extension and two storey side/rear. NO OBJECTION
EPF/3008/16	Long Acre Cottage, School Road, SR	Single storey rear extension. NO OBJECTION
EPF/3024/16	Magnolia Cottage, 36 Berwick Lane, Stanford Rivers	Erection of 1.5m high timber gates across existing vehicular access to the house, along with two 1.5m high timber pedestrian gates towards each end of the front boundary. NO OBJECTION
EPF/2661/16	11 Garden Fields, Stanford Rivers	Roof extension including 1 rear dormer window, 1 side and 2 front facing roof lights to facilitate a loft conversion. NO OBJECTION
EPF/2595/16	Clarks Farm, Mutton Row	Demolition of existing building, erection of two detached houses and two detached garages: provision of boundary treatment and hard and soft landscaping. NO OBJECTION

Essex Energy Switch



The Winter Essex Energy Switch is now open!

For the past three years, Essex County Council has run its Essex Energy Switch scheme - a scheme which saves you spending hours on the phone trying to ensure you have the cheapest provider for your energy. You have until 14 February 2017 to register your interest (without any obligation) in switching your energy supplier through the scheme. It's a free, easy and secure way to cut your energy bill without wasting time comparing prices on comparison sites.

Essex residents saved nearly £2million combined from the past three energy switches. Rather than switching energy providers as an individual customer, why not work together and save money.

If you haven't switched for a few years you are likely to see the biggest savings, but even those who switch regularly can benefit. Residents in the last Essex Energy Switch saved an average of more than £319 per household and many saved even more.

How does it work

Signing up for the scheme is free and without obligation. You complete the registration form that takes less than 5 minutes. Next, Essex County Council will run its 'reverse auction'. The supplier who offers the cheapest tariff will get to offer you a new contract. From 27th February 2017 you will receive your personal offer from the cheapest supplier, and you can see how much money you could save. You then have until 28th March 2017 to decide whether to accept your personal offer or not. If you accept the offer Essex Energy Switch will take care of the entire switching process for you.

If you registered last year, you will still have to register for this round.

Is there a cost?

There's no cost to register and there is no cost to switch.

Who is it for?

Anyone who pays an energy bill can take part. As well as homeowners this includes tenants and customers on pre-payment meters. You can register for electricity and gas or just for one or the other. The choice is yours. Small and medium-sized businesses can also register through the bespoke business bureau service.

What do I do now? Go to...

www.bigcommunityswitch.ichooor.com/

Or call **0800 048 8285** for more information.

Not on a gas main?

If you're not connected to the mains gas supply it is still possible to save money on heating oil by joining the Rural Community Council of Essex Community oil buying scheme – Tel: 01376 574340 or email oil@essexrcc.org.uk

The scheme brings communities together by using joint buying power savings can be passed on directly to people like you whose fuel costs may be high simply because you use oil fired central heating. It also saves you the time and hassle of telephoning numerous suppliers to obtain quotes for the best price every time you need fuel.



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