



Barton Stacey Parish Council Newsletter

February 2015

Dear Resident,

As this is the first newsletter of 2015 the Parish Council would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a belated happy 2015. The Parish Council meets every month on the **third Tuesday of the month** in the village hall from 7.30pm. All are welcome to attend these meetings and public participation is invited at the start of every meeting. Please contact the clerk if you would like to speak at a meeting. In addition to the Full Council meeting, we hold meetings of the **Finance and General Purpose Sub-committee** every month which are open to the public. These usually happen on the first Wednesday of the month at Poppies Children's Centre from 7.30 although please check the website and noticeboards for confirmation each month

Unfortunately 2 of our Councillors have resigned in recent months due to work commitments. We would like to thank both Bill Sykes and Kate Bell for all their hard work on behalf of the Parish. Gary Justice has replaced Bill, as an elected Councillor, but the vacancy caused by Kate's resignation will not be filled by way of, as it is too close to the election of full council in May. We are looking to fill this vacancy by co-option therefore if you are interested please contact Sue Gaines suegaines5@gmail.com (760564) or email clerk@bartonstacey.com

Superfast Broadband We are in the 2016 to 2019 programme although we are hoping that we will be upgraded in 2016 as we know our County Councillor will be lobbying hard for us. We are also dependent on the Sutton Scotney cabinet being upgraded (for the technically minded - enabled as a 21CN exchange) towards the end of 2015. Please do register for faster broadband on the website if you have not done it.

Operation Resilience After much lobbying by the Parish Council and local residents Hampshire Highways has carried out much of the necessary work in the areas that they are responsible for which flooded badly in 2014. The Winterbourne ditch has been cleaned out by local landowners, which includes the Parish Council. We are in a better position than last year although given the character of the land we cannot eliminate the threat of flooding totally.

Emergency Action Plan The Council is preparing an Emergency Action Plan for the Village with help from various local agencies and local residents. This will cover all potential emergencies, for example, how would we cope with a power cut in the winter which lasted for some days; loss of water over a prolonged period; major fire as fire engines would need to have a parking area the list is long. The Parish Council is hosting an **Open Morning on Saturday 7th March at 10.30 in the Village Hall** to present a first draft of the Plan and hear from local emergency agencies. This will be your chance to be involved and ask questions. Coffee and biscuits will be provided. Everyone who was involved in last year's flooding is now aware that having a plan and a co-ordinating team is essential.

MOD woodland clearance – from Dever Bridge to Wheat Cottage The Parish Council has spoken to the MOD (via the Central Control) and has requested that trees are replanted in the two areas to the north of the village. It really does look desolate at present. The request has been passed on and we await confirmation of the verbal agreement.

Allotments The barren land can now be truly called allotments; they look very good. Grants have been obtained from TVBC to cover most of the cost of replacing the bridge. A new bridge is now in place. The Parish Council, on behalf of the village, would like to thank TVBC for their support.

The Green The Parish Council is very pleased to announce that the purchase of The Green and adjacent playing field has now been completed and now belongs to the Parish.

Footpaths Do you walk the footpaths regularly? Do you have a favourite footpath? We are looking for people to adopt a path...no we are not asking you to keep it clear but just to report back to the Parish Council, at least once a month, if work is needed. Please email the clerk@bartonstacey.com

Village Design Statement The Village Design Statement Team is looking for some more help to prepare the presentation document. We saw some of their work at the Church Fete; the photos and information showed why we should be proud of our village and what we need to protect at the same time as staying vibrant and continue to evolve as it has over many years. If you would like to help please contact Mark Poole (markinmiri@googlemail.com), Stuart Rippon (stuart_rippon@btconnect.com) or Gary Justice, who is now the Parish Councillor on the team (garyljustice@gmail.com)

Bullington Cross Planning Appeal (Proposed Wind Farm) Appeal reference APP/L1765/W14/3001602 We have been advised by Winchester City Council that EDF Energy Renewables have made an appeal to the Secretary of State against the decision of Winchester City Council to refuse to grant planning permission. If you wish to comment or amend previous representations you can do so at www.planningportal.gov.uk/pcs before 9th March 2015.

Barton Stacey United Charities The Charity has donated £518.47 to the Parish Council to maintain the defibrillator for a period of at least 5 years. The defibrillator is located outside the Village Hall. The Parish Council are very grateful for this donation.

Please contact the clerk if you have any queries, clerk@bartonstacey.com

