



Barton Stacey Parish Council Newsletter

June 2015

Dear Resident,

This is the June newsletter of the Parish Council and the first following National and Local Elections. The Parish Council meets every month on the **third Tuesday of the month** in the village hall from 7.30pm. The **Finance and General Purpose Sub-committee** meets monthly, on the first Wednesday of the month at Poppies Children's Centre from 7.30 (no meetings in August and January). The Planning sub-committee meets prior to the full Council meeting starting at 7pm if there are any planning applications to consider (please check notice boards, tumblr or Barton Stacey website). All meetings are open to the public and public participation is invited at the start of the meeting. Please inform the clerk before the meeting if you wish to speak.

Following the election 6 Councillors were elected (non-contested). At the May Parish Council meeting 2 vacancies were filled by co-option leaving one vacancy. We are looking to fill this vacancy by co-option so if you are interested in this opportunity to really make a difference to the Parish please contact Sue Gaines suegaines5@gmail.com (760564) or email clerk@bartonstacey.com. A full list of Councillors will be published very shortly on the Barton Stacey website, notice boards and tumblr.

The Parish is part of Harewood Ward (Test Valley Borough Council) and we have a new Borough Councillor, David Drew. He can be contacted on the following email address. david.drew@testvalley.org.uk

Superfast Broadband As reported in the February newsletter the Parish is in the second wave of upgrades between 2016 and 2018 and 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. To register use this link <http://www.hampshiresuperfastbroadband.com/#sthash.qSa3JM3U.dpuf>

Emergency Action Plan following the open morning on Saturday 7th March there is now a group of volunteers working on the draft to produce a final document of the Emergency Action Plan which will be displayed in the village prior to submission to Hampshire County Council. Everyone who was involved in last year's flooding is now aware that having a plan and a co-ordinating team is essential.

Allotments There are 4 allotments still available. If you are interested please email clerk@bartonstacey.com or phone Gary Justice on 07717003672

Footpaths... Following our appeal in the last newsletter and again at the Annual Parish Assembly Meeting we have volunteers to report the condition of the 3 paths to the Parish Council monthly (Postman's Walk, Moonlight and Difford). However we still have footpaths and bridleways that need to be adopted. Do you have a favourite footpath? Please email the clerk@bartonstacey.com or phone Sue Gaines 07802675100 if you would like to help.

Firing range Please take care when using footpaths that run alongside Moodys Down. These should not be used when the Red Flags are flying as you might get shot! We will be having a presentation at our Parish Council meeting on June 16th. The Parish Council has already requested that another flag is sited at the start of Postman's Walk just across the bridge located at the far side of the rec.

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, whilst staying vibrant and continuing to evolve as it has over many years. The Statement will form a vital part of planning decisions in the future and we are in a weakened position as a village without one. The Team has already done a lot of work but really needs some more help for a final push to get it finished. 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)

Aster Homes held an open day on 28th May for the affordable homes being built at Gainsborough Chase **Gary Toomer, Aster Homes Project Manager, said: "We were delighted to see such a large number of people connected to the village at the open day. We're really pleased so many people expressed an interest in the affordable homes that will soon be available at Wades Farm."** This event was primarily aimed at the 2 shared ownership properties, Plot 9 (now reserved following the event) and Plot 6 - the sizeable two bedroom barn unit which has a market value of £315,000. Shares are available between 25% and 50%. The purchaser pays rent on the remaining share still owned by Aster Group. Interested parties need to register on www.helptobuysouth.co.uk and be able to demonstrate a clear link to the Parish of Barton Stacey by either a family or work-related tie. Once this has been proven they need to undergo an affordability assessment which is organised via Aster Homes (gary.toomer@asterhomes.co.uk). There will also be 5 properties to rent and in order to bid for one of these applicants must have a live application on Hampshire Home Choice which is the choice based lettings system through Test Valley Borough Council. There will need to be a clear link to the Parish as outlined above. To register an application they can go on to www.hampshirehomechoice.org.uk and create an application, they can also call Test Valley Borough Council for more information on 01264 368000. It is advisable that the applicants discuss the local connection criteria with Test Valley Borough Council as part of the application process. Once their application has been registered they will be able to bid on the properties when they are advertised and if successful we would contact them.

Village canine issues Owners are allowing their dogs to run loose in the children's play area but it should be noted that dogs are not allowed in this area at any time. There are plenty of lovely walks around the village for dogs to be exercised but this is the only play area with equipment for children in the village. Unfortunately it has also been reported that dog owners are allowing their dogs to foul public areas on a regular basis, including the football pitch. The Parish Council is investigating providing additional bins; the availability of the Dog Warden to visit the village (he has the power to impose fines) and the possibility of the Countryside Warden attending the village.

It only remains to wish you all a very pleasant summer.