

BARTON STACEY ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

Tuesday 26th March, 2024 at 7.30 p.m.

Cllr Donna Oliver in the Chair

Present:- Jo Gadney - PC Clerk, Ryland Lee – HLOWAA, Jamie Pankhurst – Fishing breaks, Mark Poole, Cllr David Drew, Peggy Carter, Annie McCarthy, Andrew Shiltz, Simon & Tilly Akroyd, Nicholas Prideaux, Peter Wood, Kevin May, Kate Sarnicki, Sienna Gadney, Paul Gibson, Ian & Michelle Ashbolt, Duncan Clark, Derek Tickner, Cheryl Sherwood, Brenda Belshaw, Steve Brown, Lee Stangroom, Sue Atrill, Bill & Karen Sykes, Nhena Bacon, Roger & Marian Whitcomb, Scott Bower, Kevin Kimberley, Donna & Roger & Zoe Oliver, Chris & Jill Coates

1. **Chairman's welcome** - Cllr Oliver welcomed everyone to the Annual Parish Assembly and is happy to see so many residents attend.
2. **Minutes from 2023 APA** - Minutes had previously been emailed to all those attending – It was agreed that they were a true record of the meeting.
3. **Barton Stacey Parish Council – summary of the year 2022-23**

Chairman's Report

The last year has been a very positive one and I would like to thank everyone for their continued, incredible contribution to the community.

It has been a relatively uneventful year for the Parish Council, but our dedicated councillors continue to strive to support the Barton Stacey community in any way they can.

In early 2023 a Housing Needs Survey was commissioned and the findings were published in March 2023. Whilst the survey was delivered to every household within the parish, only 37% were returned. From these responses it was determined that over the next three years, there was a need for affordable housing within the parish.

In May, elections were held and as there were fewer candidates than vacancies, this was an uncontested election. There still remains a vacancy for a councillor, so if tonight's meeting fills you with pride at the wonderful, thriving community we call home, why not consider volunteering to become a councillor? Speak to Jo, for further details, or any of the councillors, who can give you an insight into what the role involves.

The Resilience plan was finalised, outlining the process that will be followed should the parish experience a major emergency such as extensive flooding, fire or major road accident. This important document can be found on the Parish website.

The pavilion project has now reached the stage of applying for planning permission. This has been a slower process than perhaps many of us would have liked, but a project of this importance requires a lot of work to make sure we get the best possible outcome for the whole community.

Once planning is approved, we then move on to the toughest part of the project, raising the funds to build. It is anticipated that the majority of this money will come from grants, such as those offered by Sport England, The Lottery Fund and the local and county councils. Sadly, in Summer 2023 we lost Wayne Wreglesworth, who had a lot of experience in sourcing funding sources, and was going to be the 'main man' leading this part of the project. It would be a fitting tribute to Wayne if we could continue his work, and raise the funds as quickly as possible.

At the start of the project, we consulted the community on what they would like as a building, and these views have been reflected in the plans. However, we cannot continue the project without YOUR support, and will be seeking further assistance from the community in the near future.

Parking around the Parish remains an issue, and the PC have been working hard to resolve these. We are working closely with the Church to ease parking at junctions and along the Street when events or services take place in the Church. We have also been working with the school to resolve the number of concerns raised, particularly around respecting our neighbour's properties, remaining within the requirements of the Highway Code, and most of all ensuring children's safety.

Of course, we cannot talk about parking without mentioning the deteriorating state of the roads. The PC work hard in reporting the potholes and road conditions around the parish. However, like everywhere else, this often takes time and persistence to get anything done by the council. We do persevere though, and everyone can report issues via the online portal, after all the more reports received, hopefully, the quicker a repair is made.

Public transport remains a hot topic, and the PC have been looking at how we can improve accessibility to transport for our parish. This is certainly not an easy task as public transport in rural areas seems to be one of the first services hit when councils need to make budget savings. We are currently looking at the feasibility of operating a community bus, run by volunteers from the parish. However, this cannot happen without dedicated support from volunteers. We are planning an Open Forum on Saturday 18th May, here in the Village Hall between 1pm and 3pm where we will be seeking your views and realistic offers of support for both the transport project and the pavilion. Members of the Pavilion Working Party will be there to share the plans and the next steps for the project. As stated already, these

projects cannot happen without the full support of the community, so do please come along, even if you don't feel you actively contribute to the projects, it is important that you share your views.

4. **Visiting speaker – Jamie Pankhurst** – Fisheries Manager, guide and River keeper at Fishing Breaks

Jamie gave a very informed speech about his job and the importance of the local rivers. It was fascinating listening to everything he discussed. Thank you Jamie for your time this evening.

5. **Presentation of grant cheque to Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance and presentation of the service the charity provide in the area**



Firstly the grant cheque was presented to Ryland Lee. He then gave a very interested speech telling us about the role of the helicopter in our area and the costs involved. As well as the helicopter there are 3 critical care vehicles which are equipped to the same level as the helicopter and a first responder who attends the scene on a bike.

6. **Pavilion project**– Presented by Paul Gibson and Sienna Gadney

The Pavilion Working Party (PWP) have met several times over the past year. Paul confirmed that planning permission was now being sought for the project. Also explained that the grant funding part will be the hard part and that the working party will require some more expertise for this part.

Sienna Gadney - Good evening everyone,

I'd like to talk about the possibilities we will create for the younger generation of the village that will be created when we have a new pavillion in Barton Stacey. I know I speak for the majority of Barton Stacey's young people when I say that the pavillion will be a huge asset to the community.

Sport has been a big part of my life since I was little, and I believe it is incredibly important to a childhood, increasingly now our lives are being taken over by technology. The ability to set time aside to get outside in the fresh air, run around and make the most of the beautiful village we find ourselves in, is so important, encouraging us to remain healthy and active, promoting physical fitness and well-being in the ever challenging day to day life.

The benefit that a pavillion will bring, an investment that will not only provide a building to be home to new sports clubs, that can be set up alongside the current football club, judo club, yoga club and netball club, but also foster a community spirit for the whole village through events that can be hosted in the pavillion, for example book club, coffee mornings, maybe even parties.

New sports clubs and teams can inspire young people to develop social skills and teamwork and introducing competitive sports programmes will teach people skills of perseverance, confidence and empowerment, allowing Barton Stacey's next generation to establish a growth mindset, allowing them to achieve their full potential. For the individuals that consider themselves less sporty, if we can encourage them to find their spark, try new things in a fun and low pressure environment, alongside their friends, this will allow them to reap the benefits of sports that they may otherwise miss out on.

In addition to these social possibilities, the pavillion will provide a multitude of economic benefits as well, for example, won't the Swan Inn and the Barton Stacey stores be thrilled when the 100 spectators come to the village to watch the well established football team, with a flashy new pavillion, and flock to the pub afterwards. This shows how the pavillion would be an asset to the whole village.

If we can come together to provide this new space, we will send an important message to the youth of Barton Stacey, that they are valued. That the village is committed to providing them with resources they need to thrive and succeed.

Thank you very much for listening and I hope this shows to you that the benefits to the community that the new pavillion will bring to the young generation will outweigh any potential difficulties of the project.

7. **Barton Stacey Church Fete** – Presented by Tilly Akroyd

Help is always needed. The fete will be at Wades House again this year on Saturday 6th July 1-4pm. Brenda Belshaw is heading up the event again along with help from Steve, Martha, Kevin and Veronica and myself. Children are going to be onsite helping this year along with some new games and with the addition of a Horticultural style fete as well. Contact via email is to bartonstaceyfete@hotmail.com

8. **Barton Stacey History Group including Archaeology** – presentation from Ian Ashbolt & Peter Wood

Unfortunately, Stuart cannot be with us tonight so I will report for the history group on the activities we have undertaken over the last year. Plus - Ian Ashbolt who will outline how the archaeology initiative we have started is progressing.

Our group continues to grow with Ian joining us to drive the new archaeology work and Kate Bennett who will work on some of our research.

John Lander, who joined us last year, has already published a booklet on methodism in the village and just recently Peter Wood have just completed the first of at least two booklets on the stories from WWII.

We are still a small group of enthusiastic amateur historians, and we welcome anyone who would like to research the history of Barton Stacey village and our associated hamlets. Please get in touch if you would like to know more about what is involved in working with us.

People from across the world are still contacting us about their links to the village and we are sending booklets particularly on the Swing Riots to the other side of the world although getting payments from Australia is proving a challenge. We entertain them when they visit the village, give them a tour and try our best to explain what we know about their roots.

We have continued to attend the Library sessions once a quarter. We pick a topic which we think will be of interest and present what we have undertaken. However, we are happy to discuss any of our research or anything you would like to research and give our advice and guidance where we can. This year we covered three of the areas covered by booklets and a session on archaeology which Ian will say more about.

Last year we reported that we had exhibited our work on the swing riots and been contacted by a team looking to commemorate the 200th anniversary. Barton Stacey is now at the forefront of this and a key part of the team researching and planning the events.

The Graveyard survey work continues with uploading records to the website findagrave.com so that they are widely available. This site is free and used by families worldwide who cannot make the trip to Barton Stacey.

Our work publishing what we do so that everyone can see it continues and we will launch the first WWII booklet, courtesy of the Library/coffee morning on Saturday 13th April at the village hall.

If you would like to work with us, please get in touch, if you have a particular area of interest we would love to help and support you to research that.

Peter Wood Barton Stacey History Group

www.bartonstaceyhistory.co.uk

Hello, I am Ian Ashbolt and I've offered to assist the History Group with getting the next phase of archaeology in Barton Stacey underway. This has been led by myself and Stuart Rippon.

An accepted method of Archaeology is called Test Pitting. This entails locating an area – usually a square meter whose position is precisely known (we have equipment that plots this square to within one centimetre) and then digging to a depth of one meter, if possible. This is to sample the archaeology that remains in the area we are looking at. They can be almost anywhere, in a garden, on a wide verge, an allotment, in a field etc. They usually take 2 to 3 days to dig and then fill back in. We remove up to 1.5 tonnes of soil and put it back removing anything of interest.

As many of you will know, there were two years of extensive archaeological digs in the field to the North West of the church where we found evidence of a chapel which predates our current church. There was also evidence to suggest that there may have been some other buildings in the vicinity.

Being an allotment holder, I was finding a lot of objects in the ground whilst digging. This included a large amount of medieval pottery, bottles, oyster shells and various metal objects including a large key. Many allotment holders reported finding similar objects on their plots. So given the proximity of the allotments to the field where we found the chapel and the large number of objects being found by allotment holders we decided to seek permission from the Parish Council to dig test pits on the allotments.

Permission was kindly given and following consultation with plot holders we identified an area close to the fence which runs across the east side of the allotments, nearest the church.

On 18th February, Stuart Rippon, my wife Michelle and I started digging a test pit. The process entails that we dig 100mm at a time and put everything we find from that layer into a labelled tray. We then document, draw and photograph the layer and repeat with the next. For the next three days we dug down until generally at 500mm we came to bed rock except in one corner that dipped to 700mm. This deepest corner was clay lined and appeared to be part of either a pond or ditch which seemed to extend to the adjoining field.

The trays of finds are then taken back and cleaned / washed, sorted, weighed, measured and assessed then bagged and documented in detail. This documentation is all that will remain. Special finds are labelled and bagged separately.

So what did we find....

Almost at the start; the rim of a large white enamelled pan emerged. This was followed by lots of scraps of metal and glass bottles. Along with this rubbish was pieces of an old battery and building materials plus the animal bones we always find. This was clearly a dump of material also known as a midden

After cleaning we discovered we had found :-

Bottles, one of which is probably a calf feeding bottle, possible beverage bottles and several animal medicine bottles

A tin lid from a shop counter Colmans mustard tin.

An enamel pan which looks like waste from cattle / dairy work.

Dates on the tin and glass indicate the dump was from between 1890 to 1910.

Also found was more than 50 pieces of pottery most likely from the Roman, Saxon and medieval periods along with some more modern pieces.

All finds belong to the land owner and will be offered back to them, unless any are of financial or historical importance then they may need to be reported to the appropriate authority.

So it should be emphasised that this is a small snapshot of part of the allotment and to gain a better picture we need to do more test pits. We were due to start on another allotment on 18th March but rain stopped play. Hopefully we can start again soon now that spring is here. We have other allotment holders who have indicated that we can dig on their plot and the Parish council have agreed that we can dig on some of the unused grassed areas.

We have agreed that no vegetable will be harmed in the digging of these pits!!

Hopefully these excavations will help us piece together a better view of the extent of mediaeval or earlier archaeology.

We are also looking to expand these investigations further into all areas of the village, so if you have a 1m square spot we can excavate please let us know and we could probably tell you surprising things about the history under your feet. Please contact me or the Barton Stacey history group if you would like us to come to your garden. There is no charge.

Ian Ashbolt Archaeology for Barton Stacey History Group www.bartonstaceyhistory.co.uk

9. **PCC** – report by Steve Brown

A huge thanks to all who organize, support, volunteers and help to maintain the church. The Church Fete, Christmas pudding sales & Christmas Fayre are the mainstay of the income for the fabric of our church.

The PCC is a board of trustees with a remit, to preserve Christian values in this community & to look after our 1000 yr old church building.

As a board we also need to find a way for our village church to be what this community wants it to be.

In last 20 years church congregations have declined between 40-50%.

The present incumbent has 9 churches to look after. In January we resisted a proposal to reduce services to 26 weeks of the year.

The church newsletter says thank you, advertises the food bank in the village shop, shares a local message, and is trying to encourage a community breakfast.

Our challenge, and what we are endeavoring to do, is to make our church relevant. A community building, which is there to build Community.

Your thoughts, or help on HOW we do that will always be welcome.

10. **Paint Pots Nursery** – report by Nhena Bacon

Paint Pots took over in October 2022 and provides outstanding care in the Early Years. 7 children attended at the start and now there are 40 kids on the register and is at capacity. Please try to encourage any local families to come for a visit. Their ethos is “Love, laughter and learning”

11. **Barton Stacey Allotment Society** – presentation by Scott Bower

The allotment has full and half plots. Many differing growing techniques are seen, raised beds/ropes/strings. Currently a full and half plot are available to rent.

12. **Barton Stacey Primary School** –presentation by Lee Stangroom, Head of school

Once again, we thank all our families for the support given to us as a school during the previous year and for the support they have given their children with their learning. Another big thank you and well done must go to all of the children at Barton Stacey School, who continue to shine brightly in all they do. They live out our Christian Values of Love, Hope, Trust and Forgiveness each and every day. Finally, I would like to say thank you again to our staff team for their hard work and commitment to ensuring the very best education and opportunities for our children.

Like the river running through our valley, the Dever Valley Federation is a place of life. Everyone is welcome in our family where we grow, learn and achieve alongside one another. The gifts given to us by God support us in our journey; LOVE binds us together, TRUST keeps us together, FORGIVENESS transforms us and HOPE carries us forward through life.



Autumn Term

It was wonderful to welcome back our children after the Summer break, particularly any new families that joined our community. Our learning projects continued to inspire, excite and engage our children. Projects across this term focussed on key questions for our children to explore and answer through their learning: Was Columbus a hero or a misery

maker? Has life always been like this? (Stone Age to Iron Age) and What does it mean to venture into the unknown? Our youngest children in the school – Year R - worked towards achieving milestones within each of our end-of-year aspirations: To perform a play, song or story; To design and complete an obstacle course; To create and follow a recipe; To care for a living thing; To create a piece of art for a gallery; and To write a poem or prayer. Most of the pupils in our youngest class only joined us in September and they all settled so well into school life in such a short time. The class environment was improved further this term by the addition of an all-weather shelter in the outdoor class area, which means that the children can be learning outdoors even if it is raining and that learning resources can be left out for the children to explore whatever the weather.

At the end of each term we hold our Class Exhibitions, where the children are very excited to be able to share their learning projects with their parents and member of their family. It is wonderful to see how proud they are of everything they have learnt during the term.

Our Year 5/6 class who ‘ventured into the unknown’ explored the vastness of space and took a road trip across the USA. During the term they had an exciting trip to Winchester Science Centre’s Planetarium and also took part in a Stargazing evening at our Federated school, Micheldever; this was complete with a camp fire and an opportunity to test out the rockets they had created

It was our Year 3/4 class who considered ‘Has life always been like this?’ and the children were able to immerse themselves in what life would have been like from the Stone Age to Iron Age. A trip to Stonehenge and an Iron Age workshop in school - where they were able to feel, touch and use items that would have been used in the era – brought this project to life.

In Year 1/2 a replica of Christopher Columbus’ ship, the Santa Maria, was created in class and over the term the children voyaged with Columbus and explored new worlds, immersing themselves through role play and creative projects to understand what life would have been like travelling with Christopher Columbus. Bahamas Day was a particular favourite with the children, at least much more so than the ‘scurvy’ that all of the class crew caught!

Through our Collective Worship this term we explored who we are as a collective Federation of schools, narrowing down to who each of us is and how that impacts our lives, both collectively and individually. We revisited our Federation vision statement and our four Christian values of Love, Hope, Forgiveness and Trust. Later in the term, we considered our mission statement (how our vision is acted out) and explained the ideas of Learn, Grow, Achieve and Welcome.

Autumn terms are always busy and Autumn 2023 was no exception. As a whole school we celebrated Harvest Festival, Remembrance and Christmas, and on occasion our school family came together to listen and take part in the wonderful and thoughtful services led by our children.

Our Nativity this year was led by our Infant children, and our youngest members of the school gave two wonderful performances to guests. Their superb acting, singing and dancing was a joy to watch and it was lovely to showcase this.

Spring Term

The Spring term began with with classes once again engaging so readily with their learning. Our oldest children in Year 5/6 have been challenging their preconceptions of Africa, considering whether their perceptions are true to reality. They were lucky enough to speak with village resident, Kathie Knell, who told the class all about her work with the Tanzania Project; Kathie has also been instrumental in supporting the school to establish links with a school in the Nyasa district in the country. Lauren Lewis from the charity Project Embabazi also visited Year 5/6 to talk to them about her work with villages in Uganda. As part of their class exhibition, the parents had the opportunity to 'buy' their child's wax resist African artwork in exchange for a donation to the charity.

Children in Year 3/4 have been asking themselves, 'How many times a week do you think about the Romans?' and have quickly realised that Roman ideas continue to pervade many areas of modern life.

Children in Year 1/2 have considered 'What makes London a great city?' and created some wonderful large-scale models of key sites, including the Tower of London, the Shard, the London Eye and Tower Bridge. The Shard was particularly impressive, standing at over 7 feet tall, and the children were excited to take their parents on a Barton Stacey Bus Company 'tour' of these sites during last week's class exhibition morning.

Our youngest children in Year R continue to explore key aspirations; this year, we have introduced a sixth aspiration for them (To write a poem or prayer), to complement those aspirations already in place. The Year 1 children within this class have explored some wonderful texts this term, with a particular favourite being *The Disgusting Sandwich* by Gareth Edwards. The children have visited Cholderton Farm to support their aspiration, 'To care for a living thing,' and had visits from many different family pets to support their aspiration too. They were also visited by all manner of wonderful animals from, 'Feathers, Fangs and Furies,' including a snake and lizard. In our outdoors environment, the Year R/1 children are thoroughly enjoying the combine harvester tyre that the Early Years Lead sourced from Micheldever tyres, and towards the term Revd. Smart blessed the 'church.'

A number of Junior children represented the school at the rural schools' Cross Country event at the end of January, performing well in the Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 races and coming.

The school came 3rd overall out of the 10 schools in our first year of entry. Year 5/6 children also took part in the Three Rivers Tag Rugby competition, narrowly losing 4-3 in the semi-finals.

The Spring Term is full of national and global occasions for schools to observe. Safer Internet Day was run by our Year 5/6 eCadets, with each eCadet leading a class workshop around this year's theme 'Changes Online.' We also recently ran a Federation workshop for parents to

support discussions at home about staying safe online. World Book Day was celebrated around the school, with all children coming to school dressed ready for an adventure. Our school grounds were the setting for the children's (and their characters') amazing adventures, with each class given a theme to inspire them – Honey I Shrunk The Kids; Fairies; and poetry from the perspective of the great trees in our school grounds and all the things they have observed over the years. To mark British Science Week, a Science day was held across the school, complete with demonstrations from Super Sian from 'Mad Science.' Scientists of the day were nominated from each class and presented with certificates by Sian.

Seven Year 5/6 children have been part of the Trio of Schools Choir with children from Micheldever and South Wonston Primary Schools. The Choir performed last Sunday at the Palm Sunday Service at St. Mary's Church, Micheldever, with the new Bishop of Winchester in attendance. At the end of the week we will be holding our Easter service at All Saints Church, which is jointly led by all our children. As well as hearing the Easter story be re-told, the community will be able to hear the children's thoughts about Palm Sunday; The Last Supper and Passover; Good Friday and The Hopes and Dreams of the Disciples; and Easter Sunday: Promises and Rainbows. There will be a number of hymns led by both the school, and by our School Choir, who are supported by Christine Ball, the Federation Business Manager.

13. Barton Stacey Library/coffee morning -report by Peggy Carter

The craft sessions Donna organises for the children have become very popular as more children and their parents know of it. This has resulted in more of their parents using the library. The History Society have continues to put on an exhibition every 3 months which is well attended. This has resulted in good sales of tea, coffee and biscuits, the profits of which go towards the hire of the hall. The next History Society exhibition will be on the 13th April, which will be about Barton Stacey during the World War II. Having read the booklet I am sure everyone will find the exhibitou very interesting

14. Barton Stacey Chamber Choir –report from Kate Sarnicki

The choir continues to go from strength to strength and has just celebrated its 13th birthday. There are 30 regular members of which 1/3 are men. This is large for a community choir. An exciting year has passed. We joined 2 other choirs and sang a formal concert at St Swithuns school Mozart's Requiem and Vivaldi Gloria along with a professional orchestra and soloists which included over 100 singers. The concert was the first of its kind for the choir and along with a lot of effort it was a huge success for everyone. Sadly we lost our Chairman and a founding member, Wayne Wreglesworth, last summer which was a huge loss. Sarah Hazard has kindly taken on the role of Chairman – many thanks. We are in need of more basses. We also sang at the BS church fete, Winchester Ride and Stride event, Boaz Nativity in December. We performed a Christmas concert and sang at both the BS and Bullington Carol Services. Next year the choir are organising a tour to Malta and Gozo in October along with the Singing For Fun choir in Whitchurch. This spring we will be performing a few concerts with the theme Ancient and Modern which will be sacred. One performance in May at St Johns in Winchester and another in BS and then in Echinswell in June. Please do come and support your local choir. This year the choir hope to join forces with the children from the choir at BS Primary School.

15. Village Hall Charity – report by Cheryl Sherwood

Sadly we lost our chairman last summer, Wayne Wreglesworth, last summer so we are looking for a replacement. Cheryl has stepped in temporarily. We have a lovely hall but it needs new users. The front of the hall will be redone in the coming months.

16 Swans Netball Club – written report by Lucinda Broad

After a record-breaking year for club membership last year, we have seen our numbers stabilise this year, with a steady count of 28 club members. While we may not have experienced much growth, maintaining a strong and committed membership base has been essential for the continued success of our club.

The 2023/2024 Winter Season has been an eventful one for Swans Netball Club. Our Silver Swans team was promoted to Division 1, marking a significant achievement for the club. However, the season began with some challenges as key team members had to end their season early due to injury or the exciting news of expecting a baby. Silvers were able to call upon members from our Black Swans team to join them, but unfortunately they have faced tough opposition and experienced many losses. Despite this they have showed a lot of grit and determination, resulting in significant progress in both individual and team development.

Meanwhile, our Black Swans team has put out solid performances, even amidst the disruption caused by some players stepping up to support the Silver Swans. Currently positioned 3rd in their division, the Black Swans have demonstrated consistency and strength throughout the season, providing valuable opportunities for newer members to shine on the court.

This year, Swans Netball Club has celebrated several personal achievements. We welcomed our first official umpire, Sarah, who successfully passed her C Officiating Award, adding a new dimension to

our club's capabilities. Additionally, we were proud to introduce our first-ever assistant coaches, Lucinda and Rachel, who obtained their Level 1 Coaching certifications to support our head coach, Becky. These accomplishments have not only enhanced our coaching and officiating capabilities but have also inspired three more members to embark on their coaching and umpiring journeys.

One of the highlights of this year was a trip to an International Netball game at Nottingham Arena, where we saw the England Roses compete against South Africa. For the majority of us it was the first time we have been to an International game. It was an inspiring and memorable experience, and an opportunity to further strengthen the bonds of friendship and camaraderie among our members.

Off the netball court, the amazing women of our club are always ready to lend a helping hand whenever and wherever it is needed, continuing to foster the strong sense of community and support among our members and beyond.

So as the winter league draws to an end, and we have the summer season yet to begin, we would like to close with, that we continue to welcome anyone interested in joining us. Our contact details can be found on our Facebook page Barton Stacey Swans Netball Club.

17 Barton Stacey WI – report by Sue Atrill

We've had a good year!!

We held a treasure hunt around the village for families to identify the Royal image hidden the village, which was in some "unusual" places and was very well supported.

We had had new members, which is helped by having a good programme of speakers and workshops. A walk around Lower Mill garden in Longparish was much enjoyed and well supported.

The Annual Meeting is in May and the new programme will start in June, using suggestions from Members for topics for speakers and the occasional workshop.

The new initiative is to collect each month, toiletries that will be donated to the Night Shelter. One donation has already been much appreciated.

This week we are having a film night - the traditional pop corn etc! This is using the projector and good connections in the hall.

The next resolution will be discussing Dental Health matters and votes will be taken at the NFWI Annual Meeting in the Royal Albert Hall in June. We have a delegate and observer going with other Hampshire members as well as 6000 members from all over England and Wales.

We catered at the Fete for three years and give our best wishes to the new team taking over this year.

18. & 19 Hampshire CC & Test Valley BC– reports by Cllr David Drew

I'm pleased to share my report with you, and hope to be with you in person this evening.

As ever, it has been a busy year for everyone, me included. I have a dual role, as your County Councillor as well as your Test Valley Borough Council representative. The two roles are different and distinctive.

Test Valley Borough Council is responsible for bin collection, planning, including strategic planning, housing, plus leisure facilities. The budget to do this is about £13m – although TVBC is responsible for billing on behalf of other authorities. I have a cabinet responsibility which is Recycling and Environmental Services.

Hampshire County Council is responsible for schools, roads, social services, waste disposal and some planning matters. The budget is in excess of £2.6 billion. A major challenge at this time of year is the roads and in particular pot holes, which seem to appear faster than they can be filled. It's to do with the weather; rain and frost. The County is going through a difficult process of having to make savings – never an easy task.

I'm also pleased to confirm that Barton Stacey again received grants this year from both the TVBC and HCC pots. Grants have been given for the defibrillator, car park fencing and for the Church in its new venture offering parish breakfasts.

Last year I mentioned support for village shops – and I'm delighted to tell you that we have now had a couple of meetings; at Broughton and then Goodworth Clatford where the village shops shared their successes and challenges with fellow shopkeepers. Both community and commercial shops are invited to this initiative.

This year there is an election. On the 2nd of May you will have your chance to vote for the Police and Crime Commissioner. And a reminder that you will need photo ID if you are voting in person in this hall.

I'm also delighted to be able to report on the continued success of Test Valley regarding catching and prosecuting fly-tippers. Everyone hates a fly-tipper! At almost every Parish Council meeting I am able to report that another miscreant who has been prosecuted and fined. These reports are well circulated in both the press and social media. In addition, HCC being responsible for Trading Standards, recently prosecuted a person for £650k of roofing fraud over 29 properties – the sentence was 5 years!

In other news, I remain the Chairman of the Hampshire & IoW Air Ambulance and was a governor on the Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust until January. I'm the chair of governors at Norman Gate School in Andover which caters for children with mostly medium learning difficulties, a trustee of the Test Valley Arts Foundation and continue to serve as member of the Hampshire and IoW Fire and Rescue Service.

Finally I would like to say thank you to Donna, who chairs the meetings most efficiently and keeps them running to time. And of course to Jo Gadney, your parish clerk, who does such a brilliant and efficient job of keeping your parish council running like clockwork.

20. Barton Stacey Judo Club –Written report by Keith Cox

It has been quite an eventful year . We have 25 students ages from 5 years upwards, running over two classes . I also have 5 over 16s . My first student to obtain her 1st Dan black belt (over 10 years ago) has now returned and is teaching and assisting my brown belt to obtain his black belt. We have entered two competitions in the last year and gained a nice haul of medals. One highlight was when one of the orange belt grades took just 3 seconds to beat his opponent .

The students thoroughly enjoy learning the art of Judo in the traditional way, (Kyu-Shin-Do), focusing on technique, skill sets and using the Japanese language in teaching. **Kyu** (to study) **Shin**(the heart and spirit) **Do** (the path or journey)

Sadly, I have felt for some time that the association I was affiliated to , have been dumbing down in their methods of teaching .Some of my students have even commented to me on their observations during competition, .e.g. the lack of Japanese terminology in competition fights, technical aspects of moves, lack of respect to higher grades and support for their team mates. My students respect and support each other, myself and all higher grades. I am very proud of them all at competitions

There were several other more technical and administrative reasons that I was dissatisfied with .

To this end I have formed my own association. Barton Stacey Judo Association. Our club can still enter any open competition, but any student who would wish to become the next world champion would have to join one of the national recognised bodies. These associations focus solely on fighting throws , but less on technique. I prefer to teach technique and traditional judo . Some students don't always want to "fight in competition" but enjoy it has a contact sport, they teach each other, gain personal confidence and learn resilience (learning to lose, not reaching the grade they expected at the first attempt) and enjoy working through the grades. I am very lenient with the youngest members and they will always earn "mons or coloured tabs" in the early days. I grade twice a year usually. It's fun too!

I have, of course, put in place all the relevant insurances, First Aid, Child Protection and Welfare Protocols and certificates . These are all still currently valid . I have a Welfare Officer in place. All over 16s have current enhanced DBS checks in place, although I will have to find another source of enhanced DBS checks in due course.

We would love a few more adults to join. Many have participated in judo in the past as I have recently discovered. £2.50 a session is quite cheap too It doesn't matter what grade was achieved or how long ago. All are welcome.

My thanks to Mike Norman who always helps put out the mats and to those parents who help pack up.

21. Heavenly Stirrers – presentation from Denize Goodall

We continued our tradition of raising funds for the All Saints Church Barton Stacey and with the help of 20 Ladies of the community we raised over £2300, another record. Thank you for

the support of our community for the consumption of the 400 ish puddings and we are looking forward to September when we start again!

22. Community Bus – report from Simon Akroyd

Simon explained about the idea about a Community Interest group being set up to provide the parish with a community bus service. Vounteer drivers will be Midas trained. A timetable / routes will be set but that is totally down to the CIC to arrange as they wish. The bus will be bought with grants or hired. The bus will have wheelchair access and costs will be as regular bus service and concessions able to be used. Clubs will be able to hire the bus when not being used. A questionnaire will be conducted to see if there is an appetite for this first. An open forum has been arranged for Sat 18 May 1300-1500 at the Village hall for those to come along to hear more about the project.

23. Barton Stacey Post Office and Village Stores – report by Kevin May

It has been a better year. There has been a reduction in trade and building issues. The community rallied round and supported the shop and raised £6k. Support stays strong. Sadly a recent burglary closed the shop and Post office for a few days and equipment was vandalised. The perpetrators haven't been caught yet. New items – bread/cake delivery on Tues, Thursday and Saturday is proving to be popular. A grant has also been sought from TVBC for building works.

24. The Swan Inn – report by Annie McCarthy

Annie took over at the pub in December 2020. Trading has been very difficult as costs have increased vastly. More residents need to support the pub. Opening times are usually dependent on footfall. Quiz nights and open mic nights are often held to try to attract more visitors and these prove to be popular. Craft afternoons and repair cafes are also popular of which donations are given to the Air Ambulance. Please use your pub or you will lose it.

25. Village Champions – presentation of this new award to people who have gone above and beyond the call of duty on behalf of residents of the parish.

As evidenced this evening with the number of people here, and the reports we have heard, Barton Stacey is a vibrant place to live, full of community spirt and full of people who give so much to make this parish the special place it is. The Parish Council wanted to create an opportunity to recognise some of the many people in our community who go above and beyond, so we are introducing a Community Champions Award. This year, the inaugural year, the recipients have been chosen by the Parish Council but going forward, the community will have the opportunity to nominate who should be recognised in this way. So, without further ado, I would like to introduce you to our first-time winners.

Paul Gibson

Paul has lived in Barton Stacey for many years and has immersed himself in so many organisations, committees and events. He led the Parish Council for a number of years, and some would say this is a thankless task, but Paul steered us through some challenging times, and many changes, including the development of Ringbourne Copse, which was no mean feat.

He was also Chair of Barton Stacey Football Club, for which he did a variety of roles, from painting and repairing the pavilion, to helping to organise and run the annual Football Fun Days, which were indeed always lots of fun!

The Fireworks events would not have been what they were without Paul providing his endless support, including helping to prepare the ground ready for the bonfire, assisting in the layout of stalls for the evening, and bringing his usual 'can do' attitude to the event.

Paul has also been Chair of the Village Hall Charity and remains a trustee to this day. He was key in supporting and enabling many positive changes to the hall, not least the relatively new projector system that has proved so useful.

He took on the difficult task of chairing the Pavilion Working Party and has been instrumental in getting the project to the stage it is, where planning permission is currently being sought.

Once a month on a Saturday, Paul can be found in the Pub, actually that isn't the only time you will find him there, but on these occasions he is giving up his time to support the Repair Café, using his expert knowledge to repair treasured items and save them from landfill.

He has chaired the Village Share Club since its inception many years ago.

He also maintains the two defibrillators, and has taken care of SID (the speed indicator device) since he was introduced into the village in 2018(?), moving SID around and analysing the data he produces.

Paul is often the first port of call for anything around the parish, from tech knowledge to general repairs. A recent comment on Peeps reflects our gratitude and sums Paul up perfectly "Well done Paul, we are all so lucky to have the man that can"

Thank you Paul for everything you do.

Popsey

Despite her calm, easy going demeanour, Popsey loves a party, especially if she is at the forefront of organising it! Without Popsey, many of the Parish events to celebrate special occasions like royal jubilees or last year's Coronation would not be the great social gatherings they are. Despite the weather on the day, the King's Coronation celebration on the Rec last year was a resounding success, primarily due to Popsey's eagerness to organise the party, and her determination to make it fun. This goes for many other events that Popsey has led.

For many years there was a Village Ball, held in early September. If you were lucky enough to attend any of these, they were incredible evenings, full of sparkle and fun, in an incredible marquee on the Rec. Again, Popsey played in integral role in organising these popular parties.

Recently, Popsey has encouraged a Festive celebration on The Green, getting the community together to sing carols around the Christmas Tree. Despite 2023 being the first year this took place, it was very well attended, and we are already looking forward to this year's event.

Raising her family in Barton Stacey, Popsey was a keen supporter of the local Primary School and used her brilliant organisation skills as a member of FROGS to help organise and run events and create fundraising opportunities for the school.

Popsey, together with her husband Jas, are always keen to provide community support wherever they can and this includes providing marquees for community events, including donating the use of a marquee for a charity event at Boaz.

Her generosity doesn't end there though, if you are a member of Peeps on Facebook, you will no doubt be aware that Popsey is our very own De-clutter Queen, offering an unending supply of freebies that need re-homing.

Popsey, thank you for everything you do for Barton Stacey.