



Stonham Parva Village Newsletter

January 2022



Stonham Parva Parish Council would like to wish you a Happy New Year.

Comment from resident - A comment has been made 'that this is the worst Parish Council the village has ever had, and nothing ever gets done' So, are we? We would like to know so we can understand how we can improve. Please spare five minutes to complete the short questionnaire attached and return it the Parish Clerk, 6 Turnpike, IP14 5JS. Or complete it on line at <https://www.stonhamparvapc.org.uk/survey-january-2022>

Your answers will be treated in complete confidence, and we are happy for you to return it anonymously.

COVID-19 – Is unfortunately still with us. The Parish Council is still happy to help anyone that needs it in the village. We have so far had no one ask for help but we have had several people kindly volunteer. Please do get in contact with the Parish Clerk.

Fundraising – Coffee Morning We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who supported our coffee morning on Saturday 11th December, whether you donated cakes, raffle, or tombola prizes, attended or brought plants from us afterwards. We raised an amazing £911.50p which takes us much closer to the purchase of football goals and toddler play equipment.

We plan to sell more indoor plants in March, this will be advertised online and on village notice boards for collection and possible delivery locally. Please follow the village Facebook page (Stonham Parva/Little Stonham), look out for information on the Nextdoor app and on our village noticeboards.

We are also hoping to run a village 100 club, which is like a monthly small lottery that you can join on an annual basis – this is in the planning stages – so keep an eye out for further details.

Our next fundraising event is in the discussion stages but we hope to hold a summer event for all the family with stalls, food, a bar and entertainment. This will take a lot of organising so if you are able to help with planning, organising or on the day please contact Kate (katedawson36@hotmail.com or stonhamparvafundraising@outlook.com)

Fundraising - Asda Green Tokens Scheme - We have been lucky to be nominated for the Asda Green Tokens Scheme along with two other local projects. The winner with the most votes will receive £400 and the two runners up £200 each. It's really easy to support us, simply go to www.asda.com/greentokens and select Stowmarket on the drop-down list. You will then be able to vote for Stonham Parva Parish Council.

You can vote once a week until 31st January 2022 and a vote can be placed from all of the devices in your household. If you follow the village Facebook page you will see a handy weekly reminder!

Play Area – The play area was erected during the early stages of lock down after securing grants and funds raising and has proved extremely popular with many young families that now reside in the village. There wasn't sufficient money to complete the project as originally planned and fund raising is ongoing to procure more equipment for toddlers.

Magpie Sign – The loss of the Magpie sign has had a huge impact on the village, it does not feel the same anymore and many motorists who pass by on a daily basis have also made the same comment. The sign was a Grade II listed monument and we believe it was one of only two existing in the UK. The sign has been stored for safety and every effort is being made by Stonham Parish Council to work with the owners to see this re-erected as soon as we can.

St Mary's Church Roof – As you have probably noticed scaffolding is going up inside and outside the church. This is to start major repairs on the roof by the Churches Conservation Trust. CCT has been successful in securing funds to support much needed work from the Heritage Stimulus Fund, part of the government's Covid-19 Culture Recovery Fund. If you would like to make a contribution to our church repairs, then you can do so via this link www.visitchurches.org.uk/STP - for more information about the 15th century St Mary's Church please go to <https://www.visitchurches.org.uk/visit/church-listing/st-mary-stonham-parva.html#undefined1>

The Parish Council plan to host an opening event once all the repairs are complete with free refreshment available.

Remembrance Sunday - The Parish Council represented the village at this year's remembrance at Earl Stonham St Mary's church as it always does. A wreath was laid at the cenotaph and the names of the thirteen fallen from the village from both world wars were read out.

Platinum Jubilee – The Parish Council and the Baptist Church have agreed to hold an event to mark the Queens 70 years on the throne. The details will be discussed in January and will take place on one day over the long weekend of 2nd to 5th June.

David Matthews who served on the Parish Council for more than 30 years has died at the age of 80. As a mark of respect, a minute's silence was held at the start of the November Parish Council meeting. Given David's close association with St Mary's over most of his life we were able to arrange his interment to be within the church yard.

Dogs Walkers – The Parish Council has received a complaint from a local farmer with land around the village that dog owners are not keeping their dogs on leads on footpaths. Some of which cross fields containing livestock which might not always be visible when entering.

Two sheep were recently killed by a local dog, so owners are reminded to follow the countryside code and control their dogs by keeping them on a lead please.

Third Village Notice Board – Unfortunately, our plan to have this installed north of the village did not happen but we hope to arrange this very soon.

New Councillor – The Parish Council would like to welcome our newest Councillor Matt Sealby who was co-opted at a recent meeting.

Clockhouse and Church Lane – You will have noticed that we now have ‘Not suitable for HGV’s’ signs at the north end of Clockhouse and east end of Church Lane. Whilst only advisory we hope it will reduce the number of unsuitable lorries using the lanes as a detour when there is a problem on the A140. Also, our application to have Clockhouse and Church Lanes designated as ‘Suffolk Quiet Lanes’ has moved to the next stage. A traffic volume monitor was used in the lane to check our daily volume is less than 1000 vehicle movements per day. We will keep you informed on progress.

Road Safety – You will have noticed that the central white lines have been re-painted along the A140 as it runs through the village in both the 30mph and 50mph zones. Something we have been campaigning for. We continue to push to get the speed signs on the road surface repainted as well as they are also quite faded. Along with the white lines north of the Mickfield crossroad which also need repainting and are within the village boundary.

Trees and Hedgerows – As part of the Suffolk Tree Warden Network, Juliet on behalf of the Parish Council has coordinated, in partnership with Suffolk County Council and the Woodland Trust, the delivery to a number of residents in the village 450 free hedge plants.

Village Sign - There is a chance that we may lose the current site of the village sign as part of the Glebe Land behind the lay-by which has been allocated as a possible building site by Mid Suffolk District Council for future housing in the joint local plan. A new site for the sign has been proposed on the A140 at the top of Church Lane and Mr Denny one of our local farmers has kindly granted permission for the relocation on the corner of his field. The sign is two sided so will be able to be seen both from Church Lane and the A140.

Village Newsletter Distribution - The Parish Council has decided that on this occasion with a survey and a letter regarding St Mary’s we would distribute a paper copy to all households not just those that opted in.

If you would like to be added to the mailing list (either email or paper) please contact the Parish Clerk, Wendy Brame on clerk@stonhamparvpc.org.uk or 01449 711178 or 6 Turnpike, Stonham Parva, IP14 5JS. Or go onto our website and register for e-mail distribution - village-newsletter.

Our website is <https://www.stonhamparvpc.org.uk/welcome-to-our-website/>

Our e-mail is clerk@stonhamparvpc.org.uk or telephone 01449 711178



January 2022

Dear Resident,

You may have noticed that the scaffolding is up on the Grade I Listed church of St Mary's in Stonham Parva which is under the care of the Churches Conservation Trust (CCT). The CCT is the leading charity (number 258612) that cares for and preserves over 350 English churches of historic, architectural or archaeological importance that are no longer needed for regular worship. It promotes public enjoyment of them and their use as an educational and community resource and all our churches are free to visit.

St Mary's is in urgent need of work to the roof and has been closed for more than 2 years due to the movement of the trusses, making entry unsafe, the repair will costing £551,699.

We are delighted to have obtained a grant of £441,359 from the Culture Recovery Fund and Historic England and the Trust has underwritten the 20% balance of funding using vital reserves to enable work to start.

We are now trying to raise the funding balance of £110,340 to reduce the risk and liability to the CCT as we have limited reserves. We already estimate a funding shortfall of over £500,000 due to Covid19. A donation can be made on our website www.visitchurches.org.uk/STP or by texting "STP" to 70970 to donate £5 or 70191 to donate £10. A cheque can also be sent to our Head Office, Society Building, 8 All Saints Street, London N1 9RL (please put on the back of the cheque '3101R-STP').

Stonham Parva Parish Council intend to host an opening event in the summer to mark the repair and reopening of the church after more than 2 years being closed. We are keen to support its return to being open and available for visitors locally and further afield. We know from the visitors book this is one of many historic churches in Suffolk that popular to visit.

Thank you for your support. Any amount you can donate towards St Mary's will make real difference. If you have any queries then please do not hesitate contact me.

Yours faithfully

Jane Hatton
Local Community Officer
Tel: 07392 086936
Email: jhatton@thecct.org.uk

Churches Conservation Trust

Society Building, 8 All Saints Street, London N1 9RL
0845 303 2760 | visitchurches.org.uk

President HRH The Prince of Wales **Chairman** Peter Ainsworth

Vice Presidents Lord Brooke of Sutton Mandeville CH PC | Baroness Kay Andrews OBE | RT Hon Frank Field MP DL
Dame Liz Forgan DBE | Jools Holland OBE DL | Dr Bettany Hughes | Dr Loyd Grossman CBE FSA

Registered Charity No: 258612



Stonham Parva Parish Council Feedback Questionnaire

'Worst Parish Council Ever' - that's what one of our residents told a Parish Councillor recently. So, are we?

We would like to know so we can understand how we can improve. Please spare five minutes to complete a short questionnaire. You can complete this online at <https://www.stonhamparvapc.org.uk/survey-january-2022> or on paper and return it to the Parish Clerk, 6 Turnpike, IP14 5JS. All your answers will be treated in complete confidence, and we are happy for you to return it anonymously if you wish.

Q1 Do you know what your Parish Council is responsible for?

Yes	No	Not sure	Don't care
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Q2 Have you ever attended a Parish Council Meeting?

Yes	No
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If yes, please go to Q4.

Q3 If you haven't attended meetings why is this?

Too Busy	Not interested	No issues to discuss	Don't know how
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Q4 If you have attended meetings how many times have you attended?

1-3 Times	4-6	7-10	10 or more
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Q5 How long have you lived in the village?

1-3 Years	4-6	7-10	10 or more
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Q6 How satisfied are you with the way the Parish Council spends the money they receive from your council tax (£6700 per year)?

Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Not Sure	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Don't care
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Q7 How satisfied are you that the Parish Council is adding value to the village?

Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Not Sure	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Don't care
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Q8 How satisfied are you with the improvements the Parish Council has made to the village in recent years?

Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Not Sure	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Don't care
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Stonham Parva Parish Council Feedback Questionnaire

Q9 Do you feel you can approach the Parish Council with an issue or concern?

Yes	No	Not sure	Don't care
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Q10 Do you feel the Parish Council deals with issues that arise?

Yes	No	Not sure	Don't care
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Q11 Name one thing that you feel the Parish Council should start doing.

Q12 Name one thing that you feel the Parish Council should stop doing.

Q13 Overall, how would you rate your Parish Council?

Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Not Sure	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Don't care
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Please provide any additional comments or explanation to your answers above:

Optional (you may return anonymously)

Name

Contact details (Telephone or E-Mail)

Thanks, your feedback is much appreciated.

Stonham Parva Parish Council

January 2022