

The members of the Parish Council are:-

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Sue Annesley			776653
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	Transport	transport@sparsholtparish.org	
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	Sparsholt Shop	shop@sparsholtparish.org	
Richard Summerfield	Memorial Hall	memorialhall@sparsholtparish.org	776621
Stewart Wooles	Vice Chair	deputy@sparsholtparish.org	776419
	Highways	highways@sparsholtparish.org	
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Boundary Recommendations

The independent Local Government Boundary Commission for England has published its final recommendations for new electoral arrangements for Winchester City Council. The aim of the review was to recommend electoral division boundaries such that each county councillor will in future represent approximately the same number of voters. As a result the Commission proposes that Winchester should be represented by 45 city councillors, twelve fewer than the current arrangement. The recommendations also propose that those councillors should represent thirteen three-member wards and three two-member wards across the city.

Sparsholt will become part of a three councillor ward called Wonston & Micheldever. This encompasses the parishes of Crawley, Micheldever, Sparsholt and Wonston, and part of the parishes of Littleton & Harestock and South Wonston. A change of name was requested to better reflect all settlements but not accepted. Currently there are five councillors covering this area.

Subject to parliamentary scrutiny, the new electoral arrangements will come into force at the local elections in 2016. The full report, including a map, can be found at <http://www.lgbce.org.uk/current-reviews/south-east/hampshire/winchester>.

Parish Plan

Over recent months work by the Parish Council to address a number of separate road issues has resulted in extensive speed monitoring through the village and on the junction of Woodman Lane and the Stockbridge Road. The same junction has, at last, been fully repaired. Under Op Resilience, extensive and, hopefully, long term repairs have been completed along Woodman Lane between the Stockbridge Road and Sarum Road. Also, the seasonal flooding near The Plough will be further addressed by the clearing of the balancing pond now that the Great Crested Newt survey has been completed.

Each of the completed tasks was the result of specific action by the Parish Council in response to problems as they were identified. Unfortunately, this approach does not and cannot address parishioner's concerns about the speed and increasing volume of traffic through Sparsholt.

During a meeting with WCC it was suggested that the Parish Council consider supporting the preparation of a "Parish Plan" This will record the views of the community about traffic through the village and any other significant issues in a similar way to the Village Design Statement addresses development and planning issues.

A Parish Plan is based on consultation with the whole community and brings together the views and concerns of residents. Once completed and adopted the Parish Plan would be a document of reference for WCC and HCC when considering a range of issues including planning and highways. It would also provide the Parish Council with a document to guide its response to proposed developments and their implications within and around the village.

At a recent meeting, the Parish Council discussed the value of a Parish Plan and concluded that it would be beneficial to have a single document that records the community's views on a range of important issues. At the same meeting three parishioners kindly volunteered to be part of the Parish Plan working group. Also, a member of council has agreed to represent the Parish Council and support the working group.

On behalf of the Parish Plan working group, the Parish Council would like to invite any parishioner who is concerned about the speed and volume of traffic or other significant issues to join the team preparing the Parish Plan. If you have some spare time and would like to contribute to this important project, please contact Jill Judge, the Parish Clerk, whose details are at the top of this Newsletter.

Hedge Trimming

A reminder that hedges and trees growing along boundaries with the highway are usually the responsibility of the adjoining home owner and land owner, even on the highway side. Maintenance (cutting) of road verges within highway boundaries is Hampshire County Council's responsibility. <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/verge-cutting-details.htm>

Recent Events

The Sparsholt Village Fete was held on Saturday 20th June in the heart of the village. The Revd Jax Machin cut the ribbon to open the fete and it wasn't long before the sun was shining. The crowds enjoyed a fun filled afternoon with something for everyone. There were stalls to stock up on gifts, plants, books, cakes, bric-a-brac and vintage finds. There were prizes to win in the rocket competition, the grand draw, tombolas, the coconut shy, football target and 'splat the rat'. Afternoon tea was enjoyed on the Memorial Green and the ever popular BBQ was busy all afternoon. The Pimm's and beer tents along with the village shop provided refreshments as the crowds gathered to listen to the Jazz band and watch the school country dancing display. There were circus activities to try, a story tent and pond dipping in the newly cleared school pond. The Sparsholt bell ringers invited one and all to try ringing the bells of St Stephen's church. There were classic cars and raptors to admire along with mini fairground rides, activities and storytelling for the young (and the young at heart!).

A great big Thank You to all who ran stalls and activities, provided raffle prizes, and helped in any way to make the fete so successful this year. All in all it was a fabulous afternoon and raised a record breaking amount for the village. We are all looking forward to the 2016 fete which will be on Saturday 25th June, a definite date for the calendar.

Forthcoming Events

The Revd. Jax Machin will be conducting a Pet Service on Sunday 13th September at 10.00am in the playground area of Woodman Close.

Sparsholt Village Calendar

Sparsholt Village Shop are putting together a calendar celebrating life in Sparsholt for 2016. Do you have a favourite or cherished photograph that you would like to see included? It can be of anything from views to events to people as long as it is in Sparsholt Parish. Please send your photos either by email to calendar@sparsholtshop.com or drop a hard copy into the shop. Deadline is 18th September 2015. The entries will be anonymously judged and the village calendar will be ready for original Christmas presents by the beginning of November 2015.

Basics Bank "shall not be occupied at any time other than for purposes ancillary to the residential use of the existing dwelling".)

Is there anyone in the parish who is involved with the Basics Bank? The Parochial Church Council is on the lookout for someone to manage a box to be put into the church to receive gifts for the Basics Bank. Please let the PCC secretary, Fred Blakemore, tel. no. 776362 know if you would be willing to volunteer.

Grants

Voluntary, not for profit and community-run organisations in the Winchester District can apply for a Community Project Grant towards the cost of one-off projects, specialised equipment, start-ups and improvements, renovations or construction of facilities. Closing date 8th September 2015. To find out more: <http://www.winchester.gov.uk/community/grants/project-grant/>

Contact Details and Other Information

City Councillor Caroline Horrill

Caroline Horrill's contact details are: email CHorrill@winchester.gov.uk or 01962 776844.

County Councillor Phil Bailey

Phil Bailey's contact details are: email philbailey@hants.gov.uk or telephone 01962 775275.

Police Liaison

Police hold their beat surgeries to coincide with mobile library visits.

kerry.croutear@hampshire.pnn.police.uk Telephone: 07901102445

jon.worsdell@hampshire.pnn.police.uk Telephone: 07554775447

Neighbourhood Watch

Coordinator of the local NHW is Jan Anderson whose telephone number is 01962 776784.

Blocked gullies

Report these to Hampshire County Council on 0845 603 5633.

Report a pothole

Complete the form at <http://roadenquiries.hants.gov.uk/roadproblems/highwaydefect/pothole.aspx>

Mobile Library

The next visit of the mobile library will be at Woodman Close on 18th August between 1.15pm and 1.40pm. Use it or lose it!

Next Parish Council Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting is a planning only meeting to be held on 20th August at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. A copy of the most recent minutes is available at Sparsholt Shop and also on the website.