

## PROJECTS ON THE GO!

Each year the Parish Council likes to take on board another project which will enhance the appearance of our village and make it a much more pleasant place to live

During this past year we decided that it would be good to tidy up the area from the Junction 10 roundabout down to the Bee Hive post office

We have enlisted the help of a local landscape gardener who has cleared the first section from the roundabout and planted flowering / colourful shrubs alongside the farmers fence. Later this year when these are established it should be very picturesque

We intend to continue with this project until all the stretch is cleared and planted where required and the area is left looking GOOD



## STRETTON VILLAGE AND ITS PARISH COUNCIL

In this hectic and modern world it is reasonable to ask what is the role of a Parish Council and how is it relevant to me?

The Parish of Stretton was formed almost 200 years ago in 1834 and the 1st meeting of the Parish Council took place 60 years later in December 1894. No doubt the items on the Agenda will have changed a little since then but it is nice to know that as the first point of contact for local democracy, the Parish Council still exists 123 years later!

Meetings take place on the 1st Monday of each month (except January and August) in St Matthews Church Hall, Stretton Road. Members of the public are welcome to join the meetings and the date, time and Agenda for each meeting is advertised in the Parish Noticeboards located on Hatton Lane, Northwich Road and Pewterspear Green Road, and also on our website

Current Parish Councillors are all independent and not affiliated to any political party and all live locally. Their role is to represent the views of the community on any events, developments, problems or projects that may affect the Parish and to engage with other stakeholders such as Cheshire Police, Warrington

Borough Council, Highways and Utilities when the need arises

Councillors are always looking for ways to improve the way we engage with parishioners and if you have any ideas or suggestions that you would like to have considered please contact the Parish Clerk

## CREAMFIELDS 2017

This year marks the 20th anniversary for the festival

As usual, it will be held over the August bank holiday with the site opening on Thursday 24th and closing on Monday 27th

Traffic management plans will be presented in June but we envisage that Stretton will stay the same as in previous years

Closer to the event, we will post contact details on our noticeboards and website should any residents need to report any problems

## NEW HOUSING

WBC's development options for Local Planning is due to go before the Executive Board on 10 July and subject to approval a consultation period will follow. All consultation events will be publicly advertised

Outline Planning for up to 180 homes on HCA land bordered by Ashford Drive and Pewterspear Green Road was approved by the Council in March 2017

## SUCCESS STORIES

Below are some of the projects which the Parish Council has carried out in recent years

New flower tubs with the village name inscribed in gold paint were purchased and erected across of the village

Tubs will be replanted twice a year according to the season



Daffodil bulbs were purchased from Holland via a local company and planted around Junction 10 roundabout and surrounding roads

Councillors, residents and young offenders from Thorn Cross all helped in the planting

We are sure you will agree that these daffodils give so much pleasure every year when they flower



2 oak trees purchased to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee; one situated in Lower Stretton

and the other on PGT land near the pavilion

These trees are now becoming well established and growing nicely for everyone to enjoy



## STRETTON'S STARS

Stretton is very fortunate to have many residents who quietly contribute to improving the outlook of the village, but we know there are numerous more out there!

So, if you know of anyone who selflessly volunteers to make life more comfortable for its residents or improve the village, please get in touch via the Parish Clerk and nominate them for one of our new Certificates recognising their valued input

Actions could include;

- ❖ Litter picking
- ❖ Tidying public areas
- ❖ Planting and tidying public borders
- ❖ Looking after neighbours unable to get about

Alternatively, if you would like to participate more in helping to keep the village the lovely place it is, again please get in touch via the Parish Clerk



## TWINKLING STRETTON

The Parish Council purchased 2 Christmas trees some years ago as part of an annual project

One tree is situated on PGT land near to the traffic lights by the Cat and Lion and the other tree is situated on Summit Close in Lower Stretton

Not many villages are lucky enough to have 2 trees but because our village is split by the M56 motorway we felt it was necessary to do this

Each year we have a tree lighting event for both trees so please closer to the time keep your eyes open for the flyer which will come through your door advising time and date for each event!

The tree on the PGT land is lit on a Saturday evening followed by carol singing around the tree and then the Parish Council provide hot mulled wine, soft drinks, mince pies and sweets in the pavilion

The tree in Lower Stretton is lit on a Sunday evening, again followed by carol singing, and then residents usually go into the Ring O'Bells pub for mince pies and sweets provided by the Parish Council (we are unable to offer mulled wine and soft drinks as this is a licensed public house)

Both tree lighting events are well attended so please come along to the next one and meet your fellow residents

Unfortunately, we are very sad to report that we have another act of vandalism occur in our village. This year someone ripped the wires from the light switches on the tree in Lower Stretton and threw them under the tree

If anyone sees any act like this being carried out could you please report it to the Police as this sort of thing spoils the enjoyment for all the rest of the community

## A559 NORTHWICH ROAD LOWER STRETTON

WBC has employed Consultants to do a topographical survey to design potential solutions to try to improve the severe problems residents in Lower Stretton are experiencing, due to the large size and volume of HGV's travelling through the village

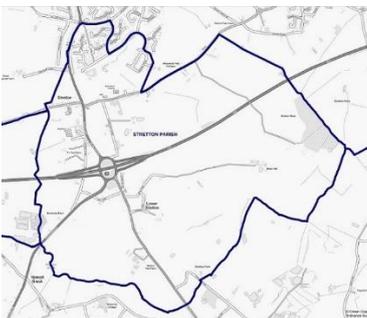
WBC's representative has worked closely with the Consultants to raise concerns of residents and stakeholders to try and incorporate as much of these as possible within the designs in addition to the network requirements

The key safety elements were in relation to speed, footpath widths, pavement mounting, driveway accesses, verge and private land overrun and the need to identify better carriageway widths and speed management features to alleviate all of the above

The design engineer has started on the options and as soon as WBC hear back with all the options we will be in touch with all the residents to discuss

## STRETTON'S BOUNDARIES

The Parish Council's website has been updated to show a map of the Parish, identifying just where the boundary lines are drawn together with a list of the houses which make up the Parish, so if you are a little unsure please take a look. You will find lots of other useful information there too



[www.strettonparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.strettonparishcouncil.co.uk)

## COULD YOU BE OUR NEW FOOTPATH WARDEN?



We are looking for someone to take over the role of footpath warden

This is a voluntary position for someone who really enjoys walking. The role entails regularly walking the public footpaths across Stretton and Lower Stretton and to report any areas which you feel need attention

Our current footpath warden would accompany initially to indicate the paths which need walking and it would be necessary to attend 3 meetings per year (presently arranged on a Thursday morning) in Warrington

If you feel you would like to take on this role please contact our Parish Clerk for more details

## PGT UPDATE

PGT has had another busy year, with extensive coppicing and cut back work completed around several ponds and the copses at the Owen's Corner roundabout, together with major work along the avenues of specimen trees

PGT is also investigating possible options for the redevelopment of the Pavilion, due to significant changes in demand from locals

Please refer to the Parish Council's website for full details of what's happening

## VANDALISM OF NEW VILLAGE SIGN



Following the increase in housing development in the late 1980's – 1990's Stretton saw a significant increase in the number of houses, but which also brought confusion relating to its boundary lines

To help identify the boundaries of our beautiful village and bring clarity to all, new village planters and signs were purchased as part of the Village Betterment project

All signs were welcomed by residents apart from a report from the contractors erecting the sign at the entrance to Ashford Drive / Pewterspear Green Road where it was questioned why a Stretton sign was being put up in Appleton

This sign was unfortunately badly vandalised shortly after being erected, and whilst we are not insinuating that this was done by the same person, it does go some way to explain why this became a project

Stretton continues to be a very lucky community as we do not experience many acts of vandalism, however as you may see in the picture, the word 'STRETTON' on the sign has been spray painted to delete it

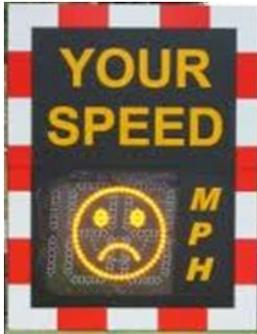
Because of the fact this seemed to be a targeted act, the incident was reported to the Police and an incident number issued (Crime ref 0717036515)

This remains an open incident so if anyone does have any information leading to the arrest of the person(s) who

carried out this act of vandalism we would appreciate you letting us or the Police know

In the meantime, the Parish Council would like to thank Stretton resident, Mr Dion Camm, who removed and cleaned the sign up as best as possible

## HAVE YOU MET SID?



SID is the Speed Indicator Device that the Parish Council purchased a few years ago to remind motorists of the 30mph speed limit that is in place on many of the roads in the parish

SID is mobile and is managed by Councillors and can usually be found on key roads; Hatton Lane, Northwich Road or Stretton Road but if residents are aware of other 30mph locations where the device could be deployed, please let us know

SID is only an advisory device – it does not capture data – but any statistical data collected is shared with Cheshire Police and is used by them to plan and undertake their roadside speed checks

Last year, we successfully worked with Hatton Parish Council to have the 30mph zone on Hatton Lane extended together with the introduction of a weight restriction limit for HGV's (other than those requiring access)

However, during a recent review on Hatton Lane data collated by the PC suggested almost 50% of all tracked

vehicles were travelling over 35mph and the speed of half of those was over 40mph, therefore there is still much work to do

Fortunately, levels of vehicle accidents and resultant deaths or injuries within the parish is very low and the Parish Council is keen to ensure this remains the case

If you have comments or suggestions in relation to speeding in the parish please contact the Parish Clerk

## FLY TIPPING

Unfortunately, we have had an ongoing problem with rubbish and fly tipping in our parish over the past 12 months



This photo shows rubbish dumped in Hall Lane, Lower Stretton

If anyone sees any fly tipped rubbish please inform the Parish Council or WBC directly so that measures can be put in place to have it removed as soon as possible

And if anyone witnesses fly tipping being carried out please try to note vehicle registration, vehicle type, date and time. Again, report it via the Parish Council, WBC or Police on 111

And whilst on the issue of rubbish, and as all Stretton residents are aware, we have a

very large problem with litter across the village

WBC are not cleaning areas up as much as in past years due to all the ongoing spending cuts which are being enforced

Leading on from this the Parish Council has purchased some litter pickers and distributed them to some residents who have offered to regularly litter pick as they walk around the village

We all want to live in a nice area but unfortunately it is looking as though if we want to keep our village looking good we will all need to pitch in and start doing little bits ourselves

Please contact us if you would like a litter pick to join our village tidy up campaign

16 Hospitality, new owners of the Partridge, recently met with the Parish Council and they are also keen to create a smart environment and we hope that this will help to improve the A49 littering problems surrounding the pub

In addition to litter another issue related to our busy roads is the attractiveness of our road sides as sites for temporary advertising banners. To help those who wish to advertise local businesses Stretton Parish Council has put together a summary of the regulations which govern temporary roadside notices based on WBC's guidelines. Please look on our website for guidance

**Do you know how to contact your Parish Council?**

Website:  
[www.strettonparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.strettonparishcouncil.co.uk)

Email:  
[strettonparishcouncil@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:strettonparishcouncil@hotmail.co.uk)

Tel: Mob 07557 680528