



Stockbridge Parish Council Newsletter

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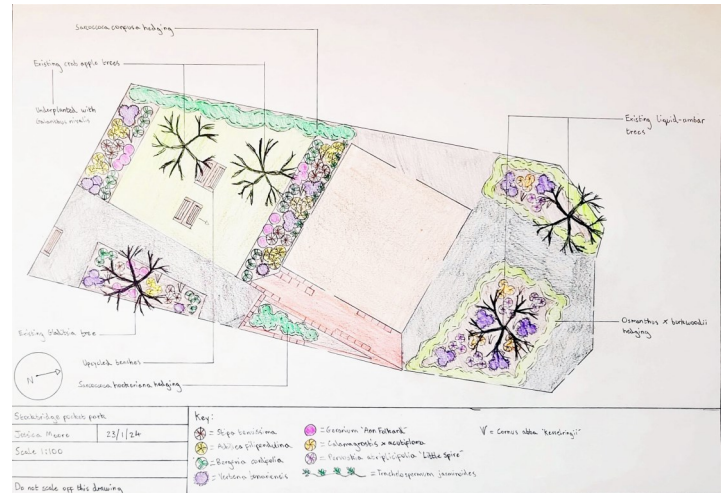
www.stockbridgeparishcouncil.org.uk

Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Garden

The pocket park behind the public toilets on the High Street has now been renamed the Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Garden. The Council had asked horticultural students at Sparsholt College to create designs for the garden to enable it to be used as an attractive, calming, community area away from the bustle of the High Street. At the community event held in April residents were asked to choose their preferred design. The winning design is here.

This design has kept the two crab apple trees, but these will need to be shaped and thinned to let more light into the garden. One tree may need to be replaced, however, as it is showing signs it is not faring well. The design creates two borders running along the back of the toilet block and the back of the garden. These borders are likely to be raised beds and will be planted with shrubs and perennials that will provide a spread of flowers with differing heights, scents and berries at different times during the year. The student has focused the plant's flowers as yellow and purple which are complimentary, along with white as a neutral colour. She chose these colours because they create feelings of tranquility and restfulness, enticing people to sit and enjoy the space – which was, of course, the Council's intention. Benches are included under the trees and it may be that this area will be paved. She proposes block paving on the path along the side of the toilet block to the garden at the back to encourage people to move through without going on the road. Along the back wall of the toilet block there will be a trellis which will be planted with a highly scented flowering evergreen to create interest and disguise the building.

The Council is now seeking quotations for installing the garden. A number of grant schemes are currently available and, therefore, the Council hopes to keep the installation expenditure to a minimum.



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Stockbridge Pharmacy



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Pharmacists have the sole right to dispense prescriptions for patients who live within a one mile radius of the pharmacy. Dispensing is profitable in high-density urban areas, but less so in a rural community

such as Stockbridge. Both GP surgeries and pharmacies are necessary and valuable resources in a successful and supportive community but only surgeries are well-funded by the Government. Both are able to dispense prescription-only medicines and both are paid the same fee for doing so, but it is a form of additional income for the GP surgery.

Stockbridge Pharmacy remains an important resource for our community. It would be missed by the less able and infirm if it was no longer able to operate. Be aware of the services the Pharmacy can provide.



Trout 'n About—Sunday 4th August



The organising Committee of Trout 'n About has taken the decision to approach HCC to seek to close Stockbridge High Street on the day of the event. The application is in process but not yet confirmed. Please watch out for announcements on the PC website. The Committee considers it an important step for safety reasons. Closing the road has advantages to the community such as ensuring the event is less crowded on the pavements; that no vehicles will be driving at speed with restricted visibility; and the trader's stalls can be faced away from the pavements so residents have better access to their homes.

As with every year the Committee will be grateful if residents move their vehicles from the High Street on the evening of 3rd August. On Sunday it is hoped the High Street will be closed to traffic 09:30-16:30. A safe thorough-

fare for emergency vehicles will be maintained at all times. Marshalls will be available to ensure that High Street residents will be able to leave Stockbridge and return but it would be preferred if this was kept to essential journeys only. All visitors to the event will be encouraged to park on the designated fields. There will be a charge of £5 to park. This charge will include a programme and raffle tickets.

Trout 'n About Committee aims to ensure that this year's event will raise more money for the community of Stockbridge and other local good causes.

The event is reliant upon volunteers and the Committee would like to hear from anyone interested in volunteering or any business that would be interested in sponsorship. Please contact *Mary Richards* at volunteers@tnastockbridge.co.uk

Speed Watch is looking for volunteers to monitor traffic and encourage lower speeds in our community

Stockbridge Speedwatch

Speeding is dangerous in our communities and Speedwatch is a way for local community members to monitor traffic and remind drivers to lower their speed. The Stockbridge Speedwatch team needs more volunteers to make sure that speeding drivers travelling through Stockbridge are noted. Anyone who is caught by Speedwatch will not be prosecuted for

their first offence but they will be written to make them aware that they were speeding.

If you would like to like to volunteer for Speedwatch please contact the Clerk. Groups will be drawn up with times convenient to the volunteers. It is hoped that this initiative will also work jointly with Longstock PC.

Photographic ID is required to vote

On 4th July a General Election will be held. **ALL** voters will need to produce photo ID at the polling station in order to vote.

The acceptable forms of photographic ID are:

Passport; Driving Licence; Blue Badge; Older Person's Bus Pass; Disabled Persons Bus Pass; Voter Authority Certificate.

A comprehensive list of acceptable IDs is available on TVBC's website [Elections | Test Valley Borough Council](https://www.testvalley.gov.uk/Elections) . A recently out of date form of appropriate ID will be acceptable provided the photograph is a likeness.

Please remember to bring your voter or photo ID to the polling station. You will not be allowed to vote without it.

Voter ID is coming!

From 4 May 2023, you will need to show photographic ID to be able to vote in elections.

You can apply for a Voter Authority Certificate if you do not have an accepted form of ID.

You can apply online at www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate, contact Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC) for a paper form, or visit the council offices in Andover and Romsey.

For more information contact TVBC on 01264 268000 or 01794 527700, or email elecreg@testvalley.gov.uk



Local Policing and Rural Crime

Test Valley parishes have been meeting with Hampshire Police Country Watch Team and the Test Valley Community Safety Team to understand what crime is happening in the area and how it can be prevented. Of particular interest was 'Operation Galileo' which focused on hare coursing and how the Police deal with the issue. It is likely that this type of crime was behind the recent very unpleasant 'dead animal' incidents at both Awbridge and Broughton. A man has been bailed for some of these offences and the investigation continues.

Fearless is Crimestoppers for 11-17-year-olds and is contactable on 0800 555 111. It has been set up to allow young people to access non-judgemental information and advice about crime and crimi-

nality and provides a safe place for them to give information 100% anonymously. Fearless cannot track IP addresses or phone numbers and is available 24hrs a day.

The neighbourhood policing officer dedicated to our area is PC Gulliver, (pictured). PC Gulliver will help identify threat, harm and risk to tackle local issues and protect our community. She will investigate local crimes and collect intelligence, working closely with other agencies to identify the best problem-solving approach. Further information is available at

[Andover South | Your area | Hampshire Constabulary | Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary](#)



Rights of Way around Stockbridge

HCC has written to all parishes, to tell them that, due to budgetary constraints, they will not be able to undertake for the foreseeable future the cutting back of the rights of way that HCC has previously undertaken. HCC is hoping that parishes will be able to take on this work along with local volunteers. HCC is providing grants for parishes to purchase necessary equipment and is

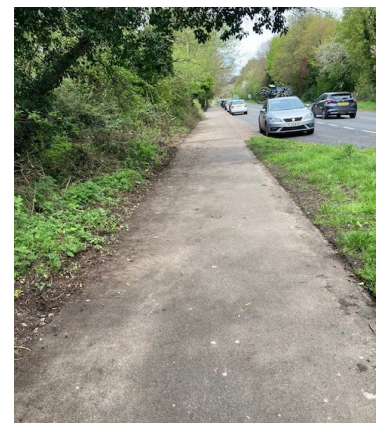
providing training for safe use. Stockbridge has a number of RoWs in the parish and these will need to be maintained in the future. This work can be very rewarding. Regular cutting of the hedging allows the sunlight onto the path which helps keeps them dry and useable. If anyone would like to volunteer for this endeavour please contact the Clerk.

Volunteers are needed to keep the Rights of Way cut back

Cycle Path

The national cycle route that runs beside the A30 and the along the Test Way has suffered, over the years, from overgrowth narrowing of the width of the pathway. It has been a long running project of the Council's to return the cycle path to its original standard but to do so using a contractor proved expensive and HCC was unwilling to make a contribution. SPC has been fortunate to engage

Community Payback workers to undertake this manual work. They have been engaged with pushing the grass back to define the edge of the path, removing overhanging branches and cutting back the foliage. The progress has been a little slow but it is hoped that over the summer the teams that come each week will be able to complete the project without cost to the PC.



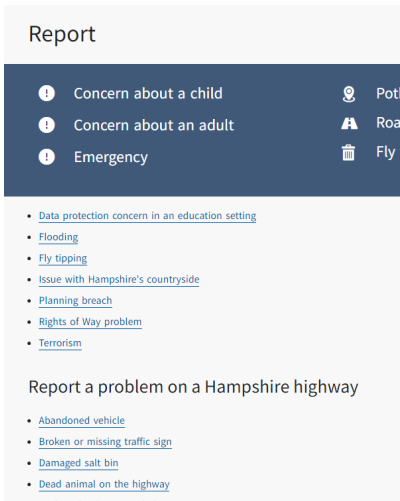


What's on in Stockbridge

When	Where	What
Thursdays am	Town Hall	Country Market
5th July	St Peter's Church	S'bridge Music—Stile Antico Choir
7th July	Town Hall	Posh Bric a Brac sale
18th July	Town Hall	Parish Council Meeting
19th July	S'bridge Cinema	The Taste of Things
24th July	S'bridge Cinema	Wicked Little Letters
4th August	High Street	Trout 'n About
28th August	S'bridge Cinema	The Holdovers
19th September	Town Hall	Parish Council Meeting
27th September	St Peter's Church	S'bridge Music—The Tippett Quarte

Please contact the Clerk if you would like your event included in forthcoming listings.

Report It



Stockbridge residents often complain to the PC that there are problems with the pavements or the highway. In most cases this is something that HCC will need to repair and it is not a Parish Council matter. Fortunately, HCC has an effective means of reporting these problems and tracking when HCC has dealt with them. However, it is always best to take a photograph so that the problem can be assessed by HCC staff. Go to www.hants.gov.uk/report. You will

be able to log the problem and then track HCC's response. The problem should be dealt with in a reasonable timeframe but if it is not then you should send the tracking number to our County Councillor David Drew, CllrD.Drew@hants.gov.uk and he will be able to chase the HCC officers for a response. This is the best way of bringing problems to HCC's attention. If they don't know there is a problem..... they can't deal with it.

A Quick Round- up of News

Don't forget the **Stockbridge Recreation Ground** is available for community use. The recreation ground is a beautiful stretch of land that is available for group events and activities. The Parish Council is continuing to hold **community engagement surgeries** in the Community Market every third Thursday of the month. Please come and raise with Councillors any concerns that you may have. **Citizen's Advice** is reaching out to the Stockbridge community to provide free independent and confidential advice and they looking out for volunteers for their team. Information is available on the PC website. The **Hampshire PCC** is consulting on what the community would like to see from the Hampshire Policing. Details and links are on the PC website. **Cllr Ian Jeffery** of Mid Test Ward has been elected at Test Valley Mayor. **Test Valley BC** has been rated the fourth best district authority for its financial management in England and Wales. The installation of the **crossing between the Greengrocer and the Coop** in progressing and the Council is awaiting an installation date from HCC. The PC will remove the planters to new homes. If anyone has thoughts on where they could be put to good use, please contact the Clerk.

