



# Storrington & Sullington Parish Council Newsletter

Winter 2021 Edition

## Keeping you informed of the work of the Parish Council and the community of Storrington & Sullington.

### NOTE FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Can you believe that Christmas is just around the corner again! 2021 has been a strange year starting off with lockdown and restrictions and then a gradual return to some form of normality. At the time of going to print, the number of Covid-19 cases recorded daily is still high and the roll out of booster vaccines is to be accelerated. We hope the booster programme prevents our NHS from being put under pressure and restrictions being imposed for yet another Christmas. The Parish Council's planned activities have been disrupted somewhat by the pandemic, but we hope to be able to press ahead in the new year. I would like to wish everyone a happy festive break and a safe and healthy new year.

### STORRINGTON FESTIVE AFTERNOON – SATURDAY 4TH DECEMBER

Storrington Business Owners are hosting a Festive Afternoon on Saturday 4th December from 1 – 6pm. There will be twinkly lights, Christmas music, festive gifts and plenty of offers for you to enjoy. Take in the sound of Christmas carols outside Henry Adams, visit craft stalls at The Anchor Inn, enjoy afternoon tea in one of our village cafes, visit the Rotary sale in Place



Villerest for books, plants, Christmas wreaths and handmade bug boxes and plenty more.

Our local shops will be waiting to welcome you with special offers, promotions and a warm welcome, there may even be a nibble, glass of fizz or a treat for the kids!

In true festive spirit we've given the parking attendants the afternoon off so

there's free parking in the Library car park and the Waitrose car park from 1-6pm!

Stay around as daylight fades, the perfect time to enjoy the festive lights on the High Street, enjoy the sound of Christmas carols and perhaps finish off with a mulled wine or two!



### FESTIVE ELF TRAIL



Following its success last year, the Storrington Business Group will be arranging another fun activity for children during the run up to Christmas.

Details of the trail will be distributed via the local primary schools and promoted by participating businesses, so look out for this information.

## HORSHAM DISTRICT COUNCIL LOCAL PLAN

Some of you may know that the Government's approach to housebuilding has resulted in Horsham District Council being forced to commit to building thousands of new homes over the next 10 years and whilst HDC has had to find locations for strategic developments, some of these numbers have obviously been allocated to villages and towns across the district including Storrington & Sullington. However, Natural England has recently issued a statement raising concerns that the level of development proposed in HDC's Local Plan will increase the demand for water abstraction and harm the Arun Valley. It states that planning applications for any development should only be granted if the applicant can prove the proposals are completely water neutral (i.e., having no extra impact upon the water supply). How this affects the numbers imposed upon Horsham District Council is not yet known and we await the Government's advice with interest.

### SULLINGTON OUTDOOR GYM

You may have seen in previous editions of the newsletter, that the Parish Council is planning to install an outdoor gym at Sullington Recreation Ground. We have shortlisted 6 proposals for the facility and will shortly be holding a series of consultations to present the designs and gather feedback. If you are interested in taking part in these consultations or have any questions about the project, please contact the Clerk with your details so that we can keep you informed.



### TREE PLANTING, HIGH STREET PLANTERS AND REWILDING – HELP NEEDED!

The Parish Council was sorry to have to lose a number of trees due to Ash dieback but in line with our policy to replace every tree that we have

to fell with two more, we will shortly be undertaking tree planting activities in several locations within the Parish. We are also able to access some funding via Horsham District Council for rewilding projects in and around Storrington High Street so watch this space for more info.

We are so lucky to have volunteer groups such as Storrington Greenfingers and Storrington in Bloom who are both responsible for providing the beautiful planters and hanging baskets in our High



Street. However, these groups are now struggling to carry out the watering schedule for these and other planned planting projects. **If you know of anyone who may be**

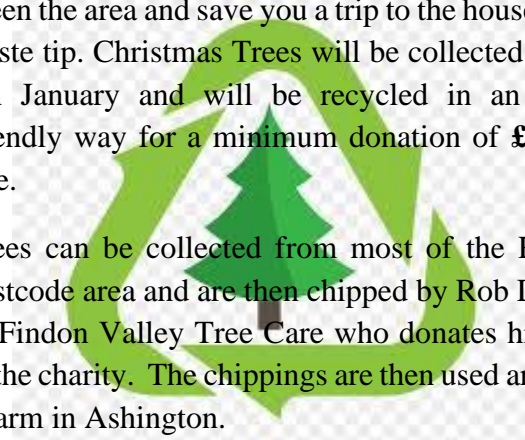
**interested in helping out (or a Gardener / Handyman who may have some spare slots to fill) please ask them to contact the Parish Office.**

### ROTARY CLUB CHRISTMAS TREE RE-CYCLING

The Rotary Club of Storrington & Pulborough District is again providing a service that is welcomed by the Community and which helps to green the area and save you a trip to the household waste tip. Christmas Trees will be collected from 6th January and will be recycled in an eco-friendly way for a minimum donation of £5 per tree.

Trees can be collected from most of the RH20 postcode area and are then chipped by Rob Dakin of Findon Valley Tree Care who donates his fee to the charity. The chippings are then used around a farm in Ashington.

To book a collection just email [recyclexmastree@hotmail.com](mailto:recyclexmastree@hotmail.com) with your name, address and telephone number.



## DEFIBRILLATOR AT PARISH HALL

Following the joint initiative between Storrington Community Football Club and The Parish Council to install a defibrillator at the Football Pavilion, we have taken the decision to install a similar machine at the Parish Hall. It will be located on the exterior of the building so will be available to hall hirers and the public in general, should it be needed. The importance of this life saving equipment has been forefront in the news over recent months following the incident at the Euros and another at the Football match at Newcastle during October. With a defibrillator also available at the Leisure Centre, St Mary's Church, The Glebe Surgery and in the phone box at the corner of the High Street and School Hill, we would like to think that a device can be readily accessed within a few minutes from anywhere in our Parish.



## OVERGROWN VEGETATION

Our colleagues at West Sussex County Council Highways Department are receiving many complaints about overgrown trees, hedges and shrubbery which are causing obstacles for pedestrians around the parish. In places, the greenery is so far across the pavement that easy passage is very difficult and may require the pedestrian to step into the roadway or duck down to pass through. Each reported case can take a lot



of time to deal with as WSCC have to visit the area to investigate only to find that much of the offending

greenery is on private land. The property owners then have to be contacted to request that they cut the hedges back. If you have a property with an outer perimeter on the highway or area where people regularly walk (our many footpaths and

twittens), please check your borders and deal with any overhang or obstructions that you find.

## REMEMBRANCE DAY

Wasn't it lovely to see the poppy displays in the Village this year? For the second year in a row, The Sullington Windmills WI installed a display on Place Villerest and one talented resident completed this pillar box topper which was placed on Old Mill Drive.



## NEW COUNCILLOR/VACANCY

We are pleased to welcome 1 new Councillor since our last newsletter: Sharon Sadler a local business owner. We have one remaining vacancy on the Parish Council, so if you are interested in hearing more about the role of becoming a Councillor, please contact the Clerk.

## PUBLIC TOILETS

The Parish Council would like to extend its thanks to the owners and staff of Pricewatch Ltd for demonstrating such community spirit by offering public toilets at its convenience store and Power Fuel Station in Old Mill Drive. We hope that the facilities are treated with more respect than that experienced by other businesses in the past.



**PriceWatch** Local





## NOT JUST ANY OLD LEISURE CENTRE!

Following the liquidation of the previous management company during lockdown, Chanctonbury Community Leisure (CCL) is a registered Charity that has been set up to operate the Chanctonbury Leisure Centre. The facility has now been open for 6 months and CCL is delighted to see so many people using the Centre again.

With the fantastic support of Storrington & Sullington, Thakeham, Washington & West Chiltington Parish Councils the Centre was able to open back up in April with a fresh new feel and welcomes members both old and new.

The Group Exercise classes, include Yoga, Tai Chi, Zumba, Les Mills, Circuits, Pilates and many more. There is a well-equipped gym and fitness suite and two sports halls that cater for Adult and Junior Sessions including football, gymnastics, netball, roller disco, table tennis as well as toddler sessions.

Chanctonbury Leisure Centre remains very much a Community Hub and besides offering gym sessions and fitness classes, the team have delivered a number of events aimed at improving the health and wellbeing of the local population. These include several Defib Awareness courses, which have provided people with the skills and confidence to use a Defibrillator in an emergency, four Save a Baby's Life Courses which have given parents & grandparents basic First Aid skills, free menopause seminars aimed at helping women to cope with the symptoms through lifestyle and diet and a GP Referral initiative which has seen many local people benefit from the expert advice of the Fitness Instructors following referral from their GP.

The Centre has also partnered with Waitrose and Premier Education to deliver a Grub Club during the school holidays. During the October half term this club provided 30 free places on a holiday playscheme, including lunch, exclusively for those accessing free school meals.

The team has recently been given a small grant from West Sussex Short Breaks to deliver an Open Day for young people with additional needs.

The Centre is conscious that health and wellbeing covers all areas of both physical and mental health. The facilities and services on offer ensure that there is something here for everyone and you will always receive a friendly and supportive welcome whenever you step inside the Centre. So, whether you are interested in using the gym, taking part in a class, sitting in the steam room, using the brand new 3G pitch or just coming in for a coffee, please come down and see what is on offer – you may just be surprised as to how much is going on right on your doorstep!

