



STANSFIELD Parish Council

Working with our local community

Changes being made to the Planning rules are unlikely to impact on Stansfield, parish councillors were told at their meeting on 11 September.

Sustainability is a main premise of the new rules. Because it has no public transport and very few facilities, Stansfield is not deemed to be a sustainable location for development.

The new Local Plan, which will set the rules for development across the whole of West Suffolk District until 2040, is at a very advanced stage, having been worked on and consulted on for the past three years. It will be judged against the criteria and rules in place at the time of the General Election, rather than be re-worked to take into account the new Government's Planning requirements*, West Suffolk Councillor Sarah Pugh told Stansfield parish councillors.

In short this means:

WSC planners have categorised Stansfield as a Type B village in which they will only allow limited infill or affordable housing exception sites, dependent on a proven housing need in the village. Examples of the few specific instances when small development might be allowed in Stansfield can be found on the Stansfield Parish Council website, stansfield.onesuffolk.net, under the heading Planning.

- *For example , the new Government now requires a 50% increase in the number of new homes built each year in the District, from 809 to 1200.*

Intimidating Driving

Suffolk Police and Suffolk County Council Highways are to be told by Stansfield Parish Council that instances of intimidating driving behaviour are on the increase on the narrow lanes in and around the village. Several councillors reported instances of being squeezed off the road by drivers travelling fast, particularly drivers of larger vans and lorries.

Assets of Community Value

The Village Hall, and playing field, the pub, the old village water pumps and the telephone kiosk (now a library), are some of the assets that could be registered as being

of value to the community in Stansfield. The parish council is now asking residents to nominate more so they can complete 3list to be lodged with West Suffolk Council. Please send nominations to the clerk, Anne Lines, stansfieldpc@outlook.com.

Footpaths

Parish Councillors approved the idea of putting a map of village footpaths outside the Village Hall, subject to the VH management committee agreeing. Many walkers park at the VH and then walk the beautiful routes around Stansfield.

Wildlife and Coffee ; November 2nd at the Village Hall 10.30 -1pm

Suffolk Wildlife Trust's Cathy Smith will be talking about wildlife in and around Stansfield and the importance of the Old Chapel Graveyard as a haven for wildlife. She has also asked that anyone coming along to bring photos and videos of wildlife locally. There will be an opportunity to ask questions and if the weather is suitable a visit to the Old Chapel Graveyard, which is cared for by the parish council, may be possible at the end. Cathy Smith has written a report on this site which is guiding its care.

Parish Councillors will also be on hand to discuss any ideas or concerns about the village in general. Refreshments are to be served by Good Neighbour scheme volunteers.

Entry is Free but any donations to Suffolk Wildlife Trust will be welcomed.

Old Chapel Graveyard

This has had a summer tidy up and a late Autumn clearance is planned. If you would like to help please contact Cllr. Ball at jab.73@yahoo.com or Cllr. Slater at martinslater101@gmail.com.

Diary Dates:

Next Parish Council Meeting: Wednesday 8th January, VH 7pm.

Then, Wednesday **12th March** followed by the Annual Parish Council Meeting on **May 14th**.

The Annual Parish Meeting is scheduled for **May 21st** (*this is an open meeting for residents in the village to bring up any topics of interest or concern.*)

The Annual Village Tidy Up is scheduled for Saturday morning, **April 26th**

A date has yet to be fixed for a second Summer Fun Day.

