

# Barton Stacey Parish Council Newsletter

Spring 2018

Dear Resident,

**Welcome to the Spring edition of the Parish Council Newsletter:** The Parish Council meets 10 times a year on the **third Tuesday of the month** in the Village Hall from 7.30pm, excluding August and December. The Planning Committee meets once a month if planning applications have been received. The date varies to ensure TVBC planning deadlines are met. Please check the website and village noticeboards for agendas and minutes. Why not come along, there is an opportunity for members of the public to speak before the start of the meeting. Please note the April meeting will be held in The Nest (formerly known as Poppies) as the village hall is closed for redecoration. Thank you, Barton Stacey Pre School.

**Councillors:** A full list of councillors can be found on the website and notice boards together with contact phone numbers and email addresses. Councillors should now be emailed using their new email parish council addresses: [clr.surname@bartonstacey-pc.co.uk](mailto:clr.surname@bartonstacey-pc.co.uk), the Clerk's email address: [bartonstacey.pc@gmail.com](mailto:bartonstacey.pc@gmail.com)

**The Trim Trail:** One piece of equipment had to be modified but the trail is now fully operational and ready for a launch party just in time to warm up before the Barton Stacey Pre-School Fun Run on May 13<sup>th</sup>.

**The Trim Trail will be officially opened on**

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May starting at 2.30pm**

There will be plenty of music, fun, laughter and exercise for all who want it. Get your teams ready and why not bring a picnic as well as your trainers? Keep an eye open for further information. The parish council is very grateful to the grant from the National Lottery Awards for All Fund which made this project possible.



**The Millennium Playground:** Maintenance is always ongoing in the playground to keep it both a safe and a pleasant area. The major project in the 2017 was to replace the old safety tiles with coloured Rhyno Mulch, made from recycled rubber materials. Test Valley Borough Council granted 50% of the cost from The Community Asset Fund with the remaining 50% coming from S106 monies. Again, the parish council is very grateful for this grant. Please help to keep the playground looking nice by taking rubbish home or using the bins provided and encouraging your children to do the same. There have been no recently reported incidents of dogs or dog fouling in the playground...thank you.

**Recreation Field:** The parish council has purchased a native whitebeam tree to be planted near to the pavilion.

**Road safety issues:** A resident witnessed a near accident in The Street because the pedestrian was in dark clothing. Please remember you need to be seen at night especially when walking or cycling in poorly lit and dark areas by wearing Hi Viz or other reflective items of clothing.

A young man on a scooter was seen coming out of the school path travelling too fast to stop at the junction with Bullington Lane and went straight across the road. Fortunately, the road was clear and so another accident was avoided. This was extremely dangerous and caused distress to the person who witnessed the incident.

Speeding continues to be an issue throughout the parish although it is only possible to introduce speed calming measures within the 30-mph area. The parish council is exploring purchasing a battery operated portable speed indicator (SID) as the Speedwatch initiative has proved to be problematic. It is possible to attach a data collection unit so that speeds can be monitored and, if necessary, pass to the police. People who volunteered to join the Speedwatch group will be approached and asked if they would like to help operate the data collection unit if this road calming measure is adopted.

The parish council continue to lobby our County Councillor, Andrew Gibson, who, in turn, is making strong representation on our behalf to Hampshire Highways about the potholes and general deterioration of road surfaces especially along Roberts Road. Please continue to register potholes on the Highways website.

Sadly, there has been another fatal traffic accident at the A30/A272 junction. Cllr Andrew Gibson's request for a safety investigation has resulted in an investigation to be carried out by the Casualty Reduction Partnership which consists of officers from Hampshire Constabulary, HCC and TVBC. Hopefully this will produce some effective measures to make this junction less dangerous.

**Bus Survey:** Approximately one third of households responded to the on-line survey. The door to door survey is still to be carried out. Hopefully, now it is officially Spring, the weather will improve so that this can be completed without volunteers suffering from frostbite!



**Calling all would be librarians:** The Village Hall Management Committee have kindly agreed to provide storage space enabling a small library to be run from the village hall. Initially it will be open twice a month, once on a Saturday morning from 9-11 and once on a weekday morning or afternoon. It is hoped that over time not only will there be a good stock of books but also of games and DVDs. This



is a much-needed facility in the Parish as the Mobile Library Service was withdrawn last year. Would you like to help? Volunteers are needed, perhaps you have a spare hour of two once or twice a month, have something to donate, bake a cake or make a great cup of coffee. Wouldn't it be lovely if we can get it up and running before the party on the Green on May 7<sup>th</sup>? If you can help in anyway, please contact a councillor or the Clerk Jo Gadney on 01962 761287 (email address above)

**Car parking on the Pan Handle:** It is appreciated that there is very little car parking close to the school. However Barton Stacey is luckier than many villages as the pan handle can be used to drop off and collect children. If you must drive your children to school, please remember that residents need access and that driving on to the grass causes damage making maintenance more expensive. The lay-by on Roberts Road, almost opposite The Green, is a private parking bay and should not be used by members of the public.

**Parish Council Precept:** The parish council has sought grant funding for projects completed in the last 12 months as it strives to provide more amenities and services for the parish without increasing its share of the council tax. This year the number of band D equivalent has fallen from 401 to 396. To maintain the 2017/2018 income, the precept has been raised by 1.27% which is an increase of just over 5p per month for a band D property.

**And finally, .... The parish email system:** Are you missing out by not registering for this service? Do you want to know about planned highway closures, local emergencies such as accidents closing the A34 or events in the parish? If so please email the Clerk, Jo Gadney. Almost 200 people are now receiving these and many other local information updates.