



Welcome to the Autumn Edition of Staverton News. This is my first newsletter, please bare with me as I feel my way into the role.

My first job as editor is to say a big thank you to my predecessor, Natasha, for the great job she's done in building this newsletter into what it is today.

I'd also like to thank her for the help and support that she's given to me in getting up and running.

Many thanks also to the members of the Parish Council for offering me the job and for the warm welcome afforded me.

Massive thanks also goes to those who have contributed to the newsletter.

Last, but by no means least, a big thank you to our volunteer distributors.

... And now down to business...

It's been quite a summer in glorious Staverton. Inside this edition we have all the news from the Parish Council, Wiltshire Council, Canalside Churches and a number of Summer events, news from our clubs and groups... and more.

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Contacts

June Jones - Parish Clerk

parishclerk@stavertonparishcouncil.org.uk

Please get involved, send articles and photos to me, Simon at

newsletter@stavertonparishcouncil.org.uk

Thinking ahead... the next edition will be the Winter edition, I'd like to see pictures of your Halloween pumpkins and Christmas decs.

(Cover photo by Chris Knutson)

PARISH MATTERS – AUTUMN 23

NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR – Kim Mounty

Cllr Kim Mounty is welcomed as its newest member to the Parish Council after he was co-opted onto the Parish Council on Monday 17th July 2023. Cllr Mounty recently moved to Staverton from Trowbridge and is keen to become an active member of the Staverton Community. We all look forward to working together to improve our community.

NEW EDITOR OF STAVERTON NEWS – Mr Simon Withers

Following the resignation of Natasha Webster after working with the Staverton News for several year, Mr Withers was appointed the new editor at our last meeting on the 17th July. Simon brings a wealth of experience in the printing business and has lots of ideas for improving your newsletter. If you wish to contact Simon please email him on:

newsletter@stavertonparishcouncil.org.uk

THE OLD VICARAGE AND STAVERTON HOUSE – Mr Ashley Jones

Mr Ashley Jones of Staverton House discussed the many issues that he faced to upgrade his care home and the concerns raised by Staverton Parish Council and after full discussion were pleased that many of the issues raised had been addressed and were able to withdraw their opposition to the development.

EXTERNAL AUDITOR – YEAR END ACCOUNTS & AUDIT 2022-23: The Parish Council is pleased to report that once more PKF Littlejohn have found *“no matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met”*.

HILPERTON & STAVERTON CONSERVATION WORKING GROUP

Dr Celia Bennett updated the Parish Council regarding new developments. The Parish Council was pleased to note that the 500 houses allocated to be built in Staverton have been removed from the LOCAL PLAN altogether but 600 Houses are still in the plan for Hilpertton. Highways England had opposed this from the start as the local road network would not be able to cope with additional housing. Also CPRE did a lengthy report stating that the housing numbers quoted for the area were unsupported. Dr Bennett said she would continue to monitor and fight the development and report back on new information. She was thanked for once more for her hard work in helping to stop the development.

SCOUTS FETE HELD ON SATURDAY 10TH JUNE 2023.

George Braham of the Equinox Explorer Unit said that, for a first event held at Staverton, it was very successful with £1,500 raised and it was hoped to hold another fete next year working with the Staverton C of E Primary School on a **Literary Festival to be held on 25th MAY 2024** at Staverton playing field. With a few changes George was optimistic that the next fete would be even more successful.

FLY TIPPING BY CONVENIENCE STORE AT MEADOW COURT THE .

It has been noted that rubbish bins next to the Convenience Store are being used to fly tip household rubbish from cars and homes nearby. The bins cannot cope and large piles of rubbish and bags of dog excrement are left lying around. Visitors and residents nearby should know that fly tipping is illegal and can incur fines of over £1,000 when evidence is supplied to Wiltshire Council. Many residents give up their time to litter pick and it is very upsetting to see this area strewn with rubbish after all their hard work. Please take your litter home with you.

CLOSURE OF THE B3105 FROM END OF JULY UNTIL DECEMBER 2023

We cannot finish without mentioning the regrettable closure of the B3105 between Cereal Partners and the Railway Bridge by School Lane. The replacement of the Victorian cast iron water pipes with modern plastic ones has been long overdue for many years with the constant repairs required and the disruption to people living nearby. The road will be completely closed off during these works with no access through past the Avon bridge. New Terrace will be included in resurfacing after completion. Wessex Water are keen to work closely with local residents living nearby and to co-operate with any issues that may arise. However, there is still access to the Old Bear Pub.

DATES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS UNTIL 2024

20 NOV 23

15 JAN 24

If there is anything you'd like to raise with the Parish Council, please contact any of the councillors

Chairman

Nicholas Woodall - nick.woodall@stavertonparishcouncil.org.uk

Vice Chairman

Jeff Gibson - jeff.gibson@stavertonparishcouncil.org.uk

Councillors

Richard Blueitt - richard.blueitt@stavertonparishcouncil.org.uk

Claire Braham - claire.braham@stavertonparishcouncil.org.uk

Mark Frati - mark.frati@stavertonparishcouncil.org.uk

Kevin Lamb - kevin.lamb@stavertonparishcouncil.org.uk

Kim Mounty - kim.mounty@stavertonparishcouncil.org.uk

Ray Symonds - ray.symonds@stavertonparishcouncil.org.uk

Parish Clerk

Mrs June Jones - parishclerk@stavertonparishcouncil.org.uk

Wiltshire Council Update

Wiltshire Plan Review

Wiltshire Council has published the latest edition of its Plan Review. The good news for Staverton is that the allocation of 500 houses on land north of the B3105 has been dropped, whilst in Hilperton the numbers have reduced from 2,100 to 600.

So the lobbying has paid off, but it's not over yet. The next and last phase of consultation starts on September 27 and ends on November 22. As part of that WC is holding drop-in events at libraries and leisure centres and a live webinar-style event on Thursday 10 October on Microsoft Teams.

The in-person events are informal drop-in sessions where you can meet officers and find out more about the Local Plan and how to respond to the consultation. The online session will feature a presentation, followed by an opportunity to ask questions.

There are more details, along with all the documentation, on the council's website.

After the consultation there will be an official Hearing sometime next year, when a government inspector will consider the plan. Developers will of course be pressing for discounted allocations to be brought back in.

Plus we still have the problem caused by the Wiltshire Council administration's failure to provide a five year supply of building land. Because of that, government rules mean applications for sites in open countryside, which would normally be seen as unsuitable, are being allowed.

Wiltshire Council has denied allegations it's deliberately choosing not to have a five year Housing Land Supply (HLS), saying, "the methodology to calculate the 5 year HLS was what it was and they had to work with it and go on the figures officers provided."

One of the things we've been pointing out to the planners is the inability of the local road system to cope with large increases in traffic. They seem to have recognised this in the latest version of the plan, with references to a 'Staverton Diversion'. They haven't though clarified what this would be or how it would be delivered.

Staverton Litterpick

The autumn clean-up will be on Sunday October 15th. If you'd like to join in we'll be starting at the Village Hall at 10.30. Equipment and refreshments will be provided. In previous autumns we've also done some bulb planting in the village, which has brightened up the subsequent spring-times. If you have any suggestions for suitable sites for more daffodils, then please get in touch.

FB: Cllr Trevor Carbin in Atworth, Holt, Staverton

Contact details;

trevor.carbin@wiltshire.gov.uk

07706 994178

Website: trevorcarbin.mycouncillor.org.uk

Wiltshire Council

McDonalds 'Drive Through' Planning Application Hilperton

McDonalds is now going through the planning process. It's been called in so will end up at committee unless officers decide to refuse it. Hilperton Parish Council has objected following a special meeting on August 1st which a couple of hundred people attended, all of them opposed. Although the official deadline was August 18th WC is still accepting comments. This can be done via the WC planning website, using reference PL/2023/05469. 570 comments have so far been received (August 26), nearly all of them being objections.

The road closure – here's an update from Wessex:

Staverton supply scheme progresses well

Road users in west Wiltshire have been reminded to consider any extra time needed for their journeys as work continues on a £500,000 project to upgrade water mains.

Nearly 500 metres of new water pipe are being laid in the village of Staverton in a five-month project to replace the degrading cast-iron main which has become prone to bursting.

Wessex Water teams are progressing well with the replacement, with the road remaining closed to through traffic as the new school year gets under way.

The Staverton project will see a new pipe laid within the B3105, between the railway bridge near Staverton Social Club and the Cereal Partners complex near the River Avon, with the work taking place between July and December.

Residents and businesses along the road are continuing to have access maintained for them. Utility company Wales & West are also carrying out some of their own work within this closure.

A Wessex Water spokesperson said: "The early stages of this replacement have progressed well and we are continuing to work closely with local residents and businesses to ensure their access can be maintained.

"We recognise that this is a well-used stretch of road and are continuing to communicate with local councils, schools and businesses to keep them updated. We thank all residents, businesses and road users for their co-operation while this complex project continues and apologise for any inconvenience caused."

Meanwhile Wiltshire Council has announced it will resurface the road in spring 2024, once Wessex Water have finished. So there'll be another brief road closure for that to be done.

Staverton WI

On a very humid day in June fourteen ladies from Staverton WI set off in cars for a day trip to Bowood House and gardens near Calne, home to the Lansdowne family. After a very informative and enjoyable tour of the house and gardens we returned to the restaurant for lunch outside in the shade on an extremely hot but enjoyable day out.



Our cake stall at Staverton fete was very successful, cakes all provided by our members. Fortunately we sold out very quickly as they were in danger of melting in the very hot sun.

Staverton WI meet at Staverton club at 2pm on the third Thursday in the month first three visits are free just turn up you will be most welcome.

Any inquiries to secretary Helen Sheppard

01225 765872

Staverton Macmillan Cake Sale

On Saturday 26th August, Staverton hosted their 6th annual sale in support of Macmillan. This year there were more challenges than most, not least the rain!

However Staverton residents are made of strong stuff and there was a good turn out with many smiling faces sheltering under the gazebos enjoying cake.

The event organiser Kerry said "The total raised was £1485.00! which is all thanks to such hard working local volunteers, without whom this event could not take place. Thank you to all those that made donations to be sold, helped with the preparation and clear down and of course the hungry people who needed cake. I feel truly blessed to live in such a wonderfully supportive community!"



Scouts Fete

On Saturday 10th June the sun came out and remained shining all afternoon as 1st Hilperton Scout group hosted the Staverton Fete on the school Playing field. The fete was well supported by the village and there was Live music entertainment on the stage, some sporting races and several stalls. These included a tombola and a raffle with the star prize of a day hire of a canal Boat from ABC leisure.

Games included Hook a duck, crockery smash, coconut shy, duck splash and a trebuchet for family fun. Also, for children was the miniature steam railway train and a large inflatable from Sugar and Smiles .

A fire pit was lit for the traditional scouting campfire occupation of toasting marshmallows and a BBQ, Bar, Ice cream van and tuck shop for available for food and refreshments.

The village was represented by the Parish Councillors and MP Michelle Donelan attended as well as the HAAG – Hilperton Area Action Group raising the awareness of the local building plans. Other local groups that supported the fete were Staverton WI with a cake stall and also 1st Hilperton Brownie Unit.



Staverton school were generous to allow access to the school for use of the Toilet facilities as well as making parking available but all villagers were encouraged to walk to the event where possible.

The proceeds were towards the Scout group to enable them to offer local scouting opportunities to children from ages 6-18.

1st Hilperton Scouts would like to thank all who came to the fete and all the volunteers, stall holders and parish councillors for their support.

George Braham

Update from Hilperton Area Action Group

In summary the consultation on the Local Plan starts on September 27th. There will be a meeting that evening at 7pm in Hilperton village hall. Described as phase 1, the plan is for 600 houses, a primary school & nursery all on land between Whaddon Lane, the rugby club and Devizes Rd.

Additional land has been included without prior consultation next to the village hall. Wiltshire Council is suggesting that the remainder of land in Hilperton and Staverton will be retained for future housing supply in future years.

We are continuing to fight to protect the village, emphasising the traffic and access issues, the impact on biodiversity and the visual impact. The consultation closes on the 22nd November and there is going to be an online consultation.

There is a drop in meeting with the Council regarding the Trowbridge plan on Thursday 12th between 3pm and 7 pm in the Atrium at County Hall. See the HAAG website for more information.

<https://hilperton.wixsite.com/haag>

Celia Beckett Chair HAAG

For up to date information please visit our website <https://www.stavertonparishcouncil.org.uk/>

Have Your Say

This page is dedicated to thoughts and comments from Staverton residents. Please feel free to send through your contributions. I can't promise to include them all but will endeavour to include as many as possible. The 3 main topics of conversation in Staverton at the moment seem to be the road closure, the housing development plans and the 'drive through' McDonalds. Have your say and please let me know what you think about these and other items. Send your thoughts through to newsletter@stavertonparishcouncil.org.uk



Hilperton says no to McDonalds... what does Staverton say?

Staverton Road Closure..

How strange the silence that has settled..
due to barriers made of metal..
Restricted access, village bound..
workmen busy digging round....
Improvements made new pipes may alter,
due to work by Wessex Water..
Still some months till they concur..
and we return to how we were..
When traffic constant never ceased..
fondly recall these days of peace?

Bev' Borresen 2023



For some the peace is bliss, for others diversions are a nightmare, what do you think?

Plans have been cut back, for housing development in Staverton and Hilperton, but there are still plans! The major concerns are the extra traffic, lack of infrastructure and the impact on wildlife. Below are a few photos taken in Staverton of wildlife that may be at risk due to the potential development



Worth fighting for?

For up to date information please visit our website <https://www.stavertonparishcouncil.org.uk/>



There are no prizes for these, just a bit of fun.

1	3				4			
		4	8			9	3	
					1	4	6	2
6	9							
	2	3				1	5	
							9	4
7	1	8	2					
	5	2			7	6		
			1				7	9



From The Rectory

Thank You

What can we say? We were totally overwhelmed last week by everyone's kind words and generous gifts. Our farewell service and lunch will remain in our memories forever as we came to the end of an amazing seven year journey in Canalside Benefice. It has been such a delight and privilege to minister amongst you all through such an eventful time in history. None of us will forget the dark days of the pandemic, but God is blessing us as we come out the other side and we know that will continue into the future.

Thank you all so much for the amazing gifts - we will treasure the picture, the book of messages and many cards, and we look forward to choosing and riding our electric bikes, once we are settled in our new home.

From the beginning of August we will be living in Bradpole, Dorset.

May God bless you all richly. With our love and prayers, John and Anne



I'm sure you'll all join me in wishing John and Anne all the best for the future down in Dorset. Thank you for your work over the past seven years

You will be sorely missed



	St Michael & All Angels Church The Knap, Hilpertont	St Mary Magdalen's Church "The Tin Church" Horse Road, Hilpertont
SUNDAY 3rd SEPTEMBER	10.30am ALL AGE WORSHIP and Launch of Shoebox Appeal	
SUNDAY 10th SEPTEMBER	10.30am HOLY COMMUNION	
SUNDAY 17th SEPTEMBER		10.30am HOLY COMMUNION
SUNDAY 24th SEPTEMBER	10.30am HOLY COMMUNION	4pm TEA@THE TIN
SUNDAY 1st OCTOBER	10.30am PATRONAL FESTIVAL with HOLY COMMUNION	
SUNDAY 8th OCTOBER		10.30am HARVEST HOLY COMMUNION
SUNDAY 15th OCTOBER	10.30am ALL AGE WORSHIP for HARVEST	
SUNDAY 22nd OCTOBER	10.30am HOLY COMMUNION	4pm TEA@THE TIN
SUNDAY 29th OCTOBER	3pm IN LOVING MEMORY A Service for All Souls	10.30am HOLY COMMUNION

Details of all services and events can be found on our website canalsidebenefice.org.uk

If you have any church related enquiries please contact our Administrator

Michael Gamble 07795400262 canalsideoffice@gmail.com

For up to date information please visit our website <https://www.stavertonparishcouncil.org.uk/>