

Village Update

SUMMER 2008

JUBILEE FIELD SUCCESS

£390,000

awarded by the Football Foundation

Staplehurst Parish Council working in close co-operation with the Football Clubs has been successful in obtaining a Grant of £390,000 towards new changing rooms and improved car parking at the Jubilee Sports Field in Headcorn Road. The total cost of the project is £530,000 with the remaining funds being provided by the Parish Council, Maidstone Borough Council, the Football Clubs and Guides.

There will be four unisex changing rooms in the new building which will also have a small kitchen and disabled facilities. Tender documents are being issued and it is hoped to start building work in late summer.

For many years the Parish Council has wanted to improve the facilities at the Jubilee Sports Field and the award of the Grant for the changing rooms is the culmination of many years' work. The Council is particularly grateful to the Football Clubs for the support and commitment they have given to this project. There are 9 junior teams in the Village as well as three senior sides. The improved facilities means that the Clubs will be able to enjoy modern facilities appropriate to the 21st century.

The flexible design of the building means that it will also be available for use by other sporting organisations in the Village. Paul Thorogood, Chief Executive of the Football Foundation said "We warmly congratulate the Parish Council and Football Clubs for their hard work and dedication in securing this award. Sport is playing a central role in helping people to stay fit, strengthen communities and promote responsibility amongst young people. I am delighted the Football Foundation



Football Foundation

football's biggest supporter

investment is opening up access to sport in Staplehurst and encourage other organisations in the region to apply to us"

The work does not stop now! We now have to find ways to improve the playing surface; perhaps fund a green gym and bike track to compliment the Skate Park already on site. If you have any ideas as to how the facilities at the Jubilee Sports Field or elsewhere in the Village could be improved then please let the Parish Council know.

Nigel Best & Mick Hooker Chairman of Staplehurst Monarchs FC & Staplehurst & Monarchs United FC, jointly said: "The award of this grant is a fantastic moment in the history of the football clubs and it secures the long term future of football within our village. We would like to thank the Parish Council, Eric Hotson and all of our members for the support and financial backing in achieving our dream. We look forward to the opening of the improved facilities mid way through next season which will enable all teams to play again within the village"

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Staplehurst Neighbourhood Watch is delighted to announce that it is organising an Exhibition of Home and Vehicle Security Products and related services.

Local suppliers have been invited to participate. The Parish Council and police are supporting this event which will take place from 10am until 4pm on Saturday 19th July in the North Hall of Staplehurst Village Centre. This will be a great opportunity for you to see what is on offer for your security. There will be refreshments available. Please book this date in your diary and don't forget to come.

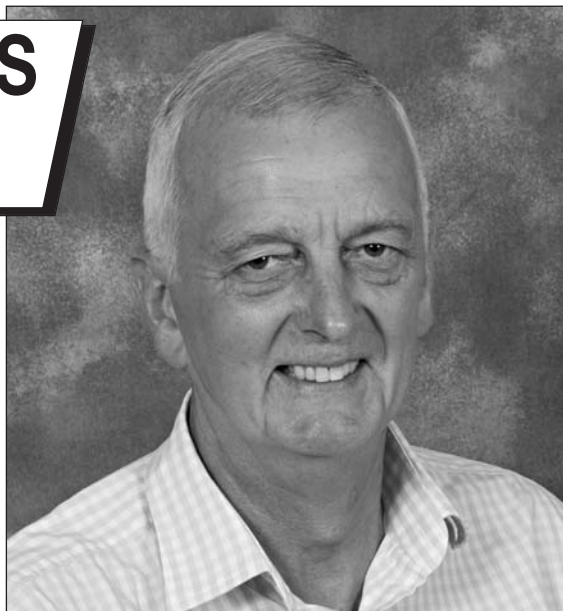
Staplehurst

Parish Council



COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

So that you get to know your councillors a bit better we asked them a few questions. Here are the answers from Don Wood - member of the Amenities Committee, the Village Centre Management Committee and the Jubilee Field Project



Councillor Don Wood Questions and Answers

How long have you lived in Staplehurst?	30 years
Where were brought up?	Bexley and Dartford
How long have you been a Parish Councillor?	5 years
What do you do in your spare time?	Two gardens, angling & DIY
What is the best thing about being a Parish Councillor?	Hearing views and opinions different from my own
What is the worst?	Being told very often that such and such is insoluble
What other organisations in Staplehurst are you a member of?	Village centre
Who is your hero and why?	My wife for putting up with me
What are you currently reading?	A history of modern France Vol1 1715-1799 & The Secret Carp Pool
What is the last film you saw?	Casablanca
Who would you least like to be stuck in a lift with?	My sister in law
If you were stranded on a desert island what two luxury items would you take?	Inexhaustable supply of super soft toilet tissue and a bottle of fine wine for every week
What single piece of music would you take ?	Anything by the modern Jazz Quartet 1952-1955
Which two people would you like as dinner guests?	My wife and my three children
Where in the world would you most like to visit?	New Zealand for the fishing and Italy for the food
What exercise do you regularly take?	See spare time answer and dog walking
What is your greatest achievement as a Parish Councillor?	Retaining a sense of humour

SOBELL LODGE

Sobell Lodge is your Leonard Cheshire Disability Home which caters for 21 physically disabled adults in a residential setting behind the Village Centre. We are currently looking for voluntary support in various areas.

Much work is being done to revamp the gardens at Sobell Lodge with the help of the new gardening group. Residents enjoy their garden very much and more help is still needed. Do you have a few hours to spare to help out in the gardens on a regular basis or even a one off to help get the gardens trimmed and tidied for spring? Volunteers are also required to support the residents with various activities, escort/driver for our minibuses, assisting at meal times and over the weekends to spend a little time with

residents as well helping to make coffee/tea. Leonard Cheshire Disability is celebrating its 60th birthday this year and we are currently looking for people to help us celebrate this event by holding a tea/coffee morning between 14th May-2nd June 2008. Whatever your place of work, no matter how big or small we would be delighted with your support. Posters and leaflets are available if you would like to participate. Sobell Lodge is also hosting our own cream tea event on 14th June at 4pm. Please come and join our celebrations and learn a little more about us. There are always opportunities available and if you are interested in volunteering for the above or any other position please contact Vanessa on 01580 893996

COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

So that you get to know your councillors a bit better we asked them a few questions. Here are the answers from the Chairman of the Amenities Committee, Angela Knowlden - who is also a member of the Youth Focus Group



Councillor Angela Knowlden Questions and Answers

How long have you lived in Staplehurst?	33 years
Where were brought up?	Globally-RAF!!
How long have you been a Parish Councillor?	3 years
What do you do in your spare time?	Read a lot/ family
What is the best thing about being a Parish Councillor?	Coming out to meetings on a Monday night
What is the worst?	Watching Eastenders when there is no meeting
What other organisations in Staplehurst are you a member of?	Staplehurst Society
Who is your hero and why?	Ellen McCarthy
What are you currently reading?	Ultimate Weapon-Chris Ryan
What is the last film you saw?	The Queen
Who would you least like to be stuck in a lift with?	A claustrophobic
If you were stranded on a desert island what two luxury items would you take?	A lipstick and a comfortable bed
What single piece of music would you take ?	Lara's Theme-Dr Zhivago
Which two people would you like as dinner guests?	Angus Deaton and Lord Deedes
Where in the world would you most like to visit?	India-by train
What exercise do you regularly take?	Play golf
What is your greatest achievement as a Parish Councillor?	Surviving to run for another term

MOBILE POLICE STATION

PC Marc Pennicott will be deploying the Mobile Police Station to Staplehurst on a number of occasions over the next few months. This will be an opportunity for people to come and raise any issues and will provide a visible presence to deter crime and anti-social behaviour.

14th May 2008 19:00 - 22:00 The Parade, Staplehurst
 13th June 2008 19:00 - 22:00 The Parade, Staplehurst
 11th July 2008 19:00 - 22:00 The Parade, Staplehurst
 7th August 2008 19:00 - 22:00 The Parade, Staplehurst
 23rd August 2008 19:00 - 22:00 The Parade, Staplehurst

PARISH COUNCIL INFORMATION

The Parish Office is in the Village Centre. It is open on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9 to 11 am. The phone number is 01580 891761. The email address is: staplehurst1@btconnect.com

Borough Councillor Lusty holds a surgery at the

Library on the last Saturday of each month, from 10am to 12pm. A Parish Councillor, PCSO, Community Warden and/or Marc Pennicott (our Community Police Officer) usually also attend. All are willing to talk over any local issues.

PACT

PARTNERS AND COMMUNITY TOGETHER

**Meeting on 5th June 2008 at 8pm in the
South Hall at the Village Centre**

What is PACT?

PACT stands for Partners and Communities Together. It is about everyone getting together to identify local concerns and gives you the opportunity to influence the way your community is managed.

At this meeting we will discuss actions taken on the previous 3 priorities and also put a plan of action together to set a further 3 priorities relating to the parish.

We are also looking for residents of the parish to join the Pact panel and anyone that is interested can contact PCSO Pete Gardner on **07772 226134**.

HAVE YOUR SAY!

Take part in the Staplehurst Opinion Survey



- **What sort of development, if any, would you like to see in the village?**
- **What would you like to see happen to the Village Centre (the old school building)?**
- **Should there be 'Pay and Display' parking at The Parade?**
- **What facilities would you like to see provided for young people?**
- **Could recycling facilities be improved?**

Your opinions on these and other issues can influence decision making and policies that will determine how Staplehurst develops in the future.

To take part in the survey visit...
www.staplehurst-partnership.com