



Stedham with Iping Parish Council

SUMMER NEWSLETTER

Issue Number 6
August 2022



PARISH UPDATE

Hello and welcome to the 6th edition of the Parish Council's newsletter including a montage, on Pages 2 & 3, of photographs taken at the various Jubilee celebrations held in the Parish.

The Parish Council has completed a number of tasks over the last few months, the most noticeable probably being installation of the new play equipment at Common View and on the Recreation Ground. The Zip-wire, in particular, seems to have been a big hit. The majority of the funds came via a grant from the South Downs National Park Authority. An application has already been made for further funds to complete the upgrade of equipment at Common View, namely replacement of the Climbing Dome - hopefully this will be completed early in 2023.

The Council was pleased to have funds available for some badly needed repair work. This included new gates at Stedham Graveyard, re-painting the goal posts at Common View and supplying new nets. Also, in collaboration with Stedham Women's Institute with a Jubilee Grant from Chichester District Council, we repaired the bench on The Recreation Ground, originally donated in 1989 to the village by the Stedham WI to celebrate their 70th Anniversary.



The big event was of course the Jubilee in June. Celebrations started on the 2nd with the Beacon Lighting organised by Stedham Sports Association and held at their fields. The impressive Beacon was hand made by Mike Burton of Rotherhill Nurseries. A very enjoyable event.



This was followed by the Fete on the 5th organised by a Jubilee Planning Group made up of volunteers from all over the Parish. An excellent event thoroughly enjoyed by all, as can be seen from the photographs (Pages 3 and 4). It's the first fete held in the Parish for a number of years and seems to have kindled an interest in having this kind of activity on a more regular basis – so if you're interested in volunteering for the next event please get in touch via the Parish Council.



A long overdue event was at last completed on 8th May, namely a commemoration of VE Day. John Hill, one of the oldest residents of Stedham has vivid childhood memories of the war years in Stedham, in particular, of the troops stationed in and around the village, wanted to ensure the occasion was properly marked, albeit 2 years late. He very kindly donated a bench in memory of all service men & women. Tea, cakes and music being supplied by the Parish Council.

The Annual Parish Meeting (APM) will be held on 22nd September. The Parish Meeting is a statutory meeting and should assemble annually between March and June but this hasn't been possible over the last couple of years because of Covid. The aim is to return to the proper schedule in 2023. A Parish Meeting allows local electors to discuss parish affairs and, if appropriate, pass resolutions on the public activities or policies of the Parish. See Events Page.



JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS



Does anyone have any photographs of the Jubilee Events? The plan is to put together a collection of photographs to display in the Hall alongside the other village events – please send them into the Parish Council. Thank you.





REWILDING OF STEDHAM GRAVEYARD

In the last Newsletter we shared our plans to cease mowing areas of the graveyard during the summer months. We have successfully begun to re-wild and had a welcome visit from the butterfly below. You may also have seen the wildflowers beginning to grow around the Stedham Signpost.



HIMALAYAN BALSAM



As part of our rewilding incentive it would be great if we could look at the 'Himalayan Balsam' invasion. This is a non-native plant that is taking over our riverbanks to the detriment of our native plants. The best way to control it is either to uproot or cut it before its explosive seed pods enter the river and spread downstream. The PC would be happy to work with local landowners in an effort to control this plant.

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

Annual Parish Meeting

Thursday 22nd September

Starts at 7pm at the Village Hall. The APM will not be the formal, sit-down meeting as held previously, the Parish Council is aiming to make the session more accessible and free flowing so people can come and go as they please.

Refreshments will be available throughout the evening. Local clubs and organisations will be able to publicise their activities

by either wearing a name badge so they can be easily identified or by setting up a “show & tell” stall. Electors can then choose who they want to chat to and when. There will, of course, be a couple of opportunities at the beginning and toward the end of the evening to raise questions and for general discussion, in particular, how does the Parish want to spend the £1,182 raised at the Jubilee Fete. Please come along!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Postman Dave Leaving Do

Sunday 21st August on The Recreation Ground, from 4pm

The Next Parish Meeting

Thursday 8th September at the Village Hall, 7pm

Annual Parish Meeting

Thursday 22nd September at the Village Hall, from 7pm

Autumn Litter Pick

Saturday 19th November

Contact the Clerk to take part

MILESTONES UPDATE

Here are the old Stedham and Rogate Milestones at their current location in Petworth House stable yard – moved here in 1940. As you can see, they are quite big!! - not so easy to move. Also, we still have to get approvals from various bodies – we'll keep you posted!



STEDHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL



As most of you will be aware Stedham Primary School recently underwent a period of turmoil which could have resulted in the closure of the School. Luckily the community rallied and supported the governors and staff and managed to ensure the School remained open. It joined Harting Church of England Primary School forming the The Weald and Downlands Schools Federation.

The school, however, still needs the community's support on an ongoing basis, in particular, the joint Governing Board needs new members. Stedham is very lucky to have a "Village School" but help is needed to ensure the school continues to thrive. Please consider becoming a Governor. Please contact Jeff Ace at chair@stedham.w-sussex.sch.uk to find out more about the role. *The school does need you.*

The school has just completed an amazing Summer Term. On top of all the usual assessments, the children have enjoyed many memorable events: The Stedham Summer Fete, the Jubilee Garden Party, a new style Sports Day, a Stedham Fun Run, the Rother Valley debate and the Stedham Football tournaments.

Please see the website for more information:
<https://www.stedham.w-sussex.sch.uk/web>



Jubilee Commemorative
metal water bottles
Can be purchased from
the Clerk for just £1.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Website - <https://www.stedhamwithiping-pc.gov.uk/>

Clerk – clerk@stedhamwithiping-pc.gov.uk / 01730 814575

The Parish Council meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month

Contact the Clerk if you have any queries or comments.