



Stedham with Iping Parish Council

Spring newsletter



Issue Number 8
MARCH 2023



Parish Council Update & Elections

Hello and welcome to the 8th edition of the Parish Council's Newsletter.

The Council is pleased to welcome two new Councillors Rachael Wildman and Jessica Simon (also known as Ziggy), both residents of Stedham.

RACHAEL WILDMAN

I joined 2 months ago so I could help the village that I've lived in for 14 years.

I enjoy finding out what people love about the village and what they want from it. I love walking and so could be found anywhere in the Parish, the more remote the better.

ZIGGY SIMON

I joined the PC in this beautiful Parish because I'd like to try and help grow the kind of community spirit and village life I had when I was growing up, for everyone, whatever age and background. I enjoy organising events, parties and all the fun stuff. I love to see people enjoying themselves!

Unfortunately, one of our Councillors has had to leave, Madeline Pike, who was instrumental in setting up this Newsletter. The Council would like to thank Madeline for all her hard work over the past few years.

The current four year term for all Parish Councils in England will end in May this year and two of our existing Councillors will be retiring. SIPC should have 9 Councillors so the Parish will urgently need new members to fill the vacancies. Each Candidate, including existing Councillors, will need to complete nomination papers.

This Parish is split into two wards, Stedham and Iping. Candidates will need to be proposed and seconded by someone on the Electoral register from their ward. The Council looks forward to welcoming new members.

The nomination and the election processes are managed by the Returning Officer from Chichester District Council. Election Day this year is Thursday 4th May. A summary of the election timetable and further information on the Nomination process are available on the Council website.

For further information and copies of Nomination Forms please contact the Clerk. clerk@stedhamwithiping-pc.gov.uk / 01730 814575



Voting & Photo ID



As you may have heard, for the first time ever, the UK Government has introduced a requirement for voters to show photo ID when voting at a polling station. This new requirement will apply for the first time in England at the local elections on Thursday 4 May 2023.

A wide range of photo ID will be accepted, including passports, driving licences, blue badges, bus passes and cards with a PASS Mark.

If you don't have an accepted form of photo ID, you can apply for a free voter ID document known as a Voter Authority Certificate.

Visit <http://electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID> or call 0800 328 0280, to find out more, including:

- The full list of accepted forms of photo ID
- How to apply for a Voter Authority Certificate
- What will happen at the polling station.

Fibre Optic Update

With the closure of The Street the other week you will have noticed that BT (Openreach, as they are now) are up to something. We've had fibre to the village in Stedham and Iping for years now, but high- speed Fibre to the Home (FTTH) has up until recently been reserved for our city dwelling cousins.

Not any more...well, at least for some of us. Our Parish is inconveniently served from three exchange centres: Bepton, Midhurst and Trotton. It's the Bepton leg that is first to benefit from this roll-out; a part of the Rural Fibre Broadband Scheme. For us that means Minsted and South Stedham (as far as the corner of School Lane and The Street) get the upgrade.

For the rest of us, even if your phone and broadband is with another provider, we will all have fibre by the time the old copper cables get turned off in December 2025. We've asked Openreach for more FTTH schemes in the parish ahead of this, but with the current one taking over 2-years, we may not be far ahead of the December '25 deadline. Watch this space...





Coronation of King Charles III



A Working Party meeting was held on 20th February and agreed the Parish would hold an event on Sunday 7th May. It will be themed on a garden party, and include the famous Parish dog show, childrens games and an Open Gardens and Art trail. The plan is to continue the event on into the evening with food, drinks and a disco.

Open Gardens and Art 10.30am-2.30pm

Garden party on the green starting at 2.30pm until 8.30pm

A full timetable for the day will be published soon.

Volunteers and ideas are needed – so please contact the Clerk

As part of the celebrations the bench at the Common View Notice Board will be replaced and include a plaque to commemorate the Coronation.



A step back in time...

I popped in to see John and Bernie Hill tonight, to chat to them about the Celebrations in Stedham for the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in June 1953. "There was a parade!" Said John excitedly telling me about the band (pictured below) with members Ron Christmas, Charlie Page, George Lintott, Harry West and Ben Pett, some of whom have relatives still in the Parish. "Everyone dressed up and decorated prams and bikes. We walked from The Hamilton Arms to the sports field and had a picnic, with egg and spoon and three-legged races, it was brilliant."



There are photos of the Parade in the memorial hall, go and have a look!



^ John 86, and Bernie 83 today

< Parish children on a parade float 1953

Bernie Continues “There were hundreds of people there, the whole village came along. Everyone joined in.” “I wish we could do it again” said John. Hopefully we can for John and Bernie and the whole Parish on 7 May, they have promised me they are still party animals..

ANZAC DAY- 25th April

By pure coincidence John goes on to tell me about when he worked for Lt Commander Holbrook VC (right) after he left school, and then again after the war, milking the cows in his dairy. Which leads us to the story of Norman Holbrook, a Stedham resident, and the submarine. John remembers him being a “kind and lovely man” and his wife donating £5000 to the bowls club as it opened. John still tends to his grave in St James’ churchyard.



HMS B11 replica in Holbrook

Commander Holbrook was Awarded The Victoria cross, the first ever to a submariner, for his actions during the first world war. He joined the Navy in 1903 aged 15, and on 13th December 1914 he was tasked with destroying enemy shipping. He navigated the B11 Submarine through the Dardanelles Strait,

a 30km passage, no wider than 1 km in places, protected by five uncharted minefield and surface guns! This took over five hours. With Holbrook at the periscope, the B11 torpedoed and sank the Turkish battleship The Mesudiye, and then while under fire, the periscope having been spotted, they turned to make their escape. Eight hours under those minefields again.

Hearing of Holbrook’s actions, Germantown, New South Wales, changed their name to Holbrook in 1915 “in order to express indignation at the conduct of Germany in the war”. To this day, Lt Cmdr. Holbrook is commemorated there on ANZAC Day, with a replica of the B11 in the centre of their town.

Lt Commander Holbrook retired and lived at Stedham Mill, until he died in 1976. For more on this story, visit Holbrook Submarine Museum - MGNSW online.



Roy enjoying a bacon roll on the new bench.

Firstly, you can't miss the new bench on the A272 on the way into the village!

The puddle has been removed from the front of the CV post box with the addition of some paving slabs.

Unfortunately, due to underground cabling, the 5 cherry trees can't be planted along The Street, so instead will be planted in the Common View play area, along the eastern boundary where the houses back onto the field.

The latest plans for the CV play area are to replace the climbing dome with a new wooden, modular frame that can be added to as and when funds are available. The first module will be installed this year. The Council has requested further funding for the installation of a fully accessible roundabout and pathway - all going well - installation should take place next year.



Michael kindly replacing the post box slabs.



Easter competition



Can you make the best ~~bonnet~~...ahem, crown?

Join our competition to make the best Easter Crown by placing your Crown outside your home through the Easter weekend. Please have a stroll through the Parish to check out the competition!

Winner receives a tin of M&S Biscuits and a bottle of wine.

Duration April 7th - April 10th

Winner announced at the Coronation event. Good luck!

Commons update

What a Winter! Snow, freezing fog, heavy rain then almost summer-like sunny days in February – it's been challenging. Over this period our gallant team of volunteers has been out in all weathers carrying out path clearance, scrub control, Christmas tree cutting and heather management. Overall, this winter they have covered around 10 hectares of scrub clearance, removing the invasive pine and birch saplings. In addition we have had West Sussex Golf Club cutting heather turfs for heathland restoration on their course at Pulborough. The resulting bare earth provides warm sand for burrowing insects such as wasps and bees. As I type I am just preparing contracts for tree safety works across the site, but particularly along the A272. Here there are many trees with unhealthy leans towards the carriageway. We hope to be able to carry this work out in March. I am also finalising the improvement works to the entrance points off the car park. This has been an ongoing problem, and finding contractors has been difficult. However, we are on the home run to getting some fresh stone put in to replace the mud. Lastly, the cattle are due to return around mid-summer, probably wearing collars that emit a beep if they stray too far from areas we can determine on a phone App. This allows us to focus the herd in specific areas for any specified amount of time. The cattle have been trained to the collars over the winter at our base at Wiston. Lastly, this is probably my last update as Reserve Manager for the Commons, as I step aside and new staff are recruited. You may still see me around as I may retain supervising the volunteers, and or carrying out practical repairs etc across the whole of our reserves in West Sussex.

PS – a replacement “Dragonfly bench” is on order, as well as a new height barrier for the car park – that was some impact!

Steve Webster

Reserves Manager Stedham & Iping Commons and other designated sites

Spring on Stedham and Iping commons is best for bird song including the Tree Pipit (right) that has a spiral display flight from the tops of Birch. The now uncommon Willow Warblers can frequently be heard as can Stonechats with their distinctive alarm call.



Dates for your diary

Parish Council

Next Parish Council Meetings **April 13th** and **May 11th**. From 7pm in the Memorial Hall.

St James Church

May 7th Coronation celebrations Songs of Praise service at the Church at 5.30.

Sports and Social Club

March 14th Parish Council Tea Club.

April 2nd The Tennis Club BBQ members only, 1 years membership is £40.

April 27th 7pm Sport's association AGM

August 6th Placeholder for the summer... Community Rounders

October 28th Placeholder for the Winter... Fireworks

Horticultural Society

March 27th 7.30pm A Competition of classes Flowering Shrub, Daffodils and different bulbs from your garden, judged by the members.

April 27th 7.30pm talk by Gardening to save time.

Stedham Women's Institute - www.stedhamwi.com/

March 16th 7.30pm AGM and "What's in a View" - A talk by Bill Avenell exploring the historic significance and geographical origins of the iconic views in West Sussex.

April 20th 7.30pm Body Through the Porthole - Steve Herra will present a tale of desire, death and deceit. The audience's role is to play the jury!

May 18th 7.30pm Resolutions evening, Cheese and Wine – Annual planning meeting for future events.



Stedham Movies will be showing

TOP GUN-MAVERICK

On Friday April 14th

doors open at 7pm for 7.30pm start

"a high-octane spectacle, the likes of which the world has never seen before!"

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

Clerk- [clerk@stedhamwithiping-pc.gov.uk/](mailto:clerk@stedhamwithiping-pc.gov.uk) 01730 814575

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

Please contact the Clerk with any queries or feedback.