



ST STEPHEN PARISH COUNCIL

AUTUMN 2018 NEWSLETTER ISSUE 42



**BATTLE'S
OVER**
A NATION'S TRIBUTE
11TH NOVEMBER 2018
100 YEARS OF REMEMBRANCE

Armistice centenary to be marked with special events on 11 November

In commemoration and remembrance of the centenary of the end of the First World War, your Parish Council will take part in the Battle's Over national tribute, featuring 1,000 beacons lit across the UK on 11 November.

The event at Greenwood Park will commence at 5pm with music, a BBQ and bar, and will culminate with fireworks and the lighting of the beacon at 7pm – a century after the guns fell silent.

The Remembrance Day Parade & Service will be held as usual at the Parish War Memorial in Park Street from 2.30pm. The service will give members of the local community the opportunity to pay tribute to those who made the ultimate sacrifice, not only in the First and Second World Wars, but also in more recent conflicts.

The event will start with a parade of standards by local youth organisations, led by the Harpenden Pipe Band. Anyone wishing to take part in the parade should join those congregating in the Park Street Village Hall car park by 2.15pm.

Please note that car parking in the vicinity is limited and there will be a road closure in place between Hawfield Gardens and Park Street Lane from 2.15–4pm.



2019 Arts Festival & Fête

The postponed 2018 Parish Fête will be combined with the bi-annual Arts Festival next summer will be held at Greenwood Park on the weekend of 1 and 2 of June 2019.

The Arts Festival will cover the visual arts, dance, music and drama. All the stallholders and exhibitors who were involved in the 2016 event, and those who indicated that they wanted to become involved in the 2018 event, will receive an invitation to become involved next year.

The Fête will be on Sunday 2 June and will have all the usual sideshows, craft stalls, entertainment, dog show, falconry, food court and bar.

It will be a fun weekend and present a chance to those who have an artistic aptitude to display their craft, sing, dance and play music, as well as for dog owners, jam makers, wood carvers and others to participate.

Cllr Bill Pryce



New Assistant Clerk

Your Parish Council extends a warm welcome to Isabel Crozier, who joined us as Assistant Clerk in July.

Community Carol Concert – 2 December

Don't miss the Community Carol Concert on 2 December from 4pm at Greenwood Park Community Centre, Chiswell Green.





Groundsman Matt Huddleston and Centres Manager Dani Medlin with the Green Flag award

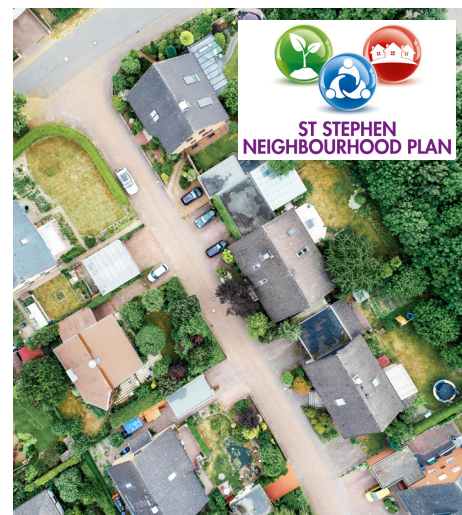
Green Flag award for Greenwood Park

Have you noticed the new Green Flag at the Tippendell Lane entrance to Greenwood Park?

Once again the Parish has been awarded the accolade for a park that is well-kept, provides a wide variety of activities for all ages, is comparatively free from litter, is well-attended by people of all ages enjoying free entrance and features a well-equipped children's play area.

All this doesn't just happen: a lot of hard work is put in by your Parish grounds team and office staff, plus councillors and volunteers. The process for obtaining the award involves assessment of our management plan by 'Keep Britain Tidy', followed by a site visit.

Your Parish Council thanks all those involved with the park's management, the users and visitors for their input and for helping to obtain this award once again.



St Stephen Parish Neighbourhood Plan under review

The draft Neighbourhood Plan for your Parish has been sent to the District Council for comment. The plan's steering group will then work their way through it and make any adjustments that in their view are warranted, and resubmit for the Planning Inspector's assessment.

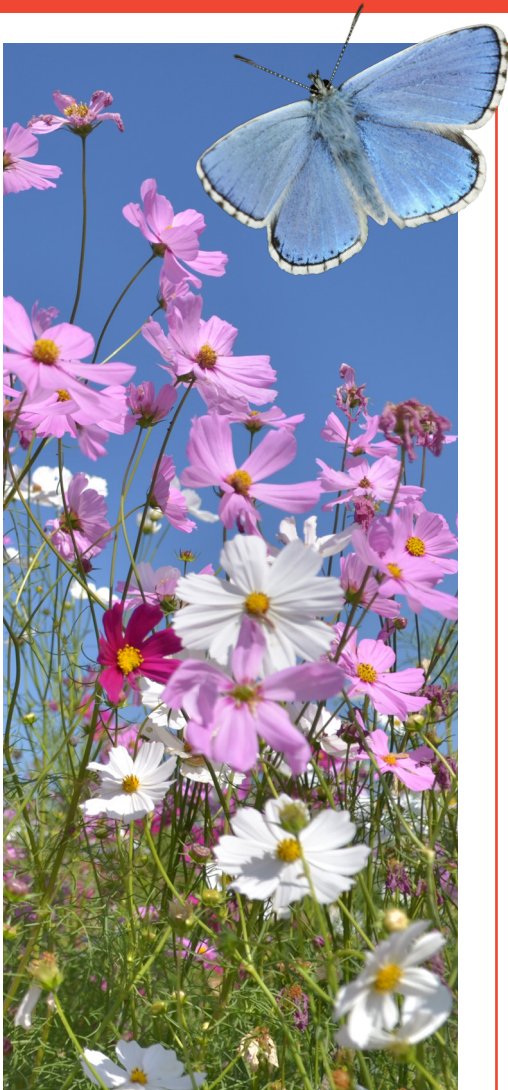
Yes, it is a long process, but it is important as it will shape the future of the Parish, as far as development is concerned, and will affect us all and generations to come.



Is there room for an allotment in your life?

Allotments are hard work but so very rewarding. Your Parish Council has a site at Park Street Lane, and two at Greenwood Park. There are many reasons to consider taking on a plot of your own. For a start, it's good for you – providing physical activity and healthy food, and boosting mental health. You'll save money and the homegrown veg tastes amazing.

If you'd like to take on a plot or – if you are concerned that you won't have time – start with a half-size plot then find out more on our website or contact us (isabel@ststephenparishcouncil.gov.uk).



Butterfly project to take wing?

Your Parish Council has agreed to a request by the Butterfly Conservation Society for a length of chalk embankment to be constructed in the wildflower meadow at Greenwood Park, to provide habitat for butterflies.

Because open grassland in Hertfordshire is in decline, we have encouraged a vast sweep of grassland – stretching from the A405 to the Watford Road by the Midway Surgery – to develop into a wildflower meadow. This has resulted in a variety of flora and fauna appearing among the grasses, including an abundance of butterflies. The chalk embankment will encourage some of the less common species, such as the small blue butterfly, to inhabit the meadow.

Your Council is not involved financially, and the project will depend on the society obtaining grant funding.

Restoring Bricket Wood Station

A charitable trust with the aim of restoring the Bricket Wood Station building to its original condition was launched at your Parish Centre in September.

The exterior of the building will look pretty much as it did when it was built. Internally it will have a café, museum, archive centre, resource centre and toilets. It is intended that the building will be used by residents, people passing through Bricket Wood, users of the Abbey Line, schools and historians – everyone will be welcome.

Matched funding is being applied for from various sources to help with the restoration and internal alterations. But you can help to bring this disused building to life by becoming a member. See the website (www.bricketwoodstationtrust.org.uk), which contains a wealth of information about the station and the work of the trust.



The bunker, beside Bricket Wood Station

Cold War bunker listing supported

It is difficult to hide a building that is nearly 30m long and over 10m wide and some 4m high next to a railway station; however, it is surprising how few people are aware of the concrete monolith adjacent to Bricket Wood Station.

Following threats of its demolition a local resident has applied to Historic England to have the building 'listed'; your Parish Council have written in support of this request.

This structure was built at the height of the Cold War in 1954 as an emergency centre to run part of the railway network in the event of an attack. While 35 of these centres were planned, only a few were built and only two remain.

Historic England has made a full inspection, and reported on the history of the building, but have yet to make a recommendation with regard to listing.

While the building and land is owned by Travis Perkins, some interest in its use has been shown by the Bricket Wood Station Heritage Trust (see above).



Annual Parish events roundup

This year's Armed Forces Day in June exceeded all others! Local groups, ex-service personnel and serving men and women joined us to remember and celebrate our Armed Forces.

Crafts in the Park was again held successfully this summer; next year's events will be on 27, 28 and 29 August.

The annual Parish in Bloom Awards were held in September, and the results will be announced in the next newsletter.

If you would like to volunteer at any of our community events, please contact us (01923 681443; gill@ststephenparishcouncil.gov.uk).



Farewell Santa!

Father Christmas, who has appeared on many Christmas Eves on the roof of 81 Park Street Lane, has moved. Many children and adults have enjoyed seeing him and with his sack of toys, along with mulled wine and fantastic firework displays. I would like to thank the family of Mick Stevens for the pleasure and fun they have given so many people over the years and wish them all the very best in their new home.

Cllr Ian Getley

PARTIES, MEETINGS, WEDDING RECEPTIONS...

Whatever you're planning, our two spacious centres can provide an ideal setting.

Spaces range from a sports hall that can accommodate more than 300 people, to smaller halls and outdoor sports and leisure facilities.

Greenwood Park, in Chiswell Green, and the Parish Centre, in Bricket Wood, offer free car parking, wifi, tables and chairs, and a kitchen. Enquiries/booking: **Centres Manager, 01727 874867**



Dates for your diary

Full Parish Council Meetings

15 Nov, 24 Jan, 14 Feb, 14 Mar and 11 Apr, 7.30pm

Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Full Council

16 May, 6.30pm, venue TBC

Parish Council events

Remembrance Day Parade & Service:

11 Nov, 2.30–4pm, Parish War Memorial, Park Street – see page 1

Battle's Over: 11 Nov, 5–7pm, Greenwood Park, Chiswell Green – see page 1

St Julian's Wood Volunteer working morning:

24 Nov, 26 Jan, 23 Feb and 23 Mar, 10am–1pm – meet at Greenwood Park top car park – 01727 831280

Community Carol Concert: 2 Dec, 4pm, Greenwood Park Community Centre, Chiswell Green

2019 Arts Festival & Fête: 1 and 2 Jun, Greenwood Park, Chiswell Green – see page 1

Other local events

Book Swap: Mondays except Bank Holidays, 2–4pm, and Thursdays 10am–noon, Bricket Wood URC Hall – free – 01923 673638

Park Street Players Musical Evening: 1, 2 and 3 Nov, 8–10pm, Park Street Village Hall – a variety of musical entertainment including songs from *The Greatest Showman* – £10, including two-course dinner – 07551 643869

A Time to Remember: 4 Nov, 3–6pm, St Luke's Church, Bricket Wood – a simple service to remember and give thanks to those we have loved who have died, followed by tea and cake

Hanstead Wood Volunteer Morning: 10 Nov, 8 Dec, 12 Jan, 9 Feb and 9 Mar 9 – meet at car park entrance, Hanstead Park, Bricket Wood – 01923 672254

St Stephen's Gardening Club AGM & Talk:

Five English Gardens, 16 Nov, 7.30pm, St Stephen Parish Centre – free – 01727 872718

Fundraising Quiz Evening for Tearfund: 17 Nov, 8–10pm – teams of eight welcome – office@st-lukes.org.uk

Park Street Pickers Community Litter Pick:

18 Nov, 19 and 20 Jan, and 16 and 17 Mar – time and location: 01727 873365

Parks Street & Frogmore Society Talk: *Archaeology of the St Stephen Area and its Wider Context*, 20 Nov, 8.15–10pm, Park Street Village Hall – 077792 588892

Bricket Wood Society Meeting: *Local Archaeology*, 27 Nov, 7.30–10pm – £2 – 01923 279870

Park Street Residents Association How Wood Christmas Lights: 29 Nov, 5.15pm, Parade Shops – 07973 262876

Carols by Candlelight: 16 Dec, 6.30–8pm, St Luke's Church, Bricket Wood – traditional family service – office@st-lukes.org.uk

Midnight Communion Service:

24 Dec, 11.30pm, St Luke's Church, Bricket Wood – office@st-lukes.org.uk

Family Christmas Communion:

25 Dec, 10.30am, St Luke's Church, Bricket Wood – office@st-lukes.org.uk

Fundraising Jumble Sale: 19 Jan, 10–11am, St Bart's Church Hall (Vesta Avenue) – 50p – 01727 873672

Bricket Wood Society AGM and Talk: *Radio Verulam*, 26 Mar, 7.30–10pm – £2 – 01923 279870

St Stephen Parish Council

Parish Council Meetings

Residents are welcome to attend Full Council and Committee meetings (except the Human Resources Committee). Meetings are held in the Council Chamber at the St Stephen Parish Centre in Station Road, Bricket Wood, unless advertised otherwise. Times and dates are displayed on your Parish Noticeboards.

The Parish Office

First floor, St Stephen Parish Centre, Station Road, Bricket Wood, St Albans, AL2 3PJ

Tel: **01923 681443** Fax: **01923 681338**

Email: clerk@ststephenparishcouncil.gov.uk

www.ststephenparishcouncil.gov.uk

Open Monday to Friday, 9am to noon, or by prior appointment.

