

News & Views

Inc. Stanford Rivers Parish Council News Letter

July/Aug 2023

Issue No. 116

Toot Hill Show – 5th August

Show Competition Schedule available **NOW**.

The 70th anniversary show is on **Saturday 5th August**. It is 70 years since the first show was held by the Toot Hill Horticultural Society. Not much has changed in that time. The show has its origins dating back to 1885 when a similar society was formed in the Parish. By 1904 their show was quite established, and the 19th annual show was reported in the Epping Gazette. It appears the society disbanded some years later, probably due to the Great War. However, in 1953 several residents founded the Toot Hill Horticultural Society, and they had their first show on 31 July 1954. The 2023 show will include much of what was established in 1954. Many of the cups awarded in the early days are still presented to the winners in the horticultural competition.



It's also time to prepare for the Horticultural Competition - a fun competition **for all ages** and open to everyone, so ask all your friends to enter, wherever they live. If you have always wondered what it would be like to enter a horticultural competition, this is your chance. No previous experience necessary and we are available to provide help and guidance if required. There are lots of children's classes so a great way to get little fingers busy and their imaginations buzzing. Schedules for the competition entries can be picked up in Sennars News Agent in the high street, or you can find online at www.Toothillshow.co.uk, or contact maurice@stanford-rivers.co.uk. Entry forms are due in by Wednesday 2nd August.

Show time: 12pm to 5pm, Admission Adults £4, Children £2

Make



Bake



Grow



Volunteers needed. The show is run by volunteers for the benefit of the community. There are jobs to do on the run up to the show and on the day. Please get in touch if you can help.

Broken Noticeboard, Little End

You may have noticed the notice board (along with the adjacent brick wall, bench, and road signage) in Little End, just opposite Jubilee Green has been damaged in what we assume to be some type of road traffic accident. If anybody has any information concerning what happened, and when, we would be extremely grateful if you could contact the Parish Council to let them know. All the relevant authorities have been notified of the damage, however as is often the case with Local Authorities nothing happens quickly! If you have any information, please contact the Clerk on 07737736365.



New Defibrillator For Little End, Stanford Rivers

After a lot of work trying to find a suitable location, the Parish Council finally agreed that the new community defibrillator should be located on the outside of the Woodman Pub. Thanks are given to the owners of the Woodman for agreeing to this. The defibrillator is to serve the whole community, including patrons of the pub. The defibrillator itself is housed in a locked cabinet, the code to which is known to the East of England Ambulance Service and the pub staff. A Community Publicly Accessible Defibrillator (CPAD) is a simple piece of equipment that delivers a jolt of electricity to the heart, resetting its rhythm and returning the heart rate to normal. They're easy to use and require little-to-no training, but they can be the difference between life and death. The potential benefits of a CPAD are clear, especially in rural areas where emergency response times are longer than in urban centres. The device will give clear voice

instructions to guide the user through the rescue process. The Parish Council was delighted to receive a funding contribution of £500 from the Essex County Council's Microgrant Fund, administered by the Essex Association of Local Councils. The oddity with defibrillators is that it's a cost for an item which you hope will never be used!

The defibrillator is located on the left hand side wall of the Woodman pub (as you stand looking at the pub). Once again, thanks to Gina, her husband and Zivile.



New Speed Signage Along The A113, Little End

After nearly 8 years of pressure and frustrating delays, it was great to finally see the new gateway signs and 30MPH roundels along the A113 through Little End. The process in trying secure additional highway safety measures to try and address the issue of speeding along this priority 1 route first began by the Parish Council in January 2015, with a request to add a 40MPH buffer zone between the current 30MPH village envelope and the 60MPH limit at the Woodman public house. Additional No Overtaking signs were also requested along with solid white lines in the centre of the road, additional speed limit signage, as well as the removal of central white lines where the road is at its most narrow. However after numerous site meetings, public consultation, and frequent knock backs, the only measures Essex County Council were willing to take was the installation of new gateway signs and 30MPH road roundels. The purpose of gateway signs is to alert drivers that they are entering a 'village' in the hope they will automatically slow down. Speeding is a constant daily problem for residents in Little End, and the Parish Council continues to look at measures to try

and address this issue, the latest being changing the 30MPH flashing Vehicle Activated Sign as you enter the village from Ongar to one which automatically displays the number plate of any speeding drivers, however at the shocking cost of £26,000 for said sign, the Parish Council could not justify this spend of taxpayers money. The Parish Council is also hoping to secure a speed camera for this route, however the Department for Transport is currently reviewing the guidance on the Local Authority use of speed cameras, so we are yet again in a position of having to wait, and judging by the 8 year wait for additional signage it is feared this could take some time! One of our best tools to address the issue of speeding is the Community Speedwatch scheme, where members of the community join together to conduct authorised speed checks in their own village. We have two active speedwatch groups in Stanford Rivers, one addressing speeding along the A113 and one for Toot Hill. New members are always needed, so if you are interested in being part of this initiative, please do get in touch with the Parish Clerk and she will point you in the right direction.



Shonks Mill Flood Storage Area - Update

On 6th July, Epping Forest District Council approved a planning application to create a Flood Storage Area upstream of the M25 on land to the north of Shonks Mill Bridge, Shonks Mill Road, near Stapleford Tawney. It will provide protection for flood events up to the 1 in 200 year occurrence for properties downstream of the flood storage area, predominantly in the London Borough of Redbridge. As the application site straddles two local authority areas, Brentwood District Council is also considering the application, and at the time of printing no decision had been made although they have stated they are minded to grant permission. Known as the River Roding Project, its aim is to reduce flooding to residential properties, commercial properties and infrastructure in the Woodford and Ilford areas. The project includes building a flood storage area on the River Roding, upstream of the M25, at Shonks Mill Bridge. This flood storage area will allow the river to flow naturally most of the time, however in times of high flows, water will build up and be stored behind the

earth embankment creating a temporary reservoir, reducing the risk of flooding downstream. This will then drain naturally back into the river as flows reduce. The project also includes refurbishing a flood embankment downstream in Woodford to withstand the estimated impacts of climate change.

This project has obviously caused concern as to the effect upstream, and if any properties will be at an increased risk of flooding or subject to increases in insurance premiums. According to the Environment Agency, only two properties will be at risk of flooding, and these will be demolished, and two new properties built in a different location. The Parish Council has also received written confirmation from the Environment Agency that no property on the eastern side of the A113 will be at any further risk of flooding. If you have any concerns, please contact the Environment Agency direct on tel: 03708506506 or email: PSO-HNL@environment-agency.gov.uk

Solar Farm Consultation

In May, a company called Anglo Renewables carried out a public consultation on a proposed Solar Farm. The project, situated on land to the west of Berwick Lane, Stanford Rivers, extends approximately 34 hectares and will be located in several fields which are currently used for agriculture. In addition to having solar panels on the site, the proposal also includes biodiversity and landscape enhancement measures, such as new hedgerow planting and gapping up of existing hedgerows. The consultation stated that the proposed development will contribute towards the security of energy supply in the UK through the provision of local, renewable energy supply, and is a temporary development, allowing the land to rest for the period of operation up to 40 years. The proposals unsurprisingly caused a lot of local concern, mainly relating the traffic using Berwick Lane, the impact on the green belt, and the disruption to the immediate neighbouring properties. The Parish Council has contacted Anglo Renewables asking a number of specific queries and concerns. To date, a formal application has not been received for consideration. For further information about the proposals, visit www.anglo-renewables.co.uk and click on the 'our projects' page.



Fly Tipping



Earlier this year the Parish Council secured by way of the Local Highway Panel the removal of hedging at the layby between Tracey's Farm and Murrells Farm – a notorious fly tipping hotspot! The hedging was replaced with reflective barriers that increase visibility into the layby thus deterring any fly tipping. We were doing very well until earlier this month we had our first fly tip for many months. This was promptly reported and removed by Epping Forest District Council in less than 24 hours. If you see any fly tipping, please report it directly to Epping Forest District Council at www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk or by phone on 01992 564000.

Community Speedwatch

The Safer Essex Roads Partnership Infographic for June shows that 4 people were tragically killed in traffic collisions compared to 3 in May. There was an increase of 16 serious casualties recorded: 81 in June, compared to 65 the previous month, affecting many families and friends as a result. 1,584 Community Speed Watch warning letters were sent to motorists recording as speeding and Extra Eyes submissions totalled 563 (compared to 1,493 CSW Warning Letters sent in May, with 486 Extra Eyes submissions).

Fly Tipping Prosecutions

Whilst not in our Parish, it's worth noting that recent investigations led by Epping Forest District Council (EFDC) Environmental Enforcement Officers resulted in the prosecution of 2 individuals for two fly-tipping offences. On 5 September 2022, EFDC became aware of fly-tipping by a Mr Brotherton. CCTV footage identified Mr Brotherton and officers requested he attend an interview at the Council offices. Mr Brotherton failed to attend the interview and pay a Fixed Penalty Notice. Mr Bradley Brotherton of Stanway Road, Waltham Abbey pleaded guilty to fly-tipping a fridge freezer in the community bin area, adjacent to a notice prohibiting the depositing of bulky waste. At a hearing in Southend Magistrates Court on 15 May 2023, Mr Brotherton was fined £400 and costs payable to the Council of £1,070. On another occasion, and following the investigation of a building waste fly-tip in Low Hill Road, Roydon, EFDC Environmental Enforcement officers tracked some illegal dumping back to a Mr Shaoliang Huang, who had recently carried out a loft conversion at a property in East London. Under interview, Mr Huang admitted he had arranged for the waste to be taken from the property by a man in a van for £190 without checking the names and necessary licences. Mr Huang failed to attend the hearing at Chelmsford Magistrates Court on 11 May 2023; the Magistrate found him guilty in his absence. Mr Huang was ordered to pay a fine of £1,100 with a victim surcharge of £440 and costs payable to the Council of £643.09. Councillor Ken Williamson, Portfolio Holder for Technical Services said 'These cases demonstrate that we take fly-tipping extremely seriously and are prepared to engage the prosecution process if people refuse to comply. Our officers work hard to secure fly-tipping convictions and every successful prosecution should raise an element of doubt in the minds of those proposing to fly-tip in the future.' If you witness someone fly tipping, please take note of any details such as registration numbers as this helps Epping Forest District Council to find and prosecute offenders.



Ride London

Essex County Council has confirmed it has reached a three-year agreement with the organisers London Marathon Events, to host the RideLondon event each year until 2026. The agreement includes the Ride London-Essex mass participation events and two stages of the Ford RideLondon Classique.

Potholes

One of the benefits of the Ride London event is that all the potholes along the route are repaired. However, it seems that many of the potholes on roads other than the route are not being addressed. The Parish Council has been made aware of a number of potholes and subsiding roads that are causing local problems. These include School Road, the road outside Drill House, and various points along Toot Hill Road. Despite these having been reported directly to Epping Forest District Council on numerous occasions (some dating back to 2022), nothing has been done, so these have now been escalated to ECC Cllr Jaymey McIvor, with the request that these form part of his 'Member Pothole Scheme' repairs. To find out more about how Essex County Council assess and categorises potholes, visit <https://www.essexhighways.org/roads-and-pavements/potholes>.



Stanford Rivers Neighbourhood Watch



Here's six top tips to help:

Tip one: Create a poster with a recent picture of your dog and where they were last seen. Include as much detail of the incident as possible.

Tip two: Post on all the platforms you can and ask your friends and family to do the same.

Tip three: Ask your followers to share your posts.

Tip four: Search social media platforms. If someone finds your dog, they may have posted about it themselves. So, search for identifying features and the location your dog was lost. For example, you could try 'dog found in Essex' or 'brown Labrador found.'

Tip five: Tag animal charities, vets, microchip database providers and local businesses. Ask them to share your posts.

Tip six: Make sure your social media profiles are set to 'public' in the security settings.

Your main NHW coordinator is John Adams:

srcpcnw@gmail.com

Tel 01277 362194

One again I am pleased to report that crime remains very low in our Parish. However, in April dogs and puppies were stolen from a property in Stanford Rivers. They included 3 black and white Shih Tzu's, 4 Golden Cavapoo Puppies, and a brown Cavapoo mum. Dog theft has previously been seen as property being taken from the owner but as we all know dogs are far more than a belonging to us. They are part of the family. Following a rise in dogs being stolen over lockdown, the Government Pet Theft taskforce was launched in 2021. It announced that pet abduction will become a criminal offence in England. The aim is to reflect the emotional distress caused but also, to deter thieves in the first place and ensure that the punishment reflects the crime. One of the most effective ways to raise awareness of your lost or stolen pet is through social media.

Folk Club

Held in Toot Hill Village Hall, the Folk Club is a great way to meet friends and get involved. Dates for your diaries are September 23, October 20, November 17 and December 15. New members are always welcome to join our growing group of talented players and singers. You don't have to play or sing as you could just listen with all types of music played and a real community approach and a proper singalong atmosphere. Starts at 7.00pm each Friday date and finishes 11.00pm. Bring your own drink (and food) and be prepared to take your rubbish away. If you don't think it is for you why not try one evening and judge us on that! Further details matttallon1@gmail.com or 07855170256



Passenger Information

Change of operator

Service 32 – Chelmsford – Ongar from Sunday 31 July 2023

Essex County Council would like to notify passengers that **Service 32** will be operated by **Stephensons of Essex** from the above date.

Please be aware this service will not serve **Chignall Estate** and alternative services are available.

For a copy of the timetable please visit www.traveline.info

If you have any queries, then please contact us on: Essex County Council - 0345 603 7631 passenger.transport@essex.gov.uk

Hire Toot Hill Village Hall

To hire the Toot Hill Village Hall, call 077 37736365, or email stanforddriverspc@gmail.com. Hire rates are as follows:

		Parishioner	Non Parishioner
Mon-Fri	8am – 6pm	£11/hr	£13/Hr
Mon-Fri	6pm to 12am	£12/hr	£14/Hr
Sat- Sun	8am to 6pm	£13/Hr	£15/Hr
Sat-Sun	6pm to 12am	£15/Hr	£16/Hr

News and Views (the Stanford Rivers Community newsletter) accepts no responsibility for claims of contributors / advertisers or the quality of the services they provide. If you would like to advertise in this newsletter, or you have a suggested article or matter of local interest, please contact the Parish Council on stanforddriverspc@gmail.com or 01277 362169

Public Transport – DaRT7

Living in rural parts of the parish, public transport (or lack of) is a constant issue. Many residents have simply adapted and make alternative arrangements, however as reported in the last edition of News and Views there is a public transport service available to our residents. Known as DaRT7 (Demand Responsive Transport) DaRT 7 offers a service between 9am and 2pm Monday and Thursday, but it is not being used. If we don't start using it...we will lose it! Here is some further information about the service in the hope that we can raise awareness and increase the usage. With increased usage comes the possibility of expanding the service to include more days and times.

About this bus service

Demand Responsive Transport (DaRT) is an alternative way of providing access to key services in rural areas.

Instead of using fixed routes with fixed stops and times, DaRT customers book journeys with the operator in advance and are picked up from an agreed point, a bus stop or local place of interest. You can use it:

- to go shopping
- attend a health appointment
- get to/from work, school or college
- visit friends

This service is funded by Essex County Council and operated by Epping Forest Community Transport



Epping Forest Community Transport
01992 579556

When does it operate?

Dart 7 between 0900 and 1400 Monday and Thursday. Unlike a bus service there is no set route and timetable.

How do I book a journey?

You need to become a member 

Telephone Epping Forest Community Transport on 01992 579556 and explain:

- Where you would like to go
- Where you would like to be collected from
- What time you need to go

Where can I travel?

DaRT 7 – Passengers can travel to and from anywhere within the parishes shown on the map, between these parishes, direct to Epping Town, including healthcare facilities, St Margaret's Hospital and Epping Tube Station.

Epping Forest Community Transport will also need to know:

- Your name
- Your telephone number
- Any specific requirements, such as if you are a wheelchair user or if you have difficulty walking

Return journey

You will need to book your return journey at the same time of your initial booking.

Remember to be ready when you are due to be collected.

Concessionary pass holders – valid after 0900 Monday to Friday

How can I pay?

You can pay on the bus or by debit/credit card over the telephone.

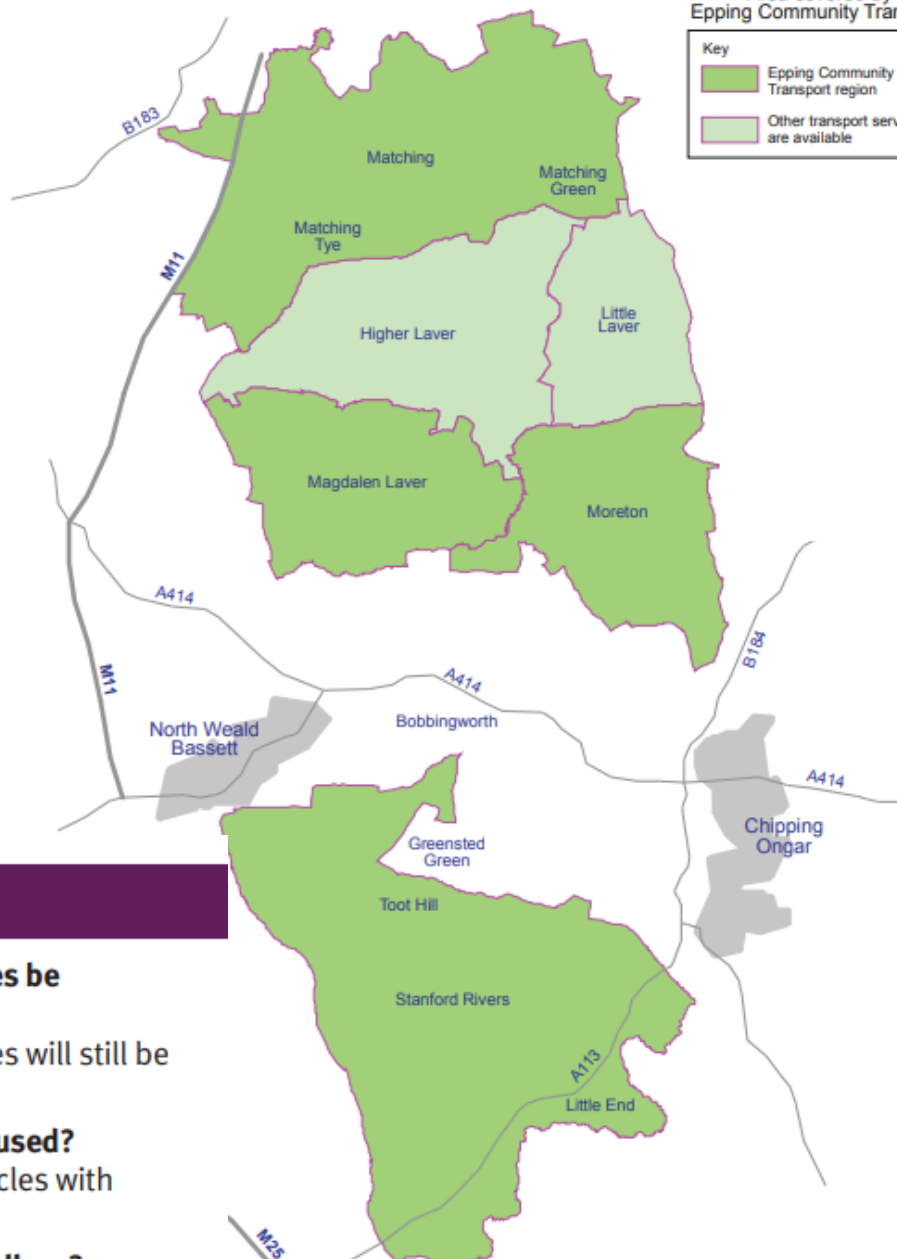
Our vision is to operate a service that will allow everyone to be able to experience the same freedom of travel.



DaRT 7 covers the parishes of:

Moreton
Greensted Green
Toot Hill
Matching Green
Matching Tye
Magdalen Laver
Little End
Standford Rivers

Area covered by Epping Community Transport



Frequently asked questions

1. Will concessionary bus passes be accepted?

Yes, concessionary bus passes will still be accepted.

2. What sort of vehicles will be used?

12 to 14 seat accessible vehicles with EFCT logo.

3. Can passengers take their trolleys?

Yes. It is advised you mention this when booking your journey.

4. Can you travel by yourself?

Yes, a social car may be used when the numbers travelling are very small.

5. How will hospital appointments work?

When travel is booked the return journey time is also booked.

6. Does the DaRT mean that passengers can travel every day?

Yes, you can any time between 0900 to 1400 Mondays and Thursdays. Passengers are asked to be flexible so bookings can be grouped together.

8. Can a relative or friend book on your behalf?

Yes.

9. Can people use the service to go out for social / leisure activities?

Yes, experience has shown passengers often choose to book the service as a group and passengers who previously could not use a conventional service can use the DaRT.


10. Can a group of people book together?

Yes, you will need to say how many people will be travelling.

11. Can I use my wheelchair?

Yes, you will need to give details when you book the service.

01992 579556

our bus  journey is what you make it

www.essex.gov.uk/publictransport

MY COMMUNITY MY OPPORTUNITY MY OTHER LIFE

VILLAGE HALL
CLATTERFORD END

STANFORD RIVER
EPPING

GREENS
BOBBIN
ONGAR



**ESSEX
POLICE**

Protecting and serving Essex

SPECIAL CONSTABULARY
NOW RECRUITING
STANFORD RIVERS

*My
Other
Life*

 #MyOtherLife

If you want to make a real difference in your town then volunteer as a Community Special Constable and play a part in keeping your neighbourhood safe.

Stanford Rivers Parish are supporting Essex Police to increase local and visible policing in their area.

Visit www.essex.police.uk/Specials/standordrivers to find out more

The Parish Council now has twitter! Follow us @stanfordrivpc for up to date local information as it happens.

twitter 