

STAPLEFORD TAWNEY PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman's report for the year ended 31st March 2024

The winter of 2023 – 2024 was again wet, although we had some cold spells we didn't need to use any road salt. The wet weather however led to an increase in the number of bad potholes developing which we are and will keep reporting to EFDC. As I reported last year, while the economy carries on trying to recover from the COVID shock, Brexit and the Ukraine war the roads are not being repaired as they should be and they are deteriorating further. We will continue to report the deterioration as it occurs.

This year we decided to increase the precept to £1690.00 having left it unchanged for several years.

There have been several planning applications in the Parish this year, all of them have been discussed at PC meetings and our views expressed to EFDC. In particular we have aired our concern about the apparent abuse of Agricultural Permitted Development which on occasion has been use incorrectly.

Fly tipping this year has continued. We continue to report any fly tips and the authority is usually quick to respond.

As mentioned earlier we didn't use any road salt during the winter of 2023 – 2024. The current stock held at Mount Farm is 1.0 tonne and there is a small amount at Lt Tawney Hall.

The Parish Council organised a litter pick which took place on 23rd and 24th March 2024. At least 60 bags of rubbish were picked up and taken away by EFDC.

We have circulated residents of Stapleford Tawney with a questionnaire about the proposed Nickerlands solar farm and are monitoring responses.

Stapleford Tawney Parish Council have responded to the Proposed mineral extraction at Patch Park, Abridge (site A63), expressing our opposition to the plan.

On Sunday 23rd May 2023, Stapleford Tawney Parish celebrated the Coronation of King Charles 3rd. Prior to the 23rd, leaflets printed by the Parish Council, inviting residents to a Coronation Celebration at the Moletrap, were distributed throughout the Parish. On the day over 60 people attended, the weather was good, so everyone stayed outside in the new large seating area to the side of the patio. Several people brought fine fare and savouries which were generously made available to all. The pub provided hot dogs and burgers at modest prices and drinks were available at the bar. There was an invitation to enter a cake in a "Home Made Cake Competition" which attracted several entries.

Once again I would like to thank all the councillors for their hard work this year, the attendance rate at meetings, has again been very high and everyone has put in as much time as is required when necessary.

Stuart Galloway

Chairman S.T.P.C.

STPC web site: <https://e-voice.org.uk/staplefordtawneypc>