



Stonehouse News

November 2011

Issue 12

The Town Celebrates

On Saturday 10th September, community spirit was alive and well as the people of Stonehouse enjoyed a day of fun to celebrate the completion of the work on the High Street. It was organised by Stonehouse Rotary Club and Club President Adrian Hale said it went brilliantly. Many of the shopkeepers dressed up and provided activities, games and food. The highlight of the day was the official opening of the street by Jack Wright, one of our town's most senior residents, and

5 months old Ethan Bullingham - one of its youngest. People turned out in large numbers and stayed to enjoy the music and dancing - and to sample the barbecue and cake stalls as well as catch up with the latest gossip.



Welcome *from Mayor Chris Brine*

By the time you read this the Town will have commemorated Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday. Your Council is grateful, as always, to the Royal British Legion for their dedication and commitment in organising this important event. It must be one of the largest in the District with over 600 people usually taking part in the Sunday service. As I look around those who gather around the War Memorial on these occasions, it is gratifying to note how many are young people and to see how much they value the sacrifices made by those remembered on that day.

Almost as I write this piece the trees destined for the High Street are on their way and will be installed in time for the Goodwill Fest. I hope you will find that they complete the transformation of the High Street to make it a friendly and welcoming place for all who live, work and visit the Town.

I am also pleased to report that the "time" is back in Stonehouse as our Town Clock is reinstalled at a new location in the High Street (see Council Corner for details).

You will also read opposite that the Goodwill Fest has moved to the afternoon. The participation and advice of the High Street traders who wished to see this change is very welcome. I am sure this will be a positive move and we look forward to seeing you there.

Christmas will soon be with us and the Town Councillors hope you will join them at the **Carol Concert on the Green on Saturday 17th December**. Enthusiastic singing will be rewarded with hot chocolate and mince pies!

Following on from the success of the May Fair and the 10th September Celebration Day - which were both held during daytime - this year's **GOODWILL FEST will take place on SATURDAY 26th NOVEMBER** throughout the High Street **from 2pm until 6pm**. A number of shops will have special attractions and there will be many stalls and activities. The schools will be providing musical entertainment on the Green. Father Christmas will be visiting and, **at 5.15pm, switching on the lights** with the help of Joshua Jones, winner of the Goodwill Fest poster competition. The cash prize was kindly sponsored by Delta Nine IT.

The High Street will remain open to traffic and activities will be happening along its length - from the Woolpack Inn to the Globe Inn. Recent community events have proved popular and the Goodwill Fest is another chance to join with local people from schools, businesses, charities and community groups. It's a great way to find out what's going on in our town, supporting good causes and having a great time.

Stonehouse Taxis

Gloucestershires
First Licensed Eco-Taxi

call
01453 822555
or visit rwet.co.uk

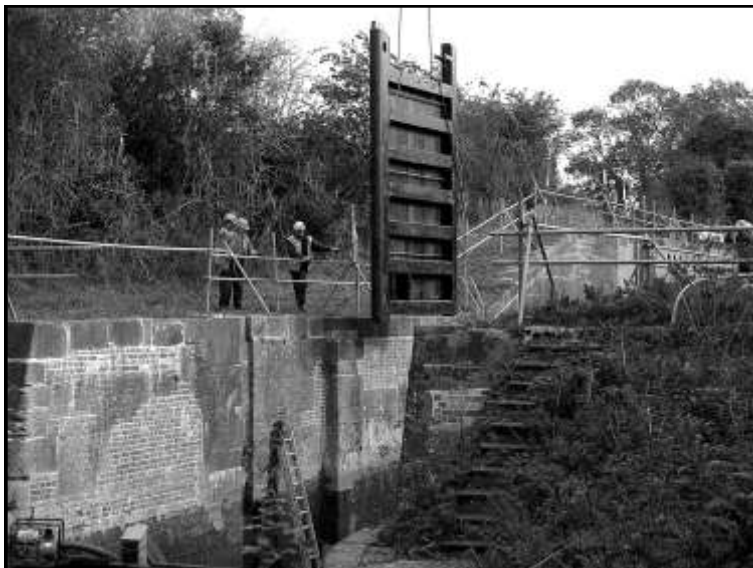
Eco Taxi - Travel in style, luxury & comfort - spacious, full leather, air conditioning

Canal double locked up

With the onset of winter and the end of the bird nesting season, work on the Canal is moving up a gear.

The contract to build a new swingbridge at Stonehouse Ocean has begun and will run until March. Although this inevitably causes some disruption, we have been able to maintain pedestrian access across the Canal, while the towpath diversion is minimal. The new bridge will be hand-operated.

You may have noticed two boats plying the Canal between the Ocean and Ryeford – these are the Canals Trust's *Goliath* and *Annette*. *Goliath* is a tug and *Annette* will eventually carry passengers. We had hoped to begin boat trips this summer but, unfortunately, water levels were too low. This problem will be solved by the work now under way at Ebley, which will secure a water supply to the Canal



from the River Frome ready for the Spring. In the meantime the two boats are helping to prevent weeds growing and the build-up of silt.

We have now hung six new lock gates at Ryeford Double Lock. These gates were delivered into storage a year ago and have been watered every week to prevent them shrinking! Canals Trust volunteers are busy installing the various controls which will enable the lock to function. Again, the work going on at Ebley will secure a water supply to Ryeford, enabling the Lock to be used from early next year.

Other contracts now under way are the replacement of Chestnut Lane (Gasworks) Bridge in Stroud and refurbishment of Wallbridge Upper Lock, soon to be followed by the restoration of the two locks at Dudbridge. All this will mean regular closures of long lengths of towpath for safety reasons. We know this is inconvenient, and thank you for bearing with us.

Stonehouse Paths Project

Stonehouse Community Partnership has launched a series of 5 leaflets describing walks in and around the town. Each was designed by a school or community group in the town. The walks are designed to suit a range of abilities, and vary in length from 1 to 4 miles. Detailed maps are provided so you won't get lost.

Keen walkers might like to try the **Eco Walk** designed by pupils at Park Junior School or the **Bluebell Walk** from Sustainable Stonehouse. For a shorter walk Wycliffe College's **High Street Stroll**, or the History Group's **Historic Stonehouse** walk both provide interesting insights into the town's past, highlighting buildings and sites that you might not otherwise notice. There is a short **Accessible Walk**, suitable for wheelchairs or pushchairs, which takes in our beautiful canal.



The leaflets were produced as part of a project sponsored by the Town and District Councils and Gloucestershire Market Towns Forum. These routes prove that Stonehouse has lots to offer walkers, so why not try them out for yourself? The leaflets can be obtained **free** from the

Town Hall or downloaded from www.stonehousehistorygroup.org.uk

For more information contact Helen Bojaniwska on (01453) 884 277 or email helen@brimscombehill.co.uk



- Hair
- Health
- Beauty
- Boutique

Don't miss our new range of clothes and exclusive Caprice shoes



And we always have beautiful jewellery in stock too!

10% off all accessories and jewellery at Stonehouse Goodwill Fest, November 26

FeelgoodFactor, 10, High Street, Stonehouse: 01453 821500

How we celebrated victory!

When you next walk past the Globe Inn be sure to notice the patch of the Town Green that cost the Parish Council £436.10s.5d in the summer of 1899.

Around 1896 the Parish Council decided to enforce its authority over the greens and roadside wastes along High Street. The Council created a Greens Committee which, in 1898, erected a notice board stating that permission had to be obtained from the Council for use of the greens. The landlord of the Globe Inn, Mr Pickard, was in the habit of allowing fairs



and booths to use the patch of green in front of his pub. He removed the Council's board whereupon the Council retaliated by sending men to take down the Globe's signpost. The argument had to be resolved in Court at Gloucester. Since the landlord was unable to prove that he owned the patch of green in front of the Globe, the Parish Council won the case and secured the contested

land for public use. The landlord was allowed to erect his signpost for 6d (2½ pence) a year and permission had to be obtained from the Greens Committee for fairs and shows to be held.

The people of Stonehouse greatly enjoyed the fuss and many travelled to Gloucester to attend the court case. When victory was announced, the whole village turned out to celebrate - by drinking and dancing outside the Globe. The Town Band played for hours while a coachload of high-spirited ladies from Gloucester amused the crowd with their dancing! Somebody wanted to light a bonfire and nearly set fire to the jubilee cowcribs - but was persuaded that the Lord of the Manor wouldn't like it. So the crowd followed the band down High Street to the Crown & Anchor - where more large jugs of ale were brought out. Quite a day - and a memorable victory for the people - even if it cost £400 to get the Globe to pay 6d a year to put up its signpost!

Out & About with Stonehouse History Group

The Group's members have been out and about in the local area over the past few months, walking along the canal with Steve Mills, around Frocester Court with Arthur Price and through Nailsworth with Nick Peters. Members have also taken groups on history walks around Stonehouse. Visit the website www.stonehousehistorygroup.org to find details of walks.

Vicki Walker and Shirley Dicker have visited local groups including Stroud Local History Society, the British Legion Women's Section and the Probus Club with their presentation of historical photographs of Stonehouse. If your group would like a presentation or a local walk please contact the Group via its website.

The Group is very grateful to the Midcounties Co-operative Community Fund for its continuing financial

support. Grants totalling £900 have enabled the Group to purchase a scanner, laptop and digital projector as well as Census records on CD [*photo shows Shirley & Vicki collecting a cheque in Cheltenham last month*]. The Fund makes grants twice a year. To apply for funding on a group's behalf the applicant must be a member of The Midcounties Co-operative. Please contact Gloucestershire Community Foundation to make a donation or apply for a grant - by phone on 01452 656 386, email to gail.mattocks@edf-energy.com or visit www.gloucestershirecommunityfoundation.co.uk for more information.



Location



Estate Agents

Family run, Independent

Tel: 01453 826318

Fax: 01453 825240

sales@locationproperty.net

www.locationproperty.net

38 High Street,
Stonehouse, GL10 2NA

Inspiring a love of learning

At The Park Infant School & Children's Centre we have had a very happy and successful start to the new school year. Once again we are celebrating the success of our children. By the age of 7 - when our children moved on to junior school - they achieved higher than both national and county levels.

While academic success is important to us we also give high priority to helping children learn skills for life. Our gardening project, led by Erika Tyror-Taylor, involves children growing, harvesting, cooking and then eating fruit and vegetables. We have also been part of the Stroud Valley Gardening Project. In the summer our bumper crop of strawberries was made into jam. We enjoyed the yummy jam at our breakfast day where the whole school sat down together to eat breakfast.

Earlier this term we held a special assembly outside to give thanks for our crop of vegetables. The children harvested potatoes, carrots, corn, onions, cabbages, cucumbers, garlic



and marrows (*photo shows Shannon Griffin, Y2 pupil*). Later that day, we used the vegetables to make curry and soup, which we ate with bread that the children had baked.

On 6th October our hall was packed with families to share our harvest festival. The children enjoyed sharing their learning about harvest. They brought contributions of food from home which we shared between the residential homes and day centre in

Stonehouse. Later that day the Year 1 and 2 children performed our Little Red Hen story-making, and the harvest songs and poems we had learned, to some of the residents.

We have also been thinking about children who do not have enough food to eat. This term we have raised money for Concern Worldwide - a charity which runs feeding centres and provides medical support for children in East Africa.

If you would like to visit us to find out about our garden project and how we ensure every child has the best start, please phone us on (01453) 823 052 or email to

admin@park-inf.gloucs.sch.uk

The Shrubberies' Big Day

Governors, staff, pupils and local community supporters were delighted to attend the recent grand opening of the new Secondary Department at The Shrubberies School. It was a particular pleasure for Jane Jones, Headteacher, to welcome back ex headmaster Philip Morgan. Philip took great pleasure in officially opening the wonderful new building which will provide much improved accommodation for the young people.

Visitors were then treated to a varied programme of events - joining in during some of the singing. They were shown round the new facilities by smartly dressed, secondary age pupils - who delighted in pointing out to the visitors all that the new building had to offer - 4 new classrooms, a very modern, stainless steel, food technology room as well as meeting rooms. All agreed that the new building fits well into the school site.

Tea and delicious homemade cakes were served by the pupils to the appreciative guests in the splendid



new rooms (*photo shows Alex Hume serving guests at the grand opening*). It was a lovely afternoon enjoyed by all who were privileged to attend. Now that the project is complete, the guests were able to see the effect that the investment by the Local Authority can have on this community.

Park Junior success



International School Award
2011-2014

The school was delighted to receive the International School Award from the British Council in recognition of the range of work done to learn more about other countries.

In the past year pupils raised money to sponsor the education of a child in Niger, fund-raised for an Indian village (Ladakh) struck by extreme weather, exchanged information about their school day and local environment with pen pals in France, wrote to a school in Tanzania, celebrated different cultures' New Year festivals, held an international cooking week - producing a recipe



book for parents (*L to R: Evelin Miccoli, Michaela Masson, Amie Savage*), hosted a 'French Café', accommodated students from France and Germany and studied world art. These activities were described by the Council as **"a credit to the school and the wider community"**.

Six Nations comes to town

Children at Park Junior had the opportunity to view an international rugby cup. Caretaker Bryan Neale was lucky enough to win a day with the RBS Six Nations Championship Trophy and chose to take the cup into School for the pupils to see - along with two former Gloucester players who gave them tips on improving



their rugby. *Competition winner Bryan Neale with Head teacher Richard Gasser and pupils (from left): Alice Neale, Liam Stoner, Abbie Herbert, Patrick Dixon, Hattie True and Elliott Gardner. Photo courtesy of Stroud Life.*

New look for Maidenhill

Maidenhill students returned for the autumn term with a smart new uniform which has won the praise of Stonehouse residents. A consultation was held with parents, governors and students and it was agreed that a new look was needed to reflect the change from primary to secondary education.

Students can now be seen wearing black blazers with an embroidered red rose based on the Stonehouse Tudor Rose symbol. The red tie with white diagonal stripes is a colourful contrast to the bright, white shirts. There is also a choice of a black V-necked jumper to complete the ensemble which is worn with either black trousers or a skirt (*photo shows*



Maidenhill students looking smart in their new uniform).

Students say they feel proud to represent Maidenhill in such a smart uniform, and are pleased that people have complimented them on the way they look. A Year 11 student commented, *"It makes me feel a lot more grown-up and makes me aware of what an early morning feels like in the real world - so it prepares us for that as well"*.

Head teacher Gary Watson said the new uniform was a symbol of the school's changing fortunes, especially in the light of the record GCSE results achieved in the summer. 72% of students achieved five A*-C grades with many achieving in excess of 10 good GCSE passes.

A new look is also on the way for the school buildings as an investment of £3.6 million from Gloucestershire County Council has been confirmed. This will cover refurbishment of the school buildings including new windows and heating system. Work is expected to start soon.

New Youth Club

Despite there being a cut to statutory youth services across the county, Stonehouse Town Council has funded and is pleased to announce a new Young Gloucestershire Youth Club. The Club will be coming to the town on Fridays and will be based around the Pod - which is located to the rear of the High Street Car Park. Since the County Council closed the youth service in Stonehouse in July, the Town Council has been trying to fill some of the gaps left in youth provision. This new club will provide young people with a safe place to congregate and develop; and Young Gloucestershire, Stonehouse Town Council and Stonehouse Community Partnership will be working to 'enable, encourage, enjoy, engage & empower' them in a safe environment. Young Gloucestershire's custom-built youth bus, which is adapted for running



computers and other exciting electronics, will be at the Youth Pod every Friday from 7pm until 9pm (excluding 25th November, 23rd and 30th December,) and will also be there for the Goodwill Fest on Saturday 26th November (*photo shows Young Gloucestershire mini-bus in demand*). The programme of activities will be designed in conjunction with the young people who attend.

If you would like to know more, please phone the Town Council on 822 070 or Young Gloucestershire on 01452 501 008.

come into 
the
Light
family cards, books & gifts store
24 High St. Stonehouse
(next to the NatWest bank)
A large range of Cards, Gifts & Books for every occasion for all the family, plus new watches & watch strap & battery replacement

10% discount with this ad.



justB
youth & fitness centre

Exercise Class £3.50
Exercise Class & Weigh In £4.50

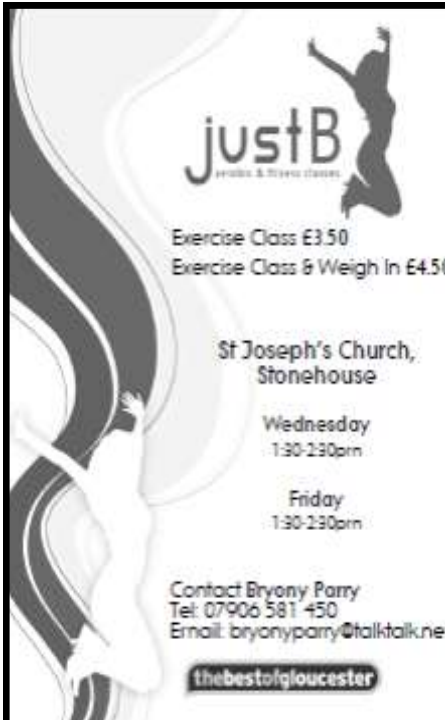
St Joseph's Church,
Stonehouse

Wednesday
1:30-2:30pm

Friday
1:30-2:30pm

Contact Bryony Parry
Tel: 07906 581 450
Email: bryonyparry@talktalk.net

thebestofgloucester



Stonehouse Town Council

Annual Report 2010/11

Introduction

In the last Annual Report I spoke of the challenging times which were affecting your Town Council along with everyone else. This continued to be the case in 2010/11 with increasing costs and depressed investment rates producing lower income to counterbalance them. As a direct result of the impact at County level it was necessary for the Town Council to consider likely funding support for those services badly affected by the County cuts, namely Youth and Library services. The concern for Youth provision in the town was a constant topic at meetings and is mentioned elsewhere in this report. Even the future of the Police Station is in doubt.

During the year the Council, or its Committees, met 46 times including 9 full Council meetings, indicating a high level of commitment by Councillors to the town. Meetings are mainly held on Mondays at 7pm in the Town Hall; they are open to the public and your attendance would be welcomed.

I am pleased to report that the Annual Town Meeting was again very well attended and recipients of the previous year's grant awards made presentations stating how the money had been spent. It was very gratifying to learn how well the money had been spent and this added greatly to the spirit of the evening. At the same event the Civic Awards were presented to the successful candidates - to great acclaim.

It was disappointing that the railway modellers, who have so generously supported the Mayor's Charity previously, were not able to display this year. Despite that, a very creditable £361.52 was raised for Cotswold Care Hospice - which does magnificent work. Not only are they the recipients of the Charity Fund for the year but also of our grateful thanks and admiration.

Work continues apace on the regeneration of the canal in the town and the benefits are beginning to be realised as more people take advantage of the improved towpath. We all look forward to completion of the project to Brimscombe and hopefully, in the not too distant future, connection to the Gloucester & Sharpness Canal at Saul Junction.

In the following report you will read of the work carried out by your Town Council which, I trust, will meet with your approval. The next financial year will see the new look High Street and, despite short term upheaval, the hope is that the long term effects of the works will herald - throughout the District - that Stonehouse is a place to visit and to enjoy all that we have to offer.

As this is my last year in Office I would like to thank all those who have supported me in the town through trying and difficult - but ultimately rewarding - times. The welfare of the town I love has always been my main

concern and I wish all possible success to those who continue with the valuable work of the Town Council.



Mrs Mattie Ross
Chair, Stonehouse Town Council and
Mayor of Stonehouse for the Civic Year 2010/11

Regeneration & Environment Committee

(Convenor – Councillor Mrs Sue Latchford)

One of the major functions of this Committee is the detailed scrutiny of planning applications for Stonehouse submitted to the District Planning Authority - for whom the Town Council is a statutory consultee. With its detailed knowledge of the town this Committee seeks to ensure that informed comment about the area is conveyed for inclusion in the decision process. The geography of the area lends itself to planning applications - both for dwellings and commercial uses - and local knowledge, we believe, is vital to the process.

During 2010/11 the Committee considered 11 applications for new dwellings, 40 for conversion of existing homes, 3 new and 18 alterations of existing commercial premises; also 6 applications connected with the regeneration of the canal network in Stonehouse. In addition to these applications, initial discussions were held with parties wishing to consider submission of plans for developments in the town. Such discussions are becoming more common as Government encourages more localised consultation prior to submission of applications to the Planning Authority. It is hoped that this may lead to more appropriate developments within communities (providing, of course, that those consulting are prepared to listen).

During the year many discussions have centred around the prospect of change to the High Street in respect of the “shared space” vision. A working group has been investigating the benefits of such a scheme since 2006 and consulting with the general public since 2008. In these times of financial uncertainty the future of the scheme has been in doubt on occasions but, following a joint agreement between the County Council and Town Council, the scheme was finally agreed and will become a reality in next financial year. The Town Council has pledged a sum up to £150,000 for the section between the Old Dairy and the High Street Car Park, including the introduction of 10 semi-mature trees. The County Council has also decided to re-surface the High Street and Bath Road while installing traffic-calming measures and introducing a 20mph speed limit.

During the year your Council campaigned vigorously to persuade the District Council to reconsider their plans to increase substantially the High Street car parking charges – but to no avail. Your Council will continue to oppose these increases and press the District Council to reconsider in the light of the overall review being carried out for all parking facilities within its control.

In its environmental role the Committee continues to rate planning applications on their merits and continues to support the regeneration of the canal which will undoubtedly enhance the environment in the town and district.

Amenities Recreation & Leisure Committee

(Convenor - Councillor John Aldis)

As this Committee is responsible for the day to day running and maintenance of the Town Council’s public spaces it is constantly in the public eye. The town is fortunate to have green open areas in Oldend Lane, Meadow Road, Laburnum Walk and Stagholt Lane for the enjoyment of all and the upkeep of these creates substantial work for our Grounds Staff. Unfortunately there is an element of anti-social behaviour in these and other areas including the problem of dog waste. While the majority of dog owners in the town are responsible and clean up after their dogs, a minority fail to do so causing unpleasant problems for those seeking to enjoy the facilities - children in particular. The Town Council is constantly looking for ways to improve this situation and appeals to the general public to assist in deterring such irresponsible behaviour.

During the year the Town Council agreed to replace part of the hedging alongside the play areas in Oldend Lane Playing Field - to increase security for those enjoying the facilities and enable people travelling along the road and pavement to view the splendid 20 acres of green and accompanying views.

Allotments

The Town has a capacity of 70 allotment plots which are all currently occupied. A waiting list is kept. With a generous allocation of steel “sheds” and good soil the site is the envy of many less fortunate parishes. The desire to establish a community composting facility continues to be pursued by the Town Council.

Sports Facilities

In addition to general play areas, organised sport, including football and touch rugby, continues to be played at the Town Council’s facilities. Enquiries for provision of other sports or pastimes should be directed to the Town Hall on (01453) 822 070 or email to townclerk@stonehousetowncouncil.com

Stonehouse In Bloom

Again this year the displays both in the Summer and Winter planting have proved popular with residents and



visitors alike. More traders became involved and the Rotary Club of Stonehouse generously donated and planted 3,000 crocus bulbs on the Green to celebrate their

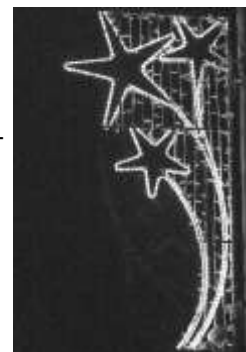
fight against polio. These bulbs will continue to provide vibrant colours into the future.

Horticultural Show & Summer Jolly

Once again the Horticultural Show exceeded expectations with record entries of very high standard. More trophies were offered and the event has become established as a major event in the town’s calendar. Combined with the Summer Jolly, the day attracted hundreds of visitors to the Laburnum Park and Community Centre (run by Stonehouse Community Association).

Christmas Lights

As advised in the Annual Report for 2009/10 the Town Council embarked on a new way of lighting the town for the Christmas period and, as promised, your Council enhanced the display in the year 2010/11. The strings of lights across the streets have been replaced by a further series of street-light & wall-mounted motifs together with an across-the-street motif and lighting to 2 trees on the Green. It is hoped that further investment in festive lighting will be undertaken but this will, of course, be subject to budgetary availability.



Flood prevention works at Stagholt

During the year the Town Council commissioned the Internal Drainage Board to carry out works on the stream which borders the Stagholt and Oldend Playing Fields with the aim of alleviating the risk of flooding in those areas.



Youth

As already mentioned in this Report, great concerns have been voiced about the lack of provision for our young people. The Committee has been working hard to ensure that the future services are, at a minimum, equal to but hopefully more comprehensive than those previously enjoyed. Your Council has been encouraged by the desire of other agencies to achieve this in the short, medium and long term future and has been working with them to demonstrate to our young people how important their welfare and enjoyment is. To this end many meetings have taken place with all interested parties and considerable progress made.

Finance & Strategy Committee

(Convenor - Councillor Simon Lewis)

This Committee is at the heart of financial and regulatory control for the Town Council and monitors spending in terms of legality, amount and relevance to its principles. This year investment returns have again been low but this and the other Standing Committees have maintained financial stability while continuing to provide public services as required.

Communication

As an essential element of Local Government, the Town Council - through this Committee - seeks to inform and

consult. This newsletter, which is hand delivered regularly to all homes and town centre businesses, is part of that effort. The Committee would like to believe that these publications both inform and invite comments which are useful to guide further discussion at Council level.

Green Sacks

During the year the Committee and, subsequently, the Town Council discussed the issue of continuing to sell garden waste sacks - which ultimately end up in normal landfill. After lengthy discussions your Council decided that this was not in keeping with its principles and therefore discontinued this practice in November 2010. Council will continue to pursue vigorously the aspiration of finding a community composting site so that future collections of green waste can be handled more appropriately.

Land Purchase

During the year the opportunity arose for the possible purchase of the orchard garden between the High Street Medical Practice and Car Park. This garden has lain dormant for many years. The Town Council felt that the purchase of this 1/5th acre for community use would be beneficial and so the Committee attempted to procure it at public auction. Sadly the selling price was much higher than anticipated and we now await news of the future of this area in the heart of our town.

HOW YOUR MONEY WAS SPENT

SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS

Expenditure	Past Year 2010/11	Previous Year 2009/10
Maintenance of grounds, recreation/play areas incl. purchases of new equipment	£94,244	£93,982
"Stonehouse in Bloom"	£2,780	£2,737
Transport/bus shelter refurbishments	£5,236	£1,353
Festive lighting including purchases, erection and dismantling of displays	£11,758	£18,800
Administration, public advice, Town Hall maintenance, consultations and Grant Aid	£82,954	£79,714
Total Expenditure	£196,972	£196,586
Income	£197,149	£191,211

Notes: 1) Stonehouse Town Council is subject to 2 audits per annum as follows:

Internal Audit carried out by Iain Selkirk FCA, an Independent Auditor from Malvern, Worcestershire;
External Audit (as prescribed by HM Government) conducted by Messrs Moore Stephens of Bath.

2) Full Annual Accounts can be viewed at the Town Hall, High Street on request.

Grants

Each year the Town Council allocates a sum towards grants to help organisations that support the town. This year was no exception and the following payments were made:

- Itchy Feet Dance Club (show expenses) £750
- The Shrubberies School (Summer play scheme) £1000
- Transition Stroud (bicycle training & participation in schools) £300
- Stonehouse Day Centre (outing support) £250
- Home Start (young family support) £1077
- Sue Ryder Care (purchase of medical equipment) £249
- Royal British Legion Women's Section (uniform) £250
- All Pulling Together (kitchen equipment purchase) £500

Town Councillors 2010/2011

North Ward

John Aldis	822 325
Chris Brine	825 917
Simon Lewis	825 229
Ron Morgan	822 662 Co-opted 22/9/10
Gary Powell	826 527
Mrs Mattie Ross	826 587

Central Ward

David Drew	825 603
Vilma Kempt	791 278
Mrs Pam Swain	822 998
Theresa Watt	821 428

South Ward

Roger Govier	826 926
Mrs Sue Latchford	826 412
Richard Pearse	827 142 Resigned 7/6/10
Mike Brackley	825 962 Co-opted 23/8/11

Council Corner

There has been concern regarding a future contact point for the Police now that the Police Station has closed. Over the last few weeks your Town Council has been negotiating with Gloucestershire Constabulary over provision of a **Police Point** in the Town Hall. This has now been confirmed and Officers will be based here on a regular basis although not with set hours. If you have any query please contact the Town Hall on 822 070 or, if you have a non-urgent issue and wish to speak to a Police Officer, the **new number is 101**.

Just a reminder that we are still selling **briquettes** at the Town Hall for £3 per bag. These make ideal slow burning fuel and could save some heating costs.

Stonehouse Community Partnership has recently completed a project to identify **walks in and around Stonehouse** (see the article on page 2 for details). Leaflets describing 5 walks, each including a map, are available at the Town Hall free of charge.

With the dark nights upon us, you may find a **faulty streetlight** near your home or on one of your walks. If you do so it would be helpful if you would **ring 08 000 514 514** and state the number of the light (which you should find written on the pole). The fault should be rectified shortly thereafter. If it is not, please tell us at the Town Hall by dropping in or phoning 822 070.

With Christmas approaching the Town Council invites you to join with us at the annual **Carol Concert on the Green**. This year we will gather **at 11am on Saturday 17th December** by the High Street Medical Practice. Frampton Silver Band will accompany the seasonal carols and we would very much like you to join us. As a reward we will be serving hot chocolate and mince pies – a delicious and festive start to Christmas.

You will have noticed that the **Town Clock** has not reappeared on the High Street since the roadworks were

completed. This has been the subject of comment in the local newspapers and I would like to reassure you that it will be restored to the High Street shortly - but in a new location. When it was first presented the local benefactor Fred Rowbotham (who paid for the clock) had considered two locations that he judged to be suitable and which would take account

of the curvature of the High Street. One was outside the Police Station and the other in front of the then-Post Office building. The former was chosen as it was near what was regarded as a public building—which could provide the necessary supply of electricity. Now that the future of that building is in doubt the new site chosen is Fred's second choice - which happens to be outside another public building - the Town Hall. This will provide the power source and the clock will again be on view from much of the High Street – unlike its previous location where it would have been masked by the new trees when they are in leaf.

The PHAB (Physically Handicapped and Able Bodied) **Club desperately needs volunteers** to come and help, and have fun. Their weekly Club nights are on Mondays at the Scout HQ Selsley from 6:45pm – 8:45pm. For further details contact the Town Hall on 822 070.



If you're under 25 read on...

Stonehouse Schools Trustees is a small charity which can give financial help to young people living in Stonehouse and Cainscross. A grant can be given for a variety of options as long as it supports educational or training needs, and can be for individuals as well as groups. The Trustees are sympathetic to all applications for funding - which can include specialist equipment, activities, specific projects - indeed anything which relates to your education or training.

If you are under 25 and think you could benefit, please write to The Clerk to the Trustees via the Town Hall, Stonehouse, outlining your request as well as saying a little about yourself. As the Trustees only meet 3 times each year it may take a little while before you hear from them - but you will get a response.

Non-emergency Police number

Have you thought about ringing the police with a concern about possible crime or anti-social behaviour but weren't sure what number to ring? While 999 is a well recognised phone number for reporting emergencies, many people are not sure which number to call if they want to speak to their local police about non-urgent matters.

To help keep our community safe, Gloucestershire Constabulary has joined the rest of the South West Region by the introduction of 101 - the new national police **non-emergency** phone number. They hope that having an easily remembered number available will make it easier for people to contact their local police to report and discuss non-urgent police-related issues.

The 101 number is already in use in areas across the country and will be rolled out across the rest of the UK by the end of this year. Each call to 101 will cost 15p, irrespective of how long that call may last. This cost applies to both landlines and mobile phones.



Region by the introduction of 101 - the new national police **non-emergency** phone number. They hope that having an easily remembered number available will make it easier for people to contact

Tris Lusty - Firewood & Fencing Contractor FIREWOOD

Locally sourced split firewood, delivered to your door and stacked in a place of your choice

Full Load £70; Half Load £40

Contact Tris on 01453 760 017 or 07 971 538 386

NEWSFLASH!

'This N That' has just opened in
Queens Road, Stonehouse

Mobility aids. Gifts for all ages.
Toys, jewellery & much more
Phone (01453) 822 715



STOP PRESS

- Would you like to volunteer to help at Girl Guides. The Guides are aged between 10 and 14 and meet on Tuesdays, 7:30—9pm. They are looking for another leader to help support the young people from the New Year. The new person would need to be CRB checked and would be offered training and support to help them in the role. More information from Heather McInnes on 828 051 or Theresa Watt on 821 428.
- The overall winner of the competition to design a poster to advertise the **Stonehouse Goodwill Fest (to be held on Saturday 26th November)** was Joshua Jones, aged 14, a student at Maidenhill School. Joshua will receive a cash prize thanks to the generous sponsorship of Jamie Dickinson, owner of Delta Nine IT, who is also supporting the event.

New Neighbourhood Warden

Hello. My name is Morgana and I am your new Neighbourhood Warden for Stonehouse. As your link with the District Council I can help with issues - from supporting vulnerable people to anti-social or intimidating behaviour. If you have concerns on these or other issues, contact me by phone on (01453) 754 514, mobile on 07 876 405 833, or email to morgana.simpson@stroud.gov.uk. I look forward to meeting you in the future.



Keep it clean

Those irresponsible dog owners who allow their pets to foul in a public place, and then fail to clean up after them, could finish up in court - like the lady who was caught recently. Although she denied that her dog had fouled, and failed to turn up in court, it cost her a total of £1366.50 (including Stroud District Council, SDC, costs of more than £800).



Anyone who walks along our fine new towpath by the canal can see plainly that there are irresponsible owners in our community. If you see anyone failing to clean up after their dog, please report them **to SDC - phone 766 321**.

If you allow your dog to foul in any public place and are caught failing to clean up after them, you **will be prosecuted**. The maximum fine is £1000. Please clean up after your dog - **always**.

APT Central

This is the hub of the All Pulling Together (APT) Community Association based on Park Estate. It operates in one of the Park Parade shops. APT Central is here to help the members of the Stonehouse community – whatever your age.

APT Central is moving forward in Stonehouse and is working closely with various providers including Stroud College. These are the courses running at APT this term:

Monday 31st Oct–12th Dec: Cooking Up Change

FREE COURSE – a fun ‘hands-on’ 2 hour cooking session; bring home a meal for tea time. There are a couple of places left for the afternoon sessions.

Mondays, 6pm–8pm: Skills for Life

Fridays, 10am–12noon: Computer tuition for beginners

Flexible computer classes daytime & evening focussing on learning specific skills on the computer: how to upload photos, use the internet to send emails, shop, etc.



Coming soon: A new programme of classes will be advertised to start in the New Year – ring (01453) 822 705 to register your interest.

Women Returning to Work

- Children becoming independent?
- Wondering what to do next?
- Need to rebuild your confidence?

Then why not join a Women Returners course for one day a week for 10 weeks? You will be taking a first step towards doing something different.

What will I learn?

We provide a supportive, friendly atmosphere to help you:

- find out what you really want to do/write a CV
- assess your skills and experience
- explore different options
- brush up on your job-search skills
- build your confidence
- learn what computers can do for you

Gardening Group: Help APT create a productive Community Garden, learn what to plant when, new skills from tutors and each other. New beginners gardening starting soon.

Contact: (01453) 822 705 or text/phone Marion on 07 857 650 833



Stonehouse LIVE is a partnership representing Christians in our town. It aims to enrich the life of the whole community. The group is especially keen to work alongside the youth of Stonehouse

– but wants to serve the whole community.

On 30th October Stonehouse LIVE ran another Neon party (*some of the young people dressed in their brightest things!!*). A DJ, magician, Neon Fashion Show



and many fun games kept more than 40 children and young people entertained. The children and young people thoroughly enjoyed it. A huge thanks to those members of the churches who volunteered at the event and worked hard to make it happen.

Stonehouse LIVE will be returning to the Goodwill Fest on 26th November with ‘Get into the Picture’- wait to find out what this is all about!

EMBRACE THE INTERNET

FROM ONLY **£299**

WEBSITE DESIGN AT AN AFFORDABLE PRICE
ONE COMPLETE ONLINE PACKAGE ... ONE LOW PRICE

CONTACT US TODAY
Tel: 01453 838120 Mobile: 07973 922983
Email: sales@revweb-glos.co.uk
www.revweb-glos.co.uk

Revolutionary webster
We keep IT simple

Stonehouse's Christmas Church Services

Sunday 4th December

Bethel Church 10:30am Christmas Family Service
Methodist Church 3:00pm Candle of Hope Service

Sunday 11th December

Bethel Church 10:30am Carol Service

Sunday 18th December

Baptist Church 10:30am Carol Service followed by mulled wine and mince pies
Bethel Church 5:00pm 'Carols by Starlight' followed by mince pies and hot drinks
Methodist Church 10.30am Nativity Carols for all ages
 6.30pm Carols by Candlelight
St Cyr's Church 9:45am Carols with Communion

Saturday 24th December

St Cyr's Church 11:00am Early Christmas Communion (especially for those who have mobility difficulties; please ask for a lift)
 2:00pm Crib Service; all welcome, whether on own or with families
 11:30pm Midnight Communion
St Joseph's Catholic Church 11:00pm Carols at The Annunciation (Woodchester)
 11:45pm Midnight Mass at The Annunciation (Woodchester)

Sunday 25th December - Christmas Day

Baptist Church 10.30 am Christmas Day Family Service
Bethel Church 10.00am Christmas Morning Service
Methodist Church 10:00am Christmas Morning Family Carols
St Cyr's Church 8:00am Holy Communion
 9.45am Christmas Family Communion
St Joseph's Catholic Church 9.00am Christmas Day Mass (Stonehouse).
 11.00am Christmas Day Mass at The Annunciation (Woodchester)



Contact phone numbers

Bethel Church	(01453) 826 988	St Cyr's Church	(01453) 822 332
Baptist Church	(01453) 826 988	St Joseph's Catholic Church	(01453) 822 121
Methodist Church	(01453) 763 847		



40, High Street
Stonehouse, GL10 2NA
Tel: 01453 825151
Fax: 01453 826103
 Offices also at

2, Rowcroft Stroud, GL5 3BB Tel: 01453 763433 Fax: 01453 763434	Cotswold Chambers John Street Stroud, GL5 2HB Tel: 01453 757381 Fax: 01453 752704	Hollis House May Lane Dursley, GL11 4JN Tel: 01453 547221 Fax: 01453 543961
---	---	---

E-mail: info@phoenixlegalgroup.co.uk
 Website: www.phoenixlegalgroup.co.uk
YOUR LOCAL LEGAL GROUP

Thank you!

From all of us at Delta Nine IT in Stonehouse.

November marks our 5th Year in business and we have all of you to thank for the support over these years!



Delta Nine IT provides a complete service for the Sale, Repair and Upgrade of all Computer Systems.

Internet prices with the benefit of Technical support and award winning Customer Service!

01453 821410
www.deltanine.co.uk

38-40 High Street, Stonehouse. GL10 2NA
Stonehouse Business of the Year 2010

REGULAR EVENTS

Please tell us about your regular events - especially for young people - so that we can add the details to our listing in future issues of this newsletter. Details to the Town Hall (contact details on back page) or by email to newsletter@stonehousetowncouncil.com.

Mondays: Stonehouse Community Bank (a branch of Stroud Valleys Credit Union) holds a drop-in session in the APT Central community shop (in Park Parade, at the junction of Elm Road & Park Road) between 11am and 12:30pm. No need to make an appointment.

Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Friday & Saturday mornings: Pop In for a cup of tea/coffee/soup/Bovril from 9:30am – 11:30am in the Community Centre. Meet up with old friends and make new ones, volunteer 'hosts' always needed if you've a morning to spare occasionally. Contact Pam Hurlston on 825 150.

Alternate Mondays: Whist at 1pm in the Community Centre. New members are always made very welcome and allowances are made for beginners. Refreshments are provided in the interval, and there are great prizes. Contact Mary Coates on 826 545.

Mondays & Tuesdays: Stonehouse Dog Training Club meets at the Community Centre at 6pm. The Club runs seven different classes starting with Basic Obedience, so there is usually something for everyone. Contact Celia Vines on 822 134.

Tuesday mornings: take a **weekly walk** as part of the 'Walking for Health' Programme. Walks are free, lasting under an hour, and refreshments are available at the finish. Starts from the Community Centre, Laburnum Walk at 10:15am. Information about the various walks around the district from Jane Bullows on (01453) 754 322 or log on to www.strollinginstrouddistrict.org for up to date information.

First Tuesday of each month: Lunch Club meets in the Community Centre lounge at 12 noon. Just £3 for a delicious home cooked meal with lots of chat, laughter and good companionship and social interaction, and the occasional 'awayday' out to lunch. Contact Mattie Ross on 826 587.

First Tuesday of each month: Events Group meets in the Town Hall starting at 6pm. Come and help prepare for town events such as Goodwill and Summer Jolly. Contact Pam Swain on 822 998 for the Goodwill Fest currently being planned, or the Town Hall 822 070 for any more information

First Tuesday of each month: Probus Club is for retired men and women who like to meet regularly, listen to a talk of local or general interest and enjoy other sociable activities. The small, friendly Stonehouse Club meets in Burdett House at 10.30am. Further details from Bill on (01453) 547 036.

Second Tuesday of every month: Stroud & District Blind Club meets at Hazelwood Paddock Rise between 2 – 4pm. Good entertainment with refreshments, a raffle and the occasional trip out. Details from Celia on 01 242 221 170.

Tuesday & Friday afternoons 2.30 to 4.30pm: Short Mat Bowling. Held in Douglas Morley Hall (corner of Elm Road & Park Road). Annual membership £15; session fee £2.20. Beginners welcome - practice bowls available. Contact Lionel Powell on (01453) 828 286 or email to lionelpowell@btinternet.com

Wednesday & Friday afternoons: 1.30 – 2.30pm at St Joseph's Church Hall, Oldend Lane. **Aerobic & Fitness Classes**. Prices from £3.50. More information from Bryony Parry on 07 906 581 450.

Wednesdays from 4 - 6pm: Youth Drop In for school years 7-11 at APT Central (next to Londis on Park Parade). A place for young people to hang out, play on the Wii, internet access, free hot chocolates and cake! Run by PSALMS. More details from Odele Harding on 07 747 611 690 or odele.harding@psalms.uk.net



We'll point you in the right direction

Buying →

← **Selling**

Letting →

 naylor powell

**Estate & Letting Agents
Surveyors & Valuers**

Stonehouse Office
01453 794820
30 Bath Road, Stonehouse GL10 2JA
www.naylorpowell.com



GriffithClarke
The Chartered Accountants
In Stonehouse

Personal
• Personal Tax Planning • Self Assessment • Trust and Executorships • Retirement Strategies

Business
• Auditing and Accounting Services • Secretarial and Bookkeeping Services • Business Start-up Advice and Business Planning • Corporate Tax Planning • Payroll Services • VAT Consultancy

phone: 01453 822818 visit www.griffithclarke.com

Wednesdays: Stonehouse Day Centre meets at Hazelwood every Wednesday to give the frail and elderly in our town a very welcome day out. Volunteers are urgently needed for this worthwhile venture and, if you feel you can help in any way please contact Denise Spring on (01453) 759 812.

Wednesdays: Rotary Club of Stonehouse—a warm welcome awaits you at 7.30pm at The George, Frocester. Members are of all ages, come from many diverse backgrounds and are both female and male these days. Information from Adrian Hale on 01452 741 380.

Wednesday evenings: Severn Valley Dog Club meets at the Community Centre from 7:30 – 9pm. General socialisation and training for all types of dogs with specialist ringcraft for show dogs and handlers. More details please contact Lyn Williams on 823 431.

Alternate Wednesdays: Pensioners Club meets at 2pm in the Community Centre on the same week as the Whist. A superb afternoon of entertainment with music, refreshments and social contact with your fellow residents awaits you, as well as trips out several times during the year. New members are made very welcome. Contact Mary Coates on 826 545.

First Wednesday of each month (except January): Gardening Club meets in the Community Centre starting at 7:30pm and anyone is welcome. Speakers and outings throughout the year and in December there is to be a bring & share supper — so come along with your wine glass to join in the fun! Contact Anne Minchin on 822 332 for more information.

Second Wednesday of the month: Stonehouse History Group enjoys presentations during the dark evenings and visits during the summer months. Meetings are usually held in the Town Hall starting at 7:30pm. Cost of attending these is £1 for members, £2 for visitors. Contact Jim on 791 182 or John on 824 459.

Second Wednesday of January March, May, July, September and November: South Glos Diabetes UK Group meets at the Community Centre starting at 8pm. Support, advice, literature, regular speakers and so much more. Facebook page now active—just type in 'dig'. Further information, phone Liz Shipton on 822 483 or Mike Arrowsmith on 824 409 - or look on our website: www.diabetes-southglos.org.uk

Third Wednesday of each month (except August): Stonehouse **Women's Institute (WI)** meets in the Community Centre starting at 7.30pm. Details of our

programme at <http://stonehousewi.weebly.com>. You are welcome to join us at any of our meetings. Why not come along as a visitor? We would love to see you and, who knows, you might want to become a member! For more information, ring our Secretary on (01453) 823 109 or email at stonehousewi@gmail.com.

Second Thursday of each month: Frocester WI meets in the Cricket Club at Frocester starting at 2.15pm. A lot of women, especially at this time of year, prefer to go out in the afternoon rather than in the evening. A 'proper' tea is provided, and a free raffle ticket. The charge for members and visitors is £1.50. For information phone Janice on 822 605.

Third Thursday of each month: Stonehouse Mothers' Union meets at Hazelwood at 7.30pm for Christian Care for families. Visitors and new members are made welcome. Contact Olga Gibbons on 824 332.

Thursdays: Citizens Advice Bureau holds a drop-in session in the Town Hall between 10am and 1pm then a further drop-in session in the APT Central community shop (in Park Parade, at the junction of Elm Road & Park Road) between 1pm and 3pm. No need to make an appointment at either location.

First Thursday of every month, 10.30am - 12noon: Stonehouse Fair Shares coffee morning at the Community Centre. Fair Shares now has an allotment, so if you're interested in helping others as well as yourself and want to share skills, please come along. Details from Chris Moore on 07 810 732 379 or email chrismoore61@yahoo.co.uk

Last Thursday of the month (except December): RBL Women's Section meets in the Community Centre at 1:45pm. This group supports the benevolent fund and poppy appeal which gives support to service and ex-service personnel as well as their widows and families. New members are welcome at meetings which are always lively and include a short business section followed by varied entertainment, refreshments and a raffle. Contact Janet Walsh on 823 725.

Alternate Fridays: Friendly Circle meets at the Community Centre from 2 to 4pm. Good company, entertainment, tea & biscuits and a raffle. Contact Ruth Biddle on 828 917.

Fridays: Bingo at the Community Centre from 7:30pm. Great prizes and refreshments at this popular event. Contact Dawn Timbrell on 766 136.

R & B ODJOBS
INDOOR/OUTDOOR HANDYMAN
NO JOB TOO SMALL
Richard Twinning
01453 822 503 or 07 968 400 310


NELSON UK
IT SERVICES

- Consultation
- Implementation
- Business & home support

Provides the skills needed to establish systems that take your business forward

t: 01453 825957
e: info@nelsonuk.com www.nelsonuk.com

Stonehouse Town Council

Town Council meetings are held in the Town Hall, start at 7pm, and are open to members of the public.

NOVEMBER 29th Regeneration & Environment Committee
 DECEMBER 5th Amenities, Recreation & Tourism Committee
 12th Finance & Strategy Committee
 JANUARY 9th Full Town Council
 23rd Regeneration & Environment Committee
 30th Finance & Strategy Committee
 FEBRUARY 6th Amenities, Recreation & Tourism Committee
 20th Full Town Council



TOWN COUNCILLORS

North Ward

John Aldis 822 325
 Chris Brine 825 917
 John Callinan 825 547
 Simon Lewis 825 229
 Mrs Belle Nelson 826 206
 Gary Powell 826 527

Central Ward

David Drew 825 603
 Mrs Carol Kambites 827 929
 Mrs Pam Swain 822 998
 Theresa Watt 821 428

South Ward

Anthony Howarth 825 956
 Roger Govier 826 926
 Mrs Sue Latchford 826 412
 Mrs Clare Sheridan 827 286

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Phil Bevan 826 715
 Chris Brine 825 917
 Gary Powell 826 527

COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Lesley Williams 791 277

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Neil Carmichael 01453 751 572

EURO-MPs

Giles Chichester 01404 851 106
 Trevor Colman 01626 830 041
 William (The Earl of) Dartmouth
 01722 744 814
 mobile 077 200 287 53
 Ashley Fox 0117 973 7050
 Mrs Julie Girling 01763 289 654
 Sir Graham Watson
 01458 252 265

North Ward = Ryelands Road, Little Australia, Oldend Lane, Gloucester Road
 and all areas north as far as Cotswold Green and across to Kestrel Court.

Central Ward = Park Estate, Court View, High St., Queens Rd., Rosedale Estates & Oldend Lane Industrial Estates

South Ward = Bridgend, Boakes Drive, Bristol Road, Ebley Road, Bath Road and Ryeford

Stonehouse Town Council, Town Hall, High Street, Stonehouse GL10 2NG

Telephone: 822 070 fax: 822 337

Town Clerk: Richard Lacey,
 email townclerk@stonehousetowncouncil.com

Deputy Clerk: Mrs Elizabeth Lawrence,
 email deputyclerk@stonehousetowncouncil.com

Opening hours: 9am-12noon on Monday, Tuesday, & Friday
 9am-3pm on Thursday; closed Wednesday



Advertise your business to 3000+ households

This quarterly newsletter is proving popular in the town - particularly as it is hand delivered. If you would like to send your message in this way it won't cost you a fortune - and one advert may well repay your outlay with dividends. **The cost could be as little as 1p per household delivered.** If you are interested, contact Town Clerk Richard Lacey.

Your Town Council seeks to repay the cost of production by offering advertising space and, if there are sufficient adverts, this may lead to a bigger publication.

Stonehouse Town Council and Stonehouse Community Partnership do not endorse the content of advertisements in this publication.