



**First of all, the Parish Council would like to wish everyone a (belated) happy and healthy New Year for 2018. We hope you will continue to support your Parish Council and hope to see you at one of the meetings or other events that will be organised throughout the year. Details of meetings are available on the website and on the noticeboard outside the Montefiore Institute.**

## CRIME PREVENTION

Following recent reports of burglaries in the Braintree district area, we thought a few tips might come in handy as you prepare for all those outdoor Spring jobs.

### Garage and Shed security

Whilst most houses have adequate security, what is often neglected is the shed or garage, "nothing much in there" you might say; "just a garden spade and fork", **but these are perfect tools for a burglar to use to get into your house.** Adds insult to injury when the tool used to break into your house is your own.

Garages and sheds by the nature of their construction and position, especially when away from the house, are always going to be vulnerable. Quite often the supplied locks provide just minimum security and are easily overcome, so consider supplementing the existing locks with further locking systems both for the doors and items within.

On **garage** doors, this could be by adding locking bolts to both sides of the "up and over door" or a garage door defender in the ground in front of the door, if you have side door don't forget the security on this too.

With **sheds** coach-bolt and plate the padlock hasp sections to the frame and door, use a good quality "Close Shackle" padlock or a key operated mortice lock; don't forget to ensure hinges cannot be unscrewed.

Consider using "Ground Anchors" or "Shed Shackles" to secure larger items such as ladders, mowers and pedal cycles (again good quality padlock and chain); keep chains tight so that they are not in contact with a surface they can be struck against. Protect windows with a wire mesh and fit a curtain or white wash the windows to prevent prying eyes.

Visibly security mark property with your post code and house number as this reduces the value to the thief; you can register serial numbers free of charge at [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com). There are many commercially available security marking systems available suitable for a wide range of products and others for specific products.

It is also worth fitting security lighting and a shed alarm to the shed or garage, there are even alarms available that when activated call your mobile phone, these are relatively inexpensive and available from most DIY/hardware stores. If siting a new shed, where possible, position it within sight of rooms in the house that are routinely occupied.

Products that are fit for purpose can found by looking for the "Secured by Design" or "Sold Secure" logos, or on their websites <http://www.securedbydesign.com/> or <http://www.soldsecure.com/>.

Have a look at [www.thecrimepreventionwebsite.com](http://www.thecrimepreventionwebsite.com) for more information and tips.

## NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan is now underway. A Steering Group has been formed and they have met a couple of times to begin looking at the timelines for the project and to assess the type of topic groups that will be needed. As has been stated many times, this is a lengthy process with bursts of activity intermingled with quiet periods of data analysis and report writing.

One of the first topic group tasks will be to prepare a questionnaire that will be delivered to every property in Stisted seeking information to produce an evaluation of the type of housing that currently exists in the village and what might be needed in the future. This questionnaire will also pose questions to determine the criteria for any development, from type to potential locations. Before we look to the future, we need to know what the present looks like. Every resident will have the opportunity to contribute their views, wishes and expertise over the coming months.

Notes of meetings and progress against the project plan will be posted on the Parish Council's website, so if you can't get along to a meeting but would like to help, please contact the Chairman of the Steering Group – Melissa Hewitt – on 07711 690852, or the Secretary of the Steering Group – Christine Marshall – 07933 306927; [stistedparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:stistedparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk)

The Parish Council website is currently being re-designed and the Neighbourhood Plan section will be enlarged to provide all the information that you need to follow progress.

The next community meeting for the Neighbourhood Plan will be at **11.30am on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February** at the Village Hall. Why not come along to see and hear what it's all about? Your views and input are invaluable, so even if you can't make a meeting, please complete and

## YOUR COUNCILLORS

Alan Moor **Chairman**  
David Burge **Vice Chairman**  
Melissa Hewitt  
Xavier Hodgetts  
Richard Hughes  
Stuart Tyler  
Hayley Waine

## YOUR COUNCIL CONTACT

Christine Marshall **Parish Clerk**

Telephone: 07933 306927  
Email: [stistedparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:stistedparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk)  
Web site: [www.essexinfo.net/stisted-parish-council](http://www.essexinfo.net/stisted-parish-council)

return the Neighbourhood Plan questionnaires or send your comments to the Parish Clerk to share with the Steering Group.

### **“HAVE YOUR SAY”**

The Parish Council has arranged for suggestion box to be placed in the Community Shop / Post Office where you can leave notes of any issues and respond to ideas and suggestions put forward by the Parish Council. To get this started we have enclosed a sheet with a couple of questions for you to answer and hope you will take the few minutes needed to respond.

### **JOINT MEETING**

Parish Councillors hosted a meeting with representatives of the Village Hall Trustees, School Governors and All Saints' Church on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January. This meeting explored ways in which the three organisations can work together for the benefit of Stisted residents.

### **YOUTH CLUB**

Stisted Youth Club enjoyed its first year - and what a year it has been. Having started with just four children attending, it now has a regular attendance of 24-26 attending each time.

The end of year accounts were prepared and presented at the last Parish Council meeting. These identified that although there is a small amount of reserve in the account, it isn't sufficient to pay for the Village Hall hire over the course of the year.

The Parish Council has been approached to continue its support of the Youth Club by assisting with the payment of the Village Hall hire fees. The Village Hall has kindly offered to continue with the discounted cost of the hall hire. This support is greatly appreciated and enables the Youth Club to continue to provide the service at minimal cost, and provide Easter and Christmas gifts for the children.

We thank all of those who continue to assist with the volunteering - but please, without new people helping it will continue to be the same few who carry out the job.

If you can spare just one evening over the next year to help run the sessions, that would be appreciated. Call Melissa on 07711 690852 for any further information.

### **PAIN**

You may have seen that the matter of the Integrated Waste Management Facility has once again come to prominence. It has never gone away and representatives of Parishes Against Incineration (PAIN) have been working hard to raise awareness of the impact on those who live and work in the villages around Rivenhall. If the building goes ahead and becomes operational, it will have an adverse impact on air pollution both from the facility itself and from the large number of additional vehicle movements that will be a consequence. PAIN are extremely active in building support from all levels of society and are now working with David Drew, MP, who is Shadow Minister for Waste, and have gained the support of Priti Patel, MP in whose constituency the facility will be. Essex County Council are soon to make a determination in respect of the numerous planning applications and amendments that Gent Fairhead have been submitting over recent months and years.

You will find with this newsletter a template for a letter of objection to the applications. You can either copy this into your own words, or sign and add your full name and address to the template and submit that to ECC. Two copies are provided so that two adults in your household

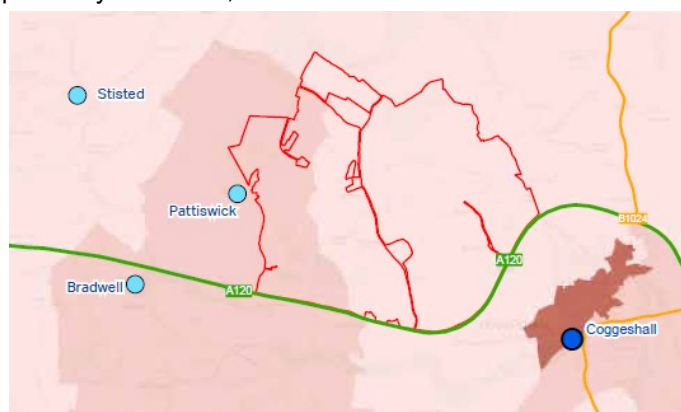
can submit the letters separately.

Stisted is only 3.1 miles from the facility, but the effect on air pollution can travel 20 miles!

If you would like to know more about the IWMF and PAIN, go to website: <http://no2incinerator.co.uk/impact/> where you will find a link to a “plume plotter” that takes the height of the chimney and local weather data for a year to plot the plume and where it blows

### **MONKS WOOD**

This is another one that you may have thought had gone away. Sadly, it hasn't and a proposal for development of land between Stisted/Pattiswick and Coggeshall has been presented to the Consultation for the Garden Community schemes, including West Tey and Rayne. Monks Wood is quoted as having an initial phase of up to 1,500 homes, with additional capacity for approximately 5,000 homes. This is the location of the site showing its proximity to Stisted, Pattiswick and Bradwell:



The Monks Wood site is located approximately 5km east of Braintree and 13 km west of Colchester. The southern boundary is defined by the A120. Coggeshall is to the south east, on the southern side of the A120 with Pattiswick to the west. Stisted and Bradwell are near the west and south-west respectively. Currently the site is agricultural land with a landscape of existing field boundaries and woodland with several rural lanes/pathways going through it.

The Parish Council is keeping a close watch on progress as this proposal has not yet been submitted to Braintree District Council as a planning application, but will do everything it can to keep the residents of Stisted informed.

### **PLANNING ISSUES**

It was recently brought to the attention of the Parish Council that some fencing work had been carried out on the land opposite Brook Farm. The Parish Council looked into this and found that no permission had been sought from Braintree District Council and was not permitted. The situation was escalated through our District Councillor to the Head of Planning at BDC and their Legal Team.

The quick action by the Parish Council has resulted in a warning sign being erected by BDC and enforcement action being undertaken by the District Council.

Unfortunately just last week some sapling trees were planted on one of the plots. Again the Parish Council has been in touch with BDC's Enforcement Team who are now taking the case forward.

There is a lesson to anyone who contemplates buying a small parcel of land that is part of a larger scheme –

these sites rarely come with planning permission for any fencing or structures (domestic or otherwise). Planning permission from the District Council must be sought to change use or make alterations on the land.

## ARCHIVE

Stisted World War 1 Centenary Commemoration: can you help?

Later this year, Stisted All Saints Church will be organising events for the centenary of the ending of the 1st World War and the Historical Archive is planning to include photographs, stories and memorabilia from the time. We would welcome any photos or stories we could use that tell us more about how this event impacted upon the lives of folk in Stisted. Please contact Howard Hollands by e mail [howardhollands@gmail.com](mailto:howardhollands@gmail.com)

Thank you.

Here's another glimpse into the archive:



Built in the 1820s, The Stone Cottages on The Street are constructed from flint and were intended originally for staff at Stisted Hall. It was initially known as Onley Row and later it was referred to as Flint Hall.

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

Notice boards are provided at the Village Hall and outside the Montefiore Institute for notices and posters advertising events and services in and around the village. These facilities are available to everyone to use, but could you please remove your notice once the event has taken place so that there is room for others to use it. Some people are hesitant about removing other people's notices, even when they are out of date, so, please, if you put a sign up, please remember to remove it. The same goes for notices tacked to lampposts and fences.

## ROUNDERS AND PETANQUE

We have some successful teams in Stisted, but more players are always welcomed. If you are interested in finding out about either of these sports, please put a note on the attached questionnaire and return it to one of the suggestion boxes and you will be contacted. These are fun sports, just right for getting healthy in 2018.

## DEFIBRILLATOR

The installation of the new defibrillator is progressing more slowly than we had hoped. The telephone kiosk stands ready for use, but the power supply seems to have disappeared! UK Power Networks and BT are working to rectify this situation and as soon as this has been done the installation will be completed and awareness sessions arranged for everyone to come along and find out how to use it.

## BUDGET 2018-19

The Parish Council has submitted its Precept request to Braintree District Council.

The Parish Council is extremely careful with how it uses the public money it receives each year and wherever possible seeks grant funding for large expenditure (such as the provision of additional equipment on the playing field, bollards to prevent unauthorised vehicle access to the playing field and providing the Owen Harrington Pavilion). At the same time for any other expenditure, due consideration and competitive quotes are received to ensure value for money. However, the cost of services continues to rise and unexpected expenses incurred during 2017 for repairs to playing field equipment and, sadly, repairing some damage to the pavilion, Councillors have reluctantly had to increase the amount required from Braintree District Council, collected through your Council Tax payments.

Each year the Parish Council has received an amount under the Localism Fund Grant, but since 2016-17 this has been reducing and this is the last year that it will be paid. This has a big influence on the amount needed to cover costs. The budget for 2018-19 has been calculated at £13,077 but thanks to the final Localism Fund Grant payment the amount to be collected from Stisted residents will be £12,460.

This equates to an overall increase of 34.06% for the Parish Precept **only**, as can be seen from the calculation below:

Several iterations of the budget were considered very carefully and discussed at its meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> January to ensure that the burden on Stisted residents was kept as low as possible.

Tax Base for 2018/19 calculated by Braintree District Council (based on Band D Parish/ Town Council budget (taken from Precept Form - memorandum box)	<b>280.86</b>
Localism Grant receivable (taken from Precept Form - memorandum box)	<b>£13,077</b>
Precept determined under Local Government Finance Act 1992 for 2018/19	<b>£617</b>
Parish element of the Band D Tax Rate for 2018/19	<b>£12,460</b>
	<b>£44.36</b>

Stisted precept for 2018/19 represents an increase (-decrease) over 2017/18 of **£3,284**

Stisted Parish Council Band D Council Tax Rate has increased by **34.06%**

## STISTED VILLAGE HALL

### NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of Stisted Village Hall is due to take place on Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at Stisted Village Hall commencing at 7.30 p.m.

The main business of the meeting is to present the Annual Report and Financial Statements for 2017.

There is an opportunity to elect one Trustee. Persons who ordinarily live in the village of Stisted, are over 18 years of age and meet the Charities Commission's criteria to serve as a Trustee, may request a nomination form from Mrs U Hollands by either:

Post: 2 The Boundries, Rectory Road, Stisted CM77 8AL  
Email: [svhsecretary53@gmail.com](mailto:svhsecretary53@gmail.com)  
Mobile: 01376 617251 (please leave a voicemail if necessary)

All completed nomination forms must be submitted to Mrs U Hollands, 2 The Boundries, Rectory Road, Stisted CM77 8AL by, and no later than, 14<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

**U Hollands**

(Secretary – Stisted Village Hall)



### ...and finally, a fond farewell

It was with great sadness that the Parish Councillors heard the news that Ron Sanderson had passed away in January at Stisted Hall. There is no better tribute to his memory than the arbour he kindly donated to the Parish that is now sited on the Playing Field. We hope when you sit there you will have fond memories of Ron. We reproduce below the obituaries that appeared in the February Parish Magazine, and if you didn't know Ron personally you will see how loved he was within the village and how much he will be missed.



Ron enjoying his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations at the Village Hall on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2014

**Doreen Digby wrote:** It is with a sense of shock and sadness that I write this as this morning (January 20<sup>th</sup>) I heard from Ron's son, Duncan, that Ron passed away in his sleep during the night. Sadly, he has not been able to e with us on any of our trips for the last year but he was always interested to know where we were going and how we had got on we have missed him being there in person; as we will do in the future. His sense of humour, wit, wisdom and sense of fair play has helped many of us, especially Jennie and me as fellow 'partners'. I know that all the "trippers" would like to send our condolences to Duncan, his wife and their extended family.

**Jennie Alderton wrote:** Ron came to the village in 1980, after spending many years holidaying here. He was elected to the Parish Council in 1989 and retired in 2015, a total of twenty-six years. Ten years as a councillor, eight years as Vice-Chairman and eight years as Chairman. He was instrumental in forming SAGE (Stisted Against Gravel Extraction) and he chaired meetings and attended Braintree District Council meetings to prevent proposed large gravel extractions at Covenbrook Farm, Stisted. He was also instrumental in starting up the Neighbourhood Watch in the village. He was also well known for his work with Guide Dogs for the Blind, being Area Co-ordinator. When the village shop and post office closed down, Ron, Doreen and Jennie formed the Stisted Community Partnership, which runs the Post Office and Shop in the Montefiore Institute, two afternoons a week. The partnership also runs the pleasure outings evert month for villagers and friends, Ron went on these trips until his illness at the end of 2016 and made many friends and was a resident at Stisted Hall.

### PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATES 2018

**All meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month (excepting January, May and June in 2018) commencing at 7.30pm in the Montefiore Institute.**

March 6th  
April 3rd  
May 1st (Annual meetings)  
June 4<sup>th</sup> (Monday)  
July 3rd  
September 4th  
October 2nd  
November 6th  
December 4th  
(no meeting is held in August)

Residents always welcome to attend and see how the Parish Council works.

### SATURDAY SHOPPER BUS

The bus is available for anyone to use - the cost of a ticket is just £4.00, unless you have a valid bus pass or other concessionary ticket.

The bus leaves the Montefiore Institute at 9.30am, goes via Mark's Farm Tesco arriving at Braintree Sainsbury's car park at 9.45am.

On return the bus departs from Sainsbury's car park at 11.30am, arriving back at the Montefiore Institute at 11.45am.

The dates for 2018 are:

January 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>  
February 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>  
March 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>  
April 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>  
May 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>  
June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>

Without the continued support of our highly valued volunteers this service would not be possible – it is the envy of many nearby parishes! Additional volunteers are always welcome and if you could spare some time, we'd love to hear from you. You will need to be under 70, have a full, clean, driving licence with D1 entitlement. All volunteers will be trained to MiDAS (Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme) standard by Braintree District Council and undertake mandatory Disclosure and Barring Service Checks

For more information or to volunteer, please contact:  
**Xavier Hodgetts on 07809 342074**

### DUSTCART

The dustcart collection on 14<sup>th</sup> October was again worthwhile with an amazing 2.5 tonnes of rubbish being collected. Thank-you to everyone who took the time to help keep Stisted a fantastic village that cares about its environment.

The next visit of the dust cart will be on Saturday, 21st April, so if you're not rushing to London to enjoy the Queen's birthday, get out in the fresh air and dispose of your rubbish!

### OTHER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**7th July—** "It's a Knockout" on the Playing Field

**14th July—** An evening with Martin Newell and the Hosepipe Band. Afternoon/evening event at Stisted Church

**15th September—**Autumn Fayre, 12 noon til 3.00pm at Stisted Church.



<b>STISTED PARISH COUNCIL SUB-COMMITTEES</b>			
<b>Sub-committee/ group</b>	<b>Scope</b>	<b>Chairman</b>	<b>Councillor/s involved</b>
<b>Neighbourhood Plan</b>	Neighbourhood Plan	Alan Moor 07721 512064 alanmoor@gmail.com	Alan Moor Christine Marshall Richard Hughes
<b>Community Engagement</b>	Youth Club SOGIS	Melissa Hewitt 07711 690852 melissa3d@aol.com	Melissa Hewitt David Burge
<b>Community Safety &amp; Awareness</b>	Neighbourhood Watch Safety Parking Speedwatch	David Burge 07931 519994 scrim73@googlemail.com	David Burge Alan Moor
<b>Contingency Planning</b>	Defibrillator Life Belts Emergency Plan	Hayley Waine 07939 037045 hayleywaine@hotmail.com	Hayley Waine Alan Moor Christine Marshall
<b>Events</b>	e.g: Litter pick/dust cart Easter Egg Hunt Duck Hunt	David Burge 07931 519994 scrim73@googlemail.com	David Burge Alan Moor Christine Marshall
<b>Finance</b>	Budget Audit Banking Grant applications	Richard Hughes 07962 087007 1richardgh@gmail.com	Richard Hughes Alan Moor Christine Marshall
<b>Planning</b>	To consider planning applications prior to presentation to full council or between meetings		All Councillors
<b>Recreational (playing field) Maintenance</b>	<u>Playing Field</u> Equipment Inspections Pavilion Right of Way Grass cutting/ vegetation/ bins Access Surface quality Repairs Benches	Stuart Tyler 01376 529096 scrim73@googlemail.com	Stuart Tyler David Burge Roy Edwards (resident)
<b>Social Media</b>	Publicity Village Newsletter Website Broadband	Xavier Hodgetts 07809 342074 xavier.hodgetts@talk21.com	Xavier Hodgetts Melissa Hewitt Christine Marshall
<b>Street Maintenance</b>	Verges Overgrown vegetation (e.g. river) Litter Road Signs Street Lighting Footpaths Trees	David Burge 07931 519994 scrim73@googlemail.com	David Burge Xavier Hodgetts <i>Footpaths - Bob Powers</i> (resident)

#### **YOUR VILLAGE CONTACTS**

##### **Village Hall**

Telephone: 07716 990599

Web site: stistedvillagehall.org.uk

##### **All Saints Church**

Rev. Christopher Davey

Telephone: 01376 561234

Email: vicarbradwellandstisted@btinternet.com

##### **Allotments**

Telephone: 07716 990599

##### **Primary School**

Telephone: 01376 325116

Web site: stisted-academy.co.uk