

KING'S STANLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Thoughtless parking much complained of in parish. So many vehicles per household, insufficient space on roads, some maintain that KSPC, SDC, GCC or Police must do something but very little they can do. More double yellow lines don't help if people disregard them and require a full legal process to add or remove them & so far GCC (highway authority) can't help. Police concentrate on criminal activities so would you pay more tax to SDC to employ more parking attendants in the District to enforce regs? KSPC cannot carve up the registered Village Greens it maintains to provide more parking; it is illegal & parking there is illegal too. Neighbours need to try to work together to seek solutions for sensible parking. If you own vehicles it is your responsibility to find them a place, ideally on your own land, but you have no right to park outside your home. Please do not obstruct the public highway for other road users. Farmers at all drive large vehicles through & need turning space & access. KS is far luckier than many places; it has a free car park owned by SDC. We can't give over more to the vehicles.

The need for affordable housing is growing, opportunities to satisfy it are rare. This weighed heavily with SDC Development Control Committee which resolved that planning permission be granted for 21 affordable homes at Middleyard. The Cotswold Conservation Board (AONB) also supported such development there. With 2 conflicting policies to weigh up (protecting AONB v supporting affordable housing) the outcome, though finely balanced, was perhaps not surprising.

KSPCs 2007 Housing Needs Survey showed 21 persons in need and PCs are expected to encourage parishioners needing affordable housing to register on Stroud District Council's 'Choice Based Lettings' system: Gloucestershire Homeseeker. You don't need to be registered to look around the system: <http://www.gloshomeseeker.co.uk/> but if you need affordable housing you must register online. Available affordable properties are advertised on Homeseeker. Registered applicants can 'bid' for one by expressing their interest on-line or by telephone. For properties like the Middleyard ones due to be built on a "rural exceptions site", the housing association (landlord) will verify applicants' details and check they have the required Parish connection. SDC is drafting a legal agreement for when they are built that will give first priority to registered applicants with a strong local connection to KS parish. If there are no suitable applicants, second priority will be those with a strong connection to adjoining parishes. If there's still no-one suitable, homes would be made available to any registered applicant in Stroud District. Since 2007 the need has probably increased so it is expected that the 21 are likely to be quickly taken up, but 5 affordable homes are to be built on land off Church St as part of the larger development there.

Do you need to register?

You must register online but you can then telephone to make a bid for a particular property.

Do you need advice or help? **Stroud District Council.**

Come to see us at: the council offices, Ebley Mill, Westward Road, Stroud, GL5 4UB.

Telephone: 01453 754078. Email: housing.advice@stroud.gov.uk.

There is a vacancy on KSPC due to a Councillor's resignation. This has been advertised as required & if a poll is not demanded the PC can co-opt someone to serve until the May 2012 elections. If you are interested in being considered by the remaining 8 Cllrs, please write with your thoughts to the Clerk and KSPC will be in touch. Visit the KSPC website for more information on being a Councillor (and more besides): www.kspc.org.uk Mrs E J Roberts 33 Selwyn Close GL10 3LH

NB: Deadline for grant applications normally 31 July, late ones accepted this year only. Guidance on website under Our Parish Council.

Finally, I've not forgotten notes of SDC on Emergency Planning, just no space. Notes on website.