

## KING'S STANLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Safer Community Team Sgt Harrison & PCSO Liz Ward visited in April. There is very little crime here but recent bouts of bad late-night behaviour in KS village were discussed as KSPC received an anonymous letter. Both made local enquiries & Police, who keep a close eye on behaviour outside Co-op, are aware of local habits & movements & have acted to sort things out. KSPC asked SDC to check that nothing is left outside recycling bins. KSPC also asked SDC to clear ivy from dilapidated fencing in the car park in case it is their responsibility at that point.

After local pressure Police installed a speed monitor at Middleyard. Some startling results indicate that there are issues to address & they will liaise with GCC. KSPC is also pressing GCC for measures to better educate drivers who must reduce speed and drive according to road conditions. KS School is working hard to persuade more parents to collect & drop children at Marling Close and cross the footbridge to school. The official school entrance will face Marling Close, not the bottom of the hill, hopefully keeping that area clearer.

It is often argued that pedestrians think drivers are speeding when they are not, so it was "good" to find evidence that sometimes, including lunch-times, drivers are speeding, occasionally excessively. Sgt Harrison stressed that 40 mph accidents kill people so Police will run programmes to enforce the speed limit and educate drivers.

Speed issues feature regularly on KSPCs nagging list but parking issues are worsening throughout the parish more so in certain spots. KSPC can only urge people to think carefully where to park every time. Drivers now routinely ignore the fact that parking is NOT permitted on our registered Village Greens, treating them as their own parking facilities and damaging them in the process. Letters are going out where that is a problem and Police will reinforce the message.

KSPC and friends are taking an active interest in what happens to Jnr Sch bldgs, a complicated matter but with the simple aim of securing some lasting local benefit when they are vacated. KSPC also continues to liaise with King's Stanley & Selsley United Charities as the aims of this small Charity are broadly aligned with KSPCs objectives of securing affordable homes in the parish, even though KSPC was not able to support their recent planning application. The Charity is however an independent decision-making body whose primary aim is to support the poor and needy of the parish which is why they wish to dispose of their field to maximize their income and then be able to provide greater help in modern times.

Recent Neighbourhood Watch Messages hint at an increase in crime locally as thieves gear up for summer by stealing anything not secured! Check out opportunities for thieves near you, they do! Warn neighbours, be alert, suspicious! It might not happen but looked at in another way: those people are having work done, they are not in, I could get round the back, no-one would see; walk down this lane glancing at nice flowers over the garden wall, hmm.

Parish Councils' Annual Meetings are always in May and a Chairman must be elected for the ensuing year as first business. David Hauser is currently Chairman but the meeting has not happened yet so no news. A list of serving Parish Cllrs appears on all notice boards, vandals permitting; I will update it when I know who you elected as your second District Cllr. We have 2 but SDC elects in thirds so they do not all come up together for voting.

KSPC was lucky to secure not 1 but 3 voluntary Watercourse Wardens to cover our large parish. They walk around as anyone would for recreation, but take particular interest in watercourses to spot problems early and report to Ian Kear at SDC. One has pulled out so if anyone regularly walks behind Guildings Way & Old Brook House by the river and can help, contact IK or Gabrielle Smith at SDC. 766321 & ask or [Gabrielle.smith@stroud.gov.uk](mailto:Gabrielle.smith@stroud.gov.uk)

Many parishes have produced long, complex, theoretical Emergency Plans that need almost constant updating, but KSPC has done nothing: **FALSE!** KSPCs website already has an Emergency Page with many contact details you might find useful. Cllrs are also now studying its draft brochure intended for all households and the subject was discussed with our Police. One difficulty with an all-embracing plan is that Cllrs can't identify vulnerable people, another is that buildings that might be

needed to accommodate people belong to others & our parish spreads over 3 villages. Working out scenarios where we become totally isolated from the outside world with only ourselves to rely on is almost impossible. KSPC also believes that if it produces a plan people might assume that someone else will deal with everything, which may not actually be possible. What really matters is that local people take urgent action themselves and YOU probably know better than anyone who might need your help. In emergencies people must look out for their neighbours & anyone they believe to be vulnerable, and if people have information to hand they can ring emergency/other services that they may need in a local crisis. Agreed that friends, neighbours & relatives ought to assume that they themselves would get stuck in and help and not expect or wait for others to act. All common sense you say and really about giving people information rather than a BIG PLAN, although KSPC would ask GRCC what minimum action they recommend.

Reminder to village organizations needing a small grant to help its beneficial works: applications in writing by deadline 31<sup>st</sup> July. KSPC will NOT fund running costs but if there is a particular project or item you need, send as much supporting information as possible and KSPC will consider it in September. Grants are unlikely to exceed £100.

**Contact Parish Council 33 Selwyn Close GL10 3LH, 825660, [clerk@kspc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@kspc.org.uk) [www.kspc.org.uk](http://www.kspc.org.uk)**