

KING'S STANLEY PARISH COUNCIL

After complaints about roads, parking & driver behaviour come a very close second, with no sign that things will improve & every indication that it will worsen. At every turn, nook & cranny vehicles are parked wherever it is physically possible to insert them. That others suffer is often totally ignored by drivers who feel they have a right to park where they like. KSPC cannot solve this problem by providing more it; the only solution is for people to find their own off-road parking. Difficulties increase as householders' offspring pass driving tests & yet another vehicle appears. The Police are really your best bet although they do not want to take action against drivers (thinking that they are keeping out of the way or that their car will be safer) who park over pavements as the pavement is part of the public highway & Police take the view that as long as a pedestrian & a double buggy or wheel-chair can pass it's OK. If you are suffering please contact them. Alternatively, ask the PCSO or Neighbourhood Warden to visit to discuss your concerns in confidence. PCSO Liz is already looking into complaints about parking in Selsley West and parking in Selsley has caused incidents. KSPC is also writing to a host of residents in the Castle Street area to remind them that overspill parking is illegal on the registered Village Greens which KSPC maintain.

Contact PCSO Liz Ward via 0845 090 1234 number, or visit the mobile police station. Phone PCSO PAUL BOWMAN 07734 068276 for visiting times. If you'd rather talk to our NW, Kaz Elliott will be willing to listen and help. Contact her on 07739 591260 or kaz.elliott@stroud.gov.uk

When you read this there may well be a submitted planning application to re-develop Stanley Mill. KSPC believes that the idea to build new homes in the mill complex is a good one in principle as it could provide the type of homes the community needs to sustain itself into the future. There are some tricky issues in store, not least the effect of many more users on Ryeford Rd and the prospect of some luxury homes around the mill-pond is a cause for concern to some. KSPC looks forward to seeing detailed proposals & if you have views please make sure you write to SDC Planning department.

KSPC did not wholly support the proposed redevelopment of Marville with 10 flats which received planning permission, but it seems that the original scheme is not achievable so, instead of gaining around 7 affordable dwellings, an application was received recently for 2 4-bed semis, retaining Marville. KSPC felt that it had "NO OBSERVATIONS" to make, but it would have preferred to see a very few more carefully integrated low-cost, if not actually "AFFORDABLE" homes on a site which SDC expected to accommodate more. Funding is a huge issue these days & if Housing Associations say they can't help, I guess they can't.

Trustees of King's Stanley & Selsley United Charities, which owns the field behind the old Rectory, have put in a planning application for 15 homes. Although SDC has long since allocated it for development, there is opposition from various quarters. KSPC has objected to the current plans because of concerns about the proximity of the stream, the suitability of Church St access, types of housing proposed and the effect on other residents' amenity. You can now look up comments made on all planning applications on SDCs website.

KSPC has made its first response to SDCs Core Strategy consultation, although it may revise it when further consultations later this year reduce the 7 Options. KSPC agreed that building new large 1,000 or 2,000 settlements would not help the vitality & sustainability of numerous villages in Stroud District, rather, it would be better to have new batches of mixed developments in many existing settlements. KS is a medium-sized village with good amenities but as time passes & habits & policies change the number of shops and employers has declined, & now the pub has closed, hopefully temporarily. The Parish Plan asks KSPC to "retain the essentials and provide a balanced community with homes, education & employment opportunities for all." KSPC agreed that in a changing world the only way to achieve sustainability as a fully functioning community is by increasing the number of residents so that there are more "service users" for shops etc. By responding in favour of a dispersal option of some kind, KSPC made it very clear that it was absolutely not laying itself open to whatever a developer might want to build on any site, as it is crucially important to build the right development in the right place. Modest homes for young families and older people are needed in KS, not luxury dwellings. Those two types are not well catered for in many villages

and yet they are the people who are much more likely to use local facilities. Nothing is site specific yet but any applications that may come for comment by KSPC will be viewed in that light.

An anonymous letter asked KSPC to pursue a dispersal order after repeated bouts of extremely bad behaviour in the village centre, particularly over 10/11 April. It is very distressing to think that we have people running amok in our community and the matter is being raised with the Police.

Another perennial cause of much local outcry to me is dog mess everywhere. Dog ownership seems to be increasingly popular but complainants cannot fathom why dog owners are extremely lax about doggy behaviour. Many owners behave as if they own fields around villages, whether or not there is a public right of way along their chosen route – usually a square one. Farmers' cattle have to graze where dogs are allowed to romp & defecate. Farmers are an endangered species, but one we must conserve. KSPC is backing attempts to educate the public & will distribute metal signs for anyone to erect in trouble spots as plastic signs are routinely torn down by people who think they know best. Dog sxxt is not like cow or horse manure, like ours it needs proper disposal. If you walk a dog, don't just look the other way and avoid eye contact with others, bag the poo, take it home & put in your refuse bin. Never, ever leave it in its bag by the wayside as no-one will remove it. At the very least put your dogs' mess well away from where humans tread and car wheels roll. That will keep almost everyone happy.