

Stansted Parish Council
comprising the villages of
Stansted & Fairseat

**Items of interest from the Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish
Council Meeting held on Monday 13th May 2013**

Because the first Monday in May was a Bank Holiday, the May meeting was held a week later, on 13th. In fact two meetings were held the same evening. The first was the Annual Parish Meeting, the once a year meeting for parishioners, when reports are made by the Parish Council, County and Borough Councillors and other organisations and when there is an opportunity for residents to raise any subject they wish. Only 3 members of the public attended. Both the Chairman and County Councillor Sarah Hohler gave their reports, but both Borough Councillors were at a meeting of the Borough Council and were unable to attend. All their reports will be put on the website in due course. PCSO Laura Bullen spoke about policing in the villages, about helping to set up Neighbourhood Watch in Stansted and offering to run police surgeries. It was suggested she do this at the monthly farmers market in Stansted (first Thursday of the month) and she will start this from Thursday 4th July. A question was asked about the rural broadband award to the parish being ring-fenced – Cllr Bott said he understood that it was, but that KCC were now facing a legal challenge from a broadband provider that had not been awarded the contract.

We then proceeded on to the Annual Parish Council Meeting. Harry Bott was re-elected Chairman and Polly Falconer was re-elected Vice-chairman for the year. The accounts for the year to 31st March 2013 were approved and the audit annual return was agreed and signed. Our internal auditor had looked at the books and other records and had no adverse comments to make on the running of the Council.

There was a long discussion about the Stansted Recreation Ground. People are still not picking up after their dogs. Bearing in mind the fact that we have a primary school virtually on the field: that the village hall is hired for various activities, including children's parties; that we now have a Montessori pre-school in the hall and that all use the field, it is selfish and irresponsible not to pick up your dog's mess. Bins are provided, so there is no excuse. We have also noticed people practicing golf and riding ponies on the field. As a consequence we will be drafting new by-laws which will include prohibiting dogs being on the field. The Stansted Fete will be held on Saturday 7th September and with special permission of the Parish Council, will include the gymkhana and dog show as usual. The organisers will ensure that no dog mess or horse manure will be left on the ground.

A huge vote of thanks was proposed to Bob Hills for maintaining the war memorial and gardens so well for so long. He told me he planted the bank in the late 1970s, so he must have been looking after the area for about 35 years. KCC Landscape Services has taken it on as part of their maintenance within the villages and so far seem to be doing a good job.

The London Golf Club has applied to divert restricted by-way MR221A and footpath SD257. Councillors have been asked to walk the paths with a map of the proposed diversions before the next meeting, so that a considered response can be given.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 3rd June at 8.00 pm in Stansted Village Hall. Everyone is welcome.

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