Village Voice

The Newsletter of Stanton Harcourt & Sutton

November 2025

November 2025

Saturday 1st, 8.00am, Men's Breakfast, The Harcourt Arms

Monday 3rd, 7.30pm, Parish Council Meeting, Old Guardroom

Wednesday 5th, 10am to 12pm, Coffee at the Chapel

Saturday 8th

10.30am to 12pm, Litter Picking, Village Hall
12pm to 2pm, Village Market, Village Hall
7pm, Village Hall Quiz, Village Hall
Sunday 9th, 10.45am, Remembrance Service,

St Michaels, followed by Royal British Act of Remembrance at the Old Airfield

Thursday 20th, 7.30pm Village Pub Quiz, Harcourt Arms

Thursday 27th, 7.30pm SH Royal British Legion AGM, Old Guardroom

December 2025

Monday 1st, 7.30pm, Parish Council Meeting, venue tbc – check agenda

Wednesday 3rd, 10am to 12pm, Coffee at the Chapel

Saturday 6th, 8.00am, Men's Breakfast, The Harcourt Arms

Saturday 13th

10.30am to 12pm, Litter Picking, Village Hall 12pm to 2pm, Village Market, Village Hall Tuesday 16th, 7pm for 7.30pm, Sutton Singers, St Michaels Church

Thursday 18th, 7.30pm Village Pub Quiz, Harcourt Arms

Saturday 19th, 6.30pm Sutton Singers, Harcourt Arms

Regulars (please see back page)

Every Thursday - Lunch Club

Every Monday and Thursday – Yoga with Alison Usher-Wilson

Every Tuesday (term time) – 7pm Sutton Singers Every Tuesday and Wednesday – Pilates with Nicky Holmes

Every Tuesday – Senior Badminton (Tony Baker on 0x 882576)

Every Thursday (term time) - Zumba

Stanton Harcourt Parish Council - Update

October's meeting was one of the longest we have had in a while. There was plenty of lively discussion across a range of topics.

Smiths of Bletchington

We were joined by Jo Davis from Smiths, who came in to give us some insight into the plans for gravel extraction. They are in the pre-planning phase of the project and with a planning proposal expect to be deliver to OCC mid-2026. This will replace the Gill Mill site that is coming to the end of its operational phase.



The scope of the planned site will cover the land to the north of Sutton (the area behind University Cottages), where they would site the processing plan, cement and bagging works. Then the gravel extraction would be delivered in 7 phases wrapping around the north and west sides of both Sutton and Stanton Harcourt. The audience were all surprised by the scale of the planned activity and the impact it will have on the countryside around the parish.

General Information

Target date to start opening up the site 2030.

Operational life cycle would be 20 Years. Land will be handed back to original landowners after remedial works have been completed and a 30 year management period

Traffic

All Lorries will travel towards Eynsham with no HGV traffic travelling through Sutton or Stanton Harcourt as a result. A junction similar to the one at Gill Mill will be sited between the south leigh junction and bell bridge.

There will be a conveyor system in place along length of the bridleway that will move the aggregate around the site.

Access

Footpaths that bisect the site will be re-routed Steady's lane and the bridleway will remain open throughout. A perimeter Bridleway around the main site north of Sutton will be opened up.

Remedial Work

A scheme was presented that laid out the future landscape as a mixture of farmland and wetland areas including some smaller bodies of water.

There was a good discussion about all aspects of the proposal that covered flooding, traffic, access, noise. Further details can be found in the parish council minutes. We expect this activity to take up a lot of time over the coming years so we encourage the villagers to engage with the project as early as possible to make sure that everyone gets their say.

Other News

Roads // Speeding

A quick reminder that in the 1st week of November weather permitting the speed sign will be erected on the B4449. This task has faced a number of delays dealing with the OCC's preferred contractor. The sign will be sighted further down

the verge towards the village to ensure that it is measuring the speeds of cars in the 20mph limit rather than outside of it. This is key as the data recorded on the signs will provide the critical data to pursue funding from OCC to tackle speeding through the village. There was a wider and passionate discussion around speeding, once again the parish council will commit to continue working towards unlocking funding where it is available.

Potholes

OCC have made good progress repairing a number of potholes around the village, there were a few that slipped through the net, and this is being followed up.

Firstly a quick note to clarify S106 funding, this funding is assigned for certain activities within the parish such as Arts or sports and recreation. This funding is held by OCC and it can only be drawn on for these activities. The parish council has had several requests to re-purpose these funds for other projects. These funds are allocated against these criteria and there is no method or legal means to re-appropriate them.

Arts Grant

We have had a few suggestions for Arts and we are now looking at a competition, where by villagers can nominate an Arts project and the winner will get the parish councils backing. More on this in the coming months.

Sports and Recreation.

The Parish council is looking at the parks facilities in the Village and there is a group looking into a bike track in Jubilee field. The Parish council has agreed to support with the S106 grant application.

Improvements and maintenance

We were approached by a resident who was concerned about a missing hedge at the boundary of the old guard room, this opened up the area outside his property that would otherwise have been enclosed. The parish council are looking to reinstate the boundary as part of the old guard room upkeep.

The provision of a defib in Sutton was discussed, the main stumbling block is that it needs to be located on a public building with a power supply, the methodist church was suggested and it was being followed up. Several Parish councillors are focusing on general maintenance around the village from bus stops to trees and

the Litter pick. Once again we thank the villagers that took time out of their week to join the litter pick.

Stanton Harcourt Parish Council

Monthly Report from West Oxford District From Councillors Steve and Sandra Cosier

Reflections on the Council's Spatial Consultation and Local Plan Process

We both recently attended the Council's Spatial Consultation event concerning the emerging

Local Plan for West Oxfordshire. The Council is currently preparing a new Local Plan—a framework that will guide decisions on how, where, and when development should come forward. It also sets out how we can protect and enhance our environment for current and future generations. Having an up-to-date

plan in place is essential to ensure that growth is managed responsibly and that community

needs are met with clarity and foresight.

This latest round, running from 3 November to 22 December, marks an important moment in shaping the future of West Oxfordshire to 2043. This seven-week consultation builds on previous rounds and focuses on four critical areas that will influence the final draft of the Local Plan. The Council is looking at its overall pattern of development, aiming to balance housing,

employment, transport, and environmental priorities across the district. As the Local Plan moves toward its Regulation 19 draft in early 2026, Feedback from this stage—alongside insights from previous consultations—will be fully integrated to produce a robust, inclusive, and future-proof strategy for West Oxfordshire.

Having now looked at WODC's Preferred Spatial Options Consultation Paper it looks like

Sutton and Stanton Harcourt is not included in the Council's new plan. The nearest proposal is in Standlake.

NOTE: We would like to add that it is national policy that sets the overall housing requirements

not district councils. The government's housing requirement (the same as the previous

government) wants WODC to build 905 homes per year from 2025 to 2043 = 16,290 (i.e.

905 x 18). That means with WODS's 10% buffer = 16,290 + 10% buffer = 17,919 (rounded to 18,000).

If you would like to discuss any issues arising from the report, please contact us.

Best wishes

Sandra and Steve

West Oxford District Councillors (SASH)

Sandra.Cosier@westoxon.gov.uk Steve.Cosier@westoxon.gov.uk

Your Parish Councillors are

James Coleman // jim@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk Sandra Cosier // sandra@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk Keith Hickson (chair) // keith@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk Geoff Webster // geoff@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk Joe Deane // joe@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk Robin Morley // robin@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk Parish Council Information: All official communications should be addressed to the Parish Clerk: Trudi Gasser, 5 Woodlands, Standlake, Oxon, OX29 7RA. clerk@stantonharcourt-pc.gov.uk

Your West Oxfordshire District Councillors are:

Sandra Cosier

Email: sandra.cosier@westoxon.gov.uk

Steve Cosier

Email: steve.cosier@westoxon.gov.uk

Your Oxfordshire County Councillor is: Dan Levy

Mobile: 07852 748362

Email: dan.levy@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Your Member of Parliament is:

Charlie Maynard

Email: charlie.maynard.mp@parliament.uk

Church Times

St Michael's, Stanton Harcourt Lower Windrush Benefice

November 2nd 8.30am Holy Communion, followed by breakfast

November 9th 10.45am Remembrance Service

Wednesday evenings at 8:30pm we have a short service of Compline via Zoom. Thursday mornings we have Early Bird Prayer at 7:30am via Zoom. All Zoom codes can be found on www.lowerwindrushbenefice.org

For more information about all services taking place in the Benefice (Stanton Harcourt, Northmoor, Standlake, Yelford) please visit the Lower Windrush Benefice website: www.lowerwindrushbenefice.org

<u>Sutton Chapel</u> Sun 9 November, 3pm – Rev. Kathy Flynn, Holy Communion

St Peter's Roman Catholic Church <u>Evnsham</u>

For information about services at St Peter's please visit www.stpeterseynsham.org.uk/

Lower Windrush History Club

The Lower Windrush History Club has started their new season of talks. All are welcome to come along though for £5 on the door. For more information please contact Jenny Beilby at lwhscommittee@gmail.com

Upcoming talks are held at Standlake Village Hall at 7.30pm

4th November - Charles I and Oxford - Pre-Civil War

2nd December – Oxford's statues and the forgotten celebrated citizens they remember 3rd February – Glenn Miller: The magic and mystery 3rd March – Spying in WW1 7th April – Oxfordshire place names



Café at the Chapel

Every first Wednesday of the month



10.00 - 12.00

FRESH ROASTED COFFEE / SELECTION OF TEAS TOASTED TEACAKES, CRUMPETS AND HOT BUTTERED TOAST.

BOOKS AND GIFTS SALE TABLE TO BROWSE WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOU!

Can I have your Old Mobile Phones and Tablets?

I'm still collecting old mobile phones and tablets to help the many refugees and asylum Seekers within Oxfordshire. If you have any such devices to spare, please get in touch. Email:

- nasser@asylum-welcome.org
- <u>dearnasser@hotmail.com</u> (personal)

Or message me on 07799 838554. You can drop them off at **The Fox (OX29 5RR)**, or I'll be happy to collect them at your convenience. Many thanks, Nasser

Monthly Pub Quiz

There is a (very popular) pub quiz each month in the Harcourt Arms, attracting 70-90 people in teams of up to 6. The entrance fee is only £3 and there are cash prizes. Come along and have fun! Tables need to be booked in advance as demand is high: visit the Arms or call (01865 416516) to do so but please only book if you are sure you can participate. A curry is available each quiz night as is the regular menu. The quiz starts at 7.30pm; come earlier to eat. The next three quiz dates are: *Thursday 20 November // Thursday 18 December*

Apologies that Sutton Singers were not able to run our Open Mic Night on 17th October. Unfortunately due to unavailability of many people it would have ben a very quiet evening. We will try again in March next year so watch out for notices early next year. We will be singing at St Michael's Church full of Christmas cheer on Tuesday 16th December 7 for 7.30 sing and at The Harcourt Arms on 19th December at 6.30pm. Do come along we would love to see you there.

Village Shop & Post Office
SHOP ONLY IS OPEN EVERY DAY
FROM 0800 TO 1000
THE POST OFFICE IS OPEN TUES & SAT
FROM 0800 TO 1000

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The second concert in Witney Music Society's new season offers an unmissable opportunity to see and hear an outstanding string sextet when Piatti & Friends perform works by Richard Strauss, Tchaikovsky and Schoenberg. The concert is at 7.30 pm on Friday 14 November at High Street Methodist Church, Witney. Tickets (£18, £1 for

under 19s) will be available at the door from 7pm or in advance online.

The final concert in 2025 will be given by cellist Daniel Schultz and pianist Sejin Yoon. Their programme will include works by Schumann, Dvořák and Chopin. The concert is at 7.30 pm on Friday 12 December. For more information, please telephone 01993 898020 or

visit the Witney Music Society

website www.witneymusicsociety.org.uk

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As the crisp mornings are now indicating, Autumn is fast enveloping us and this can only mean one thing, the Hanborough Musical Fireworks display will soon be lighting up our skies! With such a hugely popular event, comes of course a lot of hard work and simply could not be possible without the help of all our volunteers and the support from our local community. We are always grateful for any assistance and so If you would like to help us raise lots of money for local charities, please do get in touch!

The event this year is being held on Friday 7th November but there is plenty to do on the lead up as well as on the day/night and the morning after! Whether you like to be behind the scenes or public facing, we have jobs that would suit you so please do get in touch! 07346 324724 or longhanboroughfireworks@gmail.com Many thanks in advance! The Hanborough Musical Fireworks Committee

Stanton Harcourt and Sutton Summer Festival 2026 Important dates for your diary!

Following our fabulous celebration of a Century of Television during festival week this year, the Festival Committee are now making plans for 2026!

Our week of **Summer Festival events** in 2026 will take place **13th June to 21st June**

Our village Festival Day will be on Saturday 20th June 2026

We will reveal the theme for Festival 2026 in due course so do look out for further announcements and make a note of the above dates in your 2026 calendars – you will not want to miss out on another fabulous week of village festivities and events! If you already have ideas for an event that you would like to hold or if you would like to get involved in Festival 2026 then you can email Jo Wilby at jowilby@hotmail.co.uk We look forward to hearing from lots of you!

The Festival Committee



Stanton Harcourt Royal British Legion Branch

The Stanton Harcourt Royal British Legion Branch was established in 1921, following the end of the First World War. A year ago, we dedicated a new Standard for the Village and the 'old' Standard we removed from the church turns out to be the original 1921 Standard. We know this because Royal patronage wasn't established until 1971, when it was changed from the British Legion to the Royal British Legion. As you will see from the photo, the Standard clearly says British Legion - the original name. We have proudly mounted this piece of history in the entrance to the Village Hall for prosperity.

We are always looking for volunteers to support the Branch, so if you are interested, please contact: StantonHarcourt.POC1@rbl.community



Stanton Harcourt-based group WOW are giving their Autumn concert on November 22nd at 7 pm in St Leonard's in Eynsham. We would love for you to join us for a toe-tapping evening of wind band music featuring selections from the Jersey Boys, Santana, and well-loved musicals such as West Side Story, Mary Poppins & Sound of Music, amongst other exciting pieces!

News Flash!! Village Hall Quiz

Quiz Master Dave

Saturday 8th November 2025
7pm. 6 in a team
£12 per person to include Chilli and jacket potato.
Vegan chilli available. Licensed bar
Book your team in advance via email to
jane1.goldenbridge@gmail.com

Don't miss out - book your place now!

THE THURSDAY CLUB

We meet every Thursday at Northmoor Village Hall between 12:00 and 2 pm. **COOKS NEEDED.** We have several local volunteer cooks who work on a rota basis providing traditional food, but need more people to help ease the pressure on our existing cooks. If you feel you could help out generally or by cooking dinners or puddings, please contact Anna on 01865 881363 / Michael on 01865 3004480 or pop in and see us one week between 12.00pm and 2.00pm

Zumba Classes

Thursday evenings 6.30pm- Stanton Harcourt Village Hall (term time) if you love to dance, learn new routines, make new friends while having fun & getting fit, you'll love zumbaall abilities welcome. Classes are £6 per session. For more information please contact Debbie 07733
081620/debbiepargeter@amail.com

Velvet Soles Foot Health - Foot Care For All

Mobile Foot Health Professional Covering West Oxfordshire. Stanton Harcourt based. Caring, professional foot health service brought to you. Nail trimming & filing - Thickened nail reduction - Corn & callus removal - Verrucae - Diabetic foot care - Conservative ingrown toenail care. Call me to book an appointment on **07798 829457**.

Or email me at jennifer@velvetsoles.co.uk
For more information please visit my
website www.velvetsoles.co.uk

<u>Pilates, Personal Training and Breathwork with</u> <u>Nicky Holmes</u>

Tuesdays – 5.15pm / Village Hall Wednesdays – 10.10am and 11.20am, Guards Room Classes start from £10 for a 6 week course – personal tuition is also available. Nicky specialises in rehabilitation from injury, improving posture, strength and flexibility work including breath work and relaxation techniques. Every class is varied, sometimes using equipment, stability balls, weights and foam rollers. Numbers are limited as classes are small and personalised to each individual.

<u>info@physiquepilates.co.uk</u> <u>www.physiquepilates.co.uk</u> Tel: 07949 764 966

Anahata Yoga ♥ 🎇 🙏 Please come and join us-

At The Old Guardroom, Stanton Harcourt (booking required)-

Monday 5-6pm Yoga for Wellbeing Monday 6.15-7.15pm Anahata Yoga Tuesday 2.45-3.45pm Chair Yoga Class, and Thursday 10-11am Stanton Harcourt Village Hall - Yoga for All - Drop in and all are welcome

Please contact me for more information, all classes are £8 concessions available − please ask ♥ 0789 002 6446 or via alison@peacefulexistence.co.uk

All equipment provided, classes are run by Alison. I am also a qualified bodywork practitioner, specialising in Thai Yoga Massage, Holistic, Deep Tissue, and Thai Table

Massage. Expect classes that are varied, designed to help us to clear our minds, move our bodies, in the hope we can go out in the world stronger and calmer \ \

Peaceful Existence Yoga and Massage, based in Sutton xx

Sutton Singers.

Sutton Singers meet on Tuesdays during term time at 7pm. Would you like to sing? Come and join in the joy and fun of singing together? No auditions needed. We welcome new members, have parties sometimes and our Musical Director - Lizzie Soden - is a joy to work with, fun, encouraging and says everyone can sing! If you just love singing but are not so keen on performance we are the choir for you! As a Community Choir we welcome everyone and you never know - you may end up being inspired to perform?

Get in touch with Jan Tomlinson on

Phone: 01865 881709 or

email: janandpaultomlinson@gmail.com

Deadline for next issue is 20th of the month village-voice@hotmail.co.uk
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