

# Village Voice

The Newsletter of Stanton Harcourt & Sutton

November 2025

## November 2025

**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup>, 8.00am**, Men's Breakfast, The Harcourt Arms

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup>, 7.30pm**, Parish Council Meeting, Old Guardroom

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup>, 10am to 12pm**, Coffee at the Chapel

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup>**

**10.30am to 12pm**, Litter Picking, Village Hall

**12pm to 2pm**, Village Market, Village Hall

**7pm**, Village Hall Quiz, Village Hall

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>, 10.45am**, Remembrance Service, St Michaels, followed by Royal British Act of Remembrance at the Old Airfield

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm** Village Pub Quiz, Harcourt Arms

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm** SH Royal British Legion AGM, Old Guardroom

## December 2025

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup>, 7.30pm**, Parish Council Meeting, venue tbc – check agenda

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10am to 12pm**, Coffee at the Chapel

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup>, 8.00am**, Men's Breakfast, The Harcourt Arms

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup>**

**10.30am to 12pm**, Litter Picking, Village Hall

**12pm to 2pm**, Village Market, Village Hall

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup>, 7pm for 7.30pm**, Sutton Singers, St Michaels Church

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm** Village Pub Quiz, Harcourt Arms

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup>, 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.

#### **S106 Funds**

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 re-instate 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 WODC'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](mailto:Sandra.Cosier@westoxon.gov.uk)

[Steve.Cosier@westoxon.gov.uk](mailto:Steve.Cosier@westoxon.gov.uk)

#### **Your Parish Councillors are**

James Coleman // [jim@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk](mailto:jim@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk)

Sandra Cosier // [sandra@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk](mailto:sandra@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk)

Keith Hickson (chair) // [keith@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk](mailto:keith@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk)

Geoff Webster // [geoff@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk](mailto:geoff@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk)

Joe Deane // [joe@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk](mailto:joe@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk)

Robin Morley // [robin@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk](mailto: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@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@stanton-harcourt-pc.gov.uk)

#### **Your West Oxfordshire District Councillors are:**

Sandra Cosier

- Email: [sandra.cosier@westoxon.gov.uk](mailto:sandra.cosier@westoxon.gov.uk)

Steve Cosier

- Email: [steve.cosier@westoxon.gov.uk](mailto:steve.cosier@westoxon.gov.uk)

#### **Your Oxfordshire County Councillor is:**

Dan Levy

- Mobile: 07852 748362
- Email: [dan.levy@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:dan.levy@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

#### **Your Member of Parliament is:**

Charlie Maynard

- Email: [charlie.maynard.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:charlie.maynard.mp@parliament.uk)

### **Church Times**

#### **St Michael's, Stanton Harcourt**

#### **Lower Windrush Benefice**

November 2<sup>nd</sup> 8.30am Holy Communion, followed by breakfast

November 9<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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](http://www.lowerwindrushbenefice.org)*

#### **Sutton Chapel**

Sun 9 November, 3pm – Rev. Kathy Flynn, Holy Communion

#### **St Peter's Roman Catholic Church Eynsham**

For information about services at St Peter's please visit [www.stpeterseynsham.org.uk/](http://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](mailto:lwhscommittee@gmail.com)  
Upcoming talks are held at Standlake Village Hall at 7.30pm

4<sup>th</sup> November – Charles I and Oxford – Pre-Civil War

## 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



## WIND CONCERT

LIVE MUSIC - FREE PARKING - DRINK

Saturday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> 2025  
7pm

Location : St. Leonard's Church, Eynsham  
Details:  
£7.50 Tickets on the door.  
U18's FREE



Stanton Harcourt-based group WOW are giving their Autumn concert on November 22<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto: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 zumba- all abilities welcome. Classes are £6 per session. For more information please contact Debbie 07733 081620/ [debbiepargeter@gmail.com](mailto:debbiepargeter@gmail.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](mailto:jennifer@velvetsoles.co.uk) For more information please visit my website [www.velvetsoles.co.uk](http://www.velvetsoles.co.uk)

### **Pilates, Personal Training and Breathwork with Nicky Holmes**

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.  
[info@physiquepilates.co.uk](mailto:info@physiquepilates.co.uk)  
[www.physiquepilates.co.uk](http://www.physiquepilates.co.uk) 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](mailto: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](mailto:janandpaultomlinson@gmail.com)