

Stanstead Abbotts Parish Council

Stanstead Abbotts Annual Parish Meeting

7.15 pm Thursday 9th May 2019

Parish Hall, Roydon Road

Minutes

Councillors Present

Julia Davies Chair, Julia Witting, John Hickford, Sarah Chapman

Apologies were received from, George Cassidy, Paul Breach, Mike Dormon.

1. **The Chair opened the meeting with welcome and introductions.**
2. **Alan Neville – Greater Anglia**

Told us about the new Star Line with a 3rd track and a big new Station at Meridian Water (Edmonton) which opens on May 19th. From September there will be a Stratford service. Tottenham Hale is being re-developed and will have a 3rd platform. There is talk of Crossrail in the future. They now have Smart cards, although paper tickets are still available. Delay repay at 15 minutes from 1st April.

They want to encourage Station adoption, with community rail partnerships ACORP. They are working with HCC and other stake holders to achieve this. Performance – they are pleased with train performance. They took stops out at Cheshunt from 2 trains which has improved main line performance. The number of people using the railways has risen and is likely to continue to rise.

Overcrowding is an issue.

Customer service – they are putting more staff on platforms not behind glass.

They have improved lighting, customer info and CCTV at stations and put in extra ticket machines with VITA so it is possible to speak to an operator in Norwich if there is a problem.

New trains are coming – 6 Bi-mode, Air 12 (Stanstead Express) and Bombardier trains built in Derby. Problems continue with the infrastructure, including Level crossing issues and they need to lengthen the platform at Hertford. He is happy to come back another time for an update, or email (email address available from Cllr Witting).

Reminder to turn off car engines whilst waiting for a level crossing.

2. **Chair's Report of the year – Councillor Julia Davies**

Cllr Davies thanked everyone for coming and gave details of the work of the Parish Council during 2018 -19. For the future there are plans to update the toddler area of the playground, improved Xmas lights, and continue to fight the , incinerator Thank you to Carol, Maria, and Jane Free for their work on the village planters. We are to have New lamp posts, which we hope will be in place ready for Christmas lights next year.

3. **Minutes of last year's meeting** were agreed and signed

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4. **Police PC Colin Trows** – Police officer is retiring soon, but will be replaced
The good news is that this is a safe village, crime figures are low. Shed break ins remember to keep a record of serial numbers of mowers etc so they can be traced. Report Fly tipping, and police are aware of ASB at the Folly. Theft of number plates – report this promptly. Advised everyone to cover valuables with ‘Smart water’.
5. **Neighbourhood Plan Update.** – There are sub groups looking at housing, transport, and environment, business, schools and disabled access it is looking very positive. We Need to find sites for 94 houses within the village. This is difficult, because of flood plains and much of the land being in the green belt.

The Neighbourhood plan group welcome all comments and contributions made to the development of the plan.

Short break 20 minutes

6. **Update on Stop the Quarry – Miles Dymock**
the Parish Council funded a report from experts at Strutt and Parker to respond to the consultation. We await the outcome. Lots of Historical sites have been found in the area including a Roman Villa – 3 fields have been taken out by Tarmac, but it is an ongoing battle.

Questions and Closing remarks – Thank you to all the contributors
Opportunity to meet the councillors

The Meeting ended at 10.00

SignedJulia Davies, Chair of Stanstead Abbots Parish Council