

Stow Parish Council Annual Report May 2018

Stow Charity Cup.

At the end of last academic year the Stow Charity Cup was awarded by Sturton by Stow Primary School by Lottie Forrester for outstanding achievement.

Stow PC comprises a group of seven volunteers from the local community supported by a part time professional clerk who aim to maintain and improve the facilities of the area within a very limited budget.

Stow boasts a Play park and a Cemetery both which require regular maintenance; other areas of grass some of which are maintained by a contractor, those requiring more regular cutting maintained by volunteers.

A herbaceous border is weeded and planted by volunteers.

An area of land on Fleets Lane on the outskirts of the village continues to be rented out to a local resident.

Stow Recreation fund.

Thanks to the hard work and persistence of Clare Ella and the fund committee transfer of monies from the Parish Council account has been accomplished.

Stow Fun Raisers

In recent years Stow Fun Raisers have worked with the Parish Council in providing improvements for the village and we hope that this will continue.

Comprehensive ' Litter Picks ' have been arranged around the village by Stow Fun Raisers as well other social occasions such as the Quiz Night and Talk Nights and Bike Rides. Thank you to all who have taken part.

Doug Garner, a resident of Stow organises monthly Saturday mens breakfast gatherings, which have proven to be very successful.

Play Park.

The Play park was again assessed during the year and action has been taken to deal with points shown in the report. Thanks to a donation awarded to the Village for the play park, extra safety surfacing has been laid, the slide which had been considered to be unsafe was removed and an extra large swing added to meet current safety requirements.

One problem in the play park this year and less so in previous years has been flood water finding a way underneath the fencing, next to the gardens of the houses on Sturton road, and forming a water filled pool. The park was closed for a few days, though the signs and hazard tapes required to be replacing regularly due to vandalism; notices warning of the presence of water were also removed.

Cemetery.

Improvements continue in the cemetery, the undergrowth clearance with plans to increase grassed areas to reduce the growth of self sets such as holly, bramble and elderflower shrubs.

The extra land towards Marton Road maybe planted by conservation volunteers with wild flowers, the work to obtain funding continues.

Parish Grass.

In general the service provided by Nigel Heather and his team has been a satisfactory one and the contract renewed for a further year.

David Justham houses the Parish Council mower and has been cutting the grass village green area in front of the Church.

Lincolnshire Highways reduced frequency grass verge maintenance plan will require monitoring to asses future requirements.

The long Herbaceous Border continues to be maintained by a Sturton by Stow Villager.

Whipping Post.

The plans have been agreed and have been past by West Lindsey Planning Authority, the practical work now requires to be completed.

Planning Applications.

Application results have continued to bemuse the Council throughout the year as have lack of enforcement issues.

Parish Noticeboard

The Damage sustained to the perspex by applied heat 2015/2016. The state of the board continues to be monitored with no obvious further damage.

St Mary's Drive.

Parking problems persist.

Post Box.

Following much communication a full height red post box was installed by the bus shelter on Sturton Road and after much more communication opened up to accept post in time for the last few postings before Christmas 2017.

Recognition of Service.

The Council have decided to recognise the service to the community of Sheila Allen, Gill West and their mother with a plaque probably to be placed on the seat at the corner of South Drive and Ingham Road, opposite the site of the old Post Office.