

Stockton Heath Parish Council Vision Statement and Action Plan

Vision Statement

The Parish Council will work towards a parish that is a safe, clean, pleasant and vibrant place for residents, businesses and visitors.

To meet this vision the Parish Council will:

- raise a precept that properly reflects the costs of projects and functions to be undertaken to fulfil the action plan
- engage with its residents, businesses and visitors
- work in partnership with Warrington Borough Council, neighbouring parishes and other appropriate bodies

The Action Plan

In order to deliver the vision, the Parish Council will develop an action plan with three major areas of focus:

- Community Engagement
- Community Environment
- Management of Community Assets

The Action Plan will be the document which informs the main business of the Parish Council and it will be reviewed on an annual basis as a preliminary to setting the budget and calculating the Parish precept.

Notwithstanding the contents of the Action Plan, the Parish Council will also deal with matters, events and issues as they arise in the course of the civic year.

Focus 1 – Community Engagement

Why?

To raise the visibility of the Parish Council in the community in order to encourage active engagement from residents, businesses and visitors so that needs are identified and the Parish Council can make plans to address those needs if they have the power to do so. To create a sense of place that gives Stockton Heath a public identity.

How?

Deliver a programme of events as an organiser or as a supporter.
Deliver two newsletters, communicate through the website.
Consider communication through other digital media (Twitter, Facebook).
Restyle the Annual Parish Meeting to encourage residents to attend.
Continue to support the work of the local youth engagement team.
Support community groups and charities based in or benefitting the local area by encouraging them to apply for grants and give reports at the Annual Parish Meeting.

Focus 2 – Community Environment

Why?

To help provide a safe, clean, pleasant and vibrant district centre and village for the benefit of residents and the attraction of businesses and visitors to the area.

How?

Engage with all those involved with driving, parking and anti-social behaviour issues.
Continue with the provision of a Parish Ranger and weekend litter pick service.
Continue with funding of PCSO and partnership support on anti-social behaviour and speed and parking issues.
Organise 2 community volunteer litter pick events annually.
Work in partnership with WBC on green spaces.
Provide appropriate floral planting.
Respond to planning applications with due regard to the balance of residential property, business mix and balance of day and night economy, effect of major developments on road and amenity infrastructure of the parish.
Follow the progress of the Local Plan and Local Transport Plan and make timely representations as appropriate.

Focus 3 – Management of Community Assets

Why?

To ensure the provision of knowledgeable and skilled councillors and employees; to ensure sound financial management; to continue with the maintenance and enhancement of the parish council's assets – Ackers Pit, Mill Lane Field, Red Lane Allotments, benches, litter bins and floral planters. To represent the voice of the residents with regard to community assets/services not owned by the parish council – War Memorial, the library service, Alexandra Park and other assets of community interest such as historic buildings, churches, pubs and post offices/banks.

How?

Provide training and development for all councillors and employees; use the action plan to inform decisions regarding budgets and precept setting; specific development and maintenance of land assets and village assets follow; respond to any plans in relation to community interest assets.

Village Committee Action Plan

The following projects were identified by the Village Committee for 2020/21

(minute V19/037)

	New/continuing project	Resources required	Financial Implications
Community Engagement			
Stockton Heath Festival Stall – 4/5 July 2020	Continuing	Purchase of advertising banner; giveaways	Banner - £150; other £100
Christmas Lights Switch On event – 27 Nov 2020	Continuing	New lighting contract	Based on current spend of £8000 but dependant on advice regarding current lighting strings.
Setting up of Volunteer Speed Watch group	Continuing	Volunteers, PCSO time	Not likely to cost
Information event for residents on small steps to take to address climate change	New	Organisational time; venue; refreshments	£100-200 provider cost; £60 venue hire; £30 refreshments
Explore Christmas voucher scheme in partnership with retail businesses	New	Partnerships	£500 that is usually in the budget for Promote Stockton Heath
Community Environment			
Organise community litter pick events in March/Autumn	Continuing	Organisational time; venue; refreshments	£30 (refreshments) £40 venue costs (normally free)
Northwich Town Council as provider and maintainer of floral displays.	Continuing	Contractor time and costs	£4720 for planting and weekly watering; contingency of £2000 for an

			additional water for 16 week in summer.
Purchase additional double litter bins	Continuing	Equipment and installation	£2700
Explore Historian-in-Residence/creation of History Trail project	New	Partnerships; possible publishing costs; costs of historic information boards	c. £2000
Community Assets			
Website – bring into compliance with new Website Accessibility regulations	New	Contractor costs and then ongoing support	c. £2000

Land Assets Committee Action Plan

The following projects were identified by the Land Assets Committee for 2020/21
(minute L19/022)

	New/continuing project	Resources required	Financial Implications
Community Engagement			
Bat, Bird, Bug box making – Feb 2021	Continuing	Materials, venue, refreshments	c. £400 for boxes; refreshment costs; venue hire
Youth Summer event at Mill Lane Field – August Bank Holiday 2020	New	Partnerships; organisational time	£500 to cover hiring costs; costs of expert providers
Bat walk – August Bank Holiday 2020	New	Partnerships; organisational time	£150 to cover expert provider; venue; refreshments
Bioblitz at Ackers Pit	New	Partnerships; organisational time	£300 to cover expert provider
Tree Identification event – Spring/Winter 2021	New	Partnerships; organisational time	£100 to cover expert provider
Management of Assets Mill Lane			
Extension of bluebell wood if pilot is successful – Autumn 2021	Continuing	Materials and contractor time	£400
Outdoor table tennis for lower field	New	Equipment and installation	£2000 for table; installation charge TBC
New bench and bin on lower field	New	Equipment and installation	£300 for bench; £400 for bin
Build reserves for tree work	Continuing		£600
Build reserves for outdoor equipment and investigate grant opportunities	New		£1000

<u>Ackers Pit</u>			
Application for Woodland tree pack	Continuing	Time for planting	FREE
Renewal of slats on benches	Continuing	Contractor time and costs	£650
Build reserves for renewal of wooden structures	Continuing	Contractor time and costs	£1000
Build reserves for repairs to banking; tree work	Continuing	Contractor time and costs	£1600