

Town Council News

Stanley Town Council

Issue 9: 2012



DOGBAGS
PRIZE DRAW WINNER

CONGRATULATIONS

to Patricia Appleby of Catchgate
who wins the £50 pre-paid card.



Chairman of the Council, Councillor Peter McLaughlin drew the winning entry from the Dog Bag Prize Draw on 14th November, 2012.

The Council contacted Patricia in November to present the prize.

Councillor McLaughlin said,
"We are grateful to everyone who entered as it helps the Council maintain and improve the local environment."



What's inside

- Neighbourhood Warden Action
- Crime & Community Safety Information
- Winter Maintenance
- Public Information
- Open Council Meetings
- Code of Conduct

Address: 57-61 Lenin Terrace, South Stanley,
County Durham, DH9 6LW
Tel: 01207 299 109 www.stanley-tc.gov.uk
email: info@stanley-tc.gov.uk

Serving the communities of Annfield Plain; Catchgate; Harelaw; Harperley; Greencroft; Ox Hill; New Kyo; East Kyo; West Kyo; Craghead and The Middles; South Moor; Quaking Houses; Stanley; East Stanley; No Place; South Stanley; Shield Row; Kip Hill; Coppy; Causey; Tanfield; Tanfield Lea; Clough Dene; Tantobie; Sleepy Valley; White-Le-Head, and; part of Flint Hill

Stanley Town Council's Priorities: Crime & Safety, and; Environment

Based on extensive consultation of the general public across all seven of the Town Council's wards, residents strongly felt that there was a gap in the services provided by the 'mainstream' statutory service providers in terms of low level crime, environmental nuisance and general anti-social behaviour.

To address this local concern, the Town Council enhances several related services using money collected in its area solely for the benefit of that area. Such action is lawful under a range of legal powers available to the Town Council which it has decided to exercise for the benefit of the community.

In practice 'on the ground' that translates to:-

- Total of 355 ASB incidents dealt with by Wardens during 2011-12.
- Total of 310 stray dogs dealt with by Wardens during 2011-12.
- Total of 247 Litter Clearing Notices and 156 Fixed Penalty Notices issued by Wardens during 2011-12.

Neighbourhood Wardens

Neighbourhood Wardens are now embedded onto a new county-wide shift pattern. This will assist our partnership approach to low levels of ASB (anti-social behaviour).

The Wardens are available during the hours of 07:00 – 22:00. If a member of the public wishes to contact a Warden, regarding ASB, during office hours, please dial 03000 261000, outside of office hours please call the police non-emergency number 101 and ask for the Neighbourhood Warden team.



Free Stanley Town Council dog bags can be collected from the following places; Craghead Village Hall; St. Stephen's Centre; Quaking Houses Village Hall; Catchgate Library; Joan's Florist (Catchgate); The Angling Shop (Annfield Plain); Stanley Community Centre (Tyne Road); Tantobie Community Centre; Tanfield Lea Community Centre; Council Offices (Stanley Front Street); Newsagents in the Bus Station; Catchgate Police Station; Stanley Police Station, and; South Moor Police Station.

Dog Bags

Free Stanley Town Council dog bags can be collected from the following places; Craghead Village Hall; St. Stephen's Centre; Quaking Houses Village Hall; Catchgate Library; Joan's Florist (Catchgate); The Angling Shop (Annfield Plain); Stanley Community Centre (Tyne Road); Tantobie Community Centre; Tanfield Lea Community Centre; Council Offices (Stanley Front

Stanley Town Council's Priorities: Information & Communications

Warm Homes Campaign



As the winter season is on us once again, many residents may be concerned about staying warm in their home and paying their heating bills. Durham County Council's Warm Homes Campaign aims to raise awareness of fuel poverty and domestic energy conservation schemes. It also makes it easier to apply for home insulation and central heating grants. For all County Durham homeowners or private rented tenants there are free* home insulation grants available and also grants of up to £6,000* to install central heating systems (*subject to conditions).

For more information please refer to www.durham.gov.uk or call 03000 26 10 00.

Remembrance Sunday

Like thousands of organisations across the UK, on Sunday 11th November 2012, Elected Members of the Town Council were proud to lay official wreaths at services across the Stanley Area. The service in South Moor was organised by the Town Council as has been the case in the last 3 years.

Representatives from the DLI Association and the Army Cadet Force were in attendance, along with around 140 members of the public. The Town Council thanks everyone who attended any of the local services and commends the bravery and self-sacrifice of the Country's armed forces both past and present.



Golden Ticket Winners



Young people who were entered into the Golden Ticket scheme, rewarding good behaviour, have now received their prizes. Fifty golden tickets were handed out in Stanley over the summer to promote good citizenship, such as picking up litter and dog mess.

Belinda Snow, who manages the Town Council funded neighbourhood services, said, "It is nice to get children to think about positive behaviour. These kids are looking after their environment and we should be congratulating them. It shows we have got some great young people within our community."

Lauren McHale, nine from Stanley, who picked up after her dog, and six-year-old Kyle Malpass, from Craghead, who picked up litter, won a bike and helmet.

Tony Brown, 13, from Stanley, who did litter picking, won £50 worth of Ticketmaster vouchers and Beth Richards, 18, from Craghead, who did voluntary work with play groups, won an iPod.

The scheme was devised and funded by the Local Multi Agency Problem Solving committee, which includes the police as well as Derwentside Homes, Stanley Town Council and Durham County Council.

2012 Changes to the Licensing Act 2003

Residents or businesses in the area may be interested to know that the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 came into force earlier this year and made changes to the Licensing Act 2003.

The main changes are:

- The list of 'responsible authorities' that can make observations on new license applications now includes the Licensing Authority itself and Health Bodies (currently Primary Care Trusts);
- Removal of 'vicinity test' on representations by members of the public will allow anyone to object to a Premises License application;
- Tougher penalties for the persistent supply of alcohol to children, and;
- Changes to Temporary Event Notices.

More information is available from www.legislation.gov.uk.

Stanley Town Council's Priorities: Crime & Safety, and; Information & Communications

Let There Be Light on pact to beat burglars

The people of Stanley in County Durham are getting the chance to air their views about policing issues as part of an operation to prevent burglaries during the winter months.

During "Operation Gold Point" Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) will visit a variety of locations in the area and hold flood-lit Police and Communities Together (PACT) meetings. They will offer members of the public crime prevention advice and talk through any concerns raised about policing matters.

PCSO Steven Atherton said, "Over the past three years there appears to have been no increase in house burglaries in the Stanley area during the winter months. However, we know residents often feel most vulnerable at this time of year when the nights draw in earlier. We can assure the people in our communities that we will be targeting known offenders over this period and leaving them in no doubt that we are watching them."

Officers on foot patrol will identify houses considered vulnerable and as well as giving house-holders crime prevention advice, they will distribute SmartWater.

A CCTV vehicle will be used in areas identified as being at risk while follow-up enquiries from the beat teams will see literature distributed in the surrounding streets following any burglary.

Between 15th October last year and 15th February this year, there was a total of 34 burglaries/attempted burglaries, and in almost a third of them entry to the properties was gained through an unlocked door or window. Half of the burglaries that occurred took place overnight.

PCSO Atherton added, "We would encourage people to bear simple crime prevention tips in mind to avoid becoming a victim of an opportunist thief, such as ensuring your home is secure, with doors locked and windows shut, and if you are aren't at home, leave a light operated by a timer to come on before you are due back."

The dates and locations of the flood-lit PACT meetings can be accessed via www.durham.gov.uk or by emailing pressoffice@durham.pnn.police.uk.



Stanley Town Council's Priorities: Crime & Safety

Meet Your New Neighbourhood Inspector

My name is Karen Naunton, and I am the Neighbourhood Inspector for Stanley. I am based at the main police station in Thorneyholme Terrace. Since the last newsletter, there has continued to be a fall in reported crime and anti-social behaviour in the area, which means fewer people have been victims and we are creating an even safer community to live in. This can't be done without the support of other organisations, and most importantly the community.

We have been working hard in partnership with our partners, including Stanley Town Council and Durham County Council, to solve any identified problems, and inspire confidence. We have recently received our Neighbourhood police vehicles sponsored by Stanley Town Council, which will greatly assist us in responding to reports of crime, anti-social behaviour and other incidents.

We are continuing to tackle anti-social behaviour in the area in a number of ways including joint patrols with the Neighbourhood team and wardens, seizing of alcohol, educating young people found in possession of alcohol and working with licensed premises to prevent the sale of alcohol to persons under age (and those persons supplying alcohol to underage drinkers).

Throughout the year, I have conducted a number of 'walkabouts' within the community. These involve the police, the County and Town Council, Wardens, Derwentside Homes, Civic Pride and a number of other agencies meeting and walking about the area to look at what can be improved and what is working well in the neighbourhood. We then look to progress some of the

issues raised.

Between Saturday 10th March and Friday 16th March 2012, we held Catchgate 'week in action'. The event included a community walkabout, an 'Open House' event at Catchgate Neighbourhood Policing Office, community speed watch (some of which involved pupils from Catchgate primary school - thank you for your help!), a litter picking day, dog chipping and a 'skip day'. The 'open house' involved representatives from a variety of agencies, including police, Town and County Council, Derwentside Homes and Civic Pride being available at the office to speak to local residents about any concerns that they had. This received very positive feedback and we intend to repeat this event, in different forms, in other areas in the near future.

If you have any questions about policing in the area or if you would like to speak to a member of the local team you can contact us on the non-emergency number 101, or visit our facebook (search for Stanley Neighbourhood Police Team) or twitter pages (@StanleyPolice).



On line PACT (police and communities together)

Following our successful first session of 'on line PACT', our latest 'on line PACT' meeting was on Thursday 29th November 2012. This gave everyone the opportunity to ask questions in real time, on line, to the Stanley Neighbourhood team. We regularly hold PACT meetings within the community, however, we recognise that not everyone can make the meetings, and this is another way of having contact with us.

Details of your local PACT meetings and access to the on line PACT are available on our facebook and twitter sites, or ask an Officer who will be able to provide details of your next local PACT meeting.

Stanley Town Council's Priorities: Crime & Safety, and; Information & Communications

Police Watchdog Police and Crime Commissioner

For the past 25 years Durham Police Authority was the voice for local people. It listened to local views to make sure the community received the best possible policing services. But while the goal remains the same, a new way of working is now in place, with police authorities across the country being replaced by a Police and Crime Commissioner.

On 15th November 2012, residents were able to vote in an election for the person they wanted to be the new Police and Crime Commissioner. This covered all of the Town Council's area. This person will make sure that Durham Constabulary are meeting the needs of the communities they serve and will hold the Chief Constable to account. They will also aim to cut crime and deliver an effective and efficient police service by:

- holding the Chief Constable to account for the delivery of the police service;
- issuing and updating a police and crime plan;
- setting the budget and police precept added to the council tax;
- engaging with the public and communities, and;
- appointing, and where necessary dismissing, the Chief Constable.

In summary, as well as facing public election at set intervals, the Commissioner will be held to account for their performance by a Police and Crime Panel made up of local Councillors and two independent members.

More information on the role of the Police and Crime Commissioner is available at www.homeoffice.gov.uk.

Prince Bishops Credit Union

Have you heard about credit unions? Do you want to be financially independent? If the answer is yes, then you may be interested in Prince Bishops Credit Union.

Prince Bishops Community Bank is a savings and loans community bank owned and run by its members. It is a not for profit organisation whose membership is limited to people who live or work within the boundary of County Durham. This means that money saved by members' benefits local people in the form of easily accessible and affordable low cost loans. This is particularly valuable for those who have difficulty borrowing at affordable rates of interest from mainstream financial providers and who might otherwise turn to loan sharks or other doorstep lenders.

For more information, contact 01207 23 23 51.



Hate Crime Information & Advice

Hate crime is summarised as targeting people because of their:

- Race, ethnic origin, nationality;
- Religion;
- Sexual orientation;
- Disability, and;
- Gender identity.

To report a hate crime or hate incident, contact:

- Durham Police on 0345 60 60 365;
- In an emergency 999;
- Call in to a local police station;
- Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111, or;
- Online via True Vision website www.report-it.org.uk.

All calls are free and confidential.

Stop Loan Sharks

Stop loan sharks are teams aimed at tackling illegal money lending. They can be contacted via: www.direct.gov.uk/stoploansharks; tel 0300 555 2222, or; text loan shark to 60003

Samaritans

Whatever you're going through, we're here to help 24 hours a day – in confidence and without judging.

Call - 08457 90 90 90 (UK)

Email - jo@samaritans.org

Web - www.samaritans.org

Post - Chris, PO Box 90 90, Stirling, FK8 2SA



Stanley Town Council's Priorities: Environment, and; Information & Communications

Your Duty of Care

Illegal Companies could dump your waste . . . And land you with a £5000 fine.

We recommend you use a registered Waste Carrier by calling **03708 506 506** or visit www.environment-agency.gov.uk/publicregisters and ask where the waste is going and ask if that place is permitted to accept the waste.



Definition of Waste

Any substance or object which the holder discards or intends or is required to discard. It is the duty of any person who imports, produces, carries, keeps, treats or disposes of controlled waste to take all such measures applicable to prevent any kind of contravention by others. To ensure that all waste is secure and to prevent the escape of waste.



Fly-Tipping

It is illegal to dump waste on land that is not authorised to take the waste.

Maximum Penalty - Unlimited Fine and / or five years in prison.

Transferring Waste

Waste transferred to a third party must be recorded using a waste transfer note. This note should provide a description of the waste, be signed by both parties and be kept in a safe place for two years (This applies to waste carriers). EPA 1990.

Maximum Penalty - £5000

Carrying Waste

Companies and anyone carrying waste who will financially benefit from doing so, must be authorised by the Environment Agency as a registered waste carrier to transport waste on public roads. You can check by asking for their waste carriers certificate or by searching online at www.environment-agency.gov.uk/publicregisters or calling 03708 506 506.

Legislation - Control of Pollution (Amendment) Act 1989

Maximum Penalty - Fine up to £5000

Note to Businesses & anyone financially benefitting from removing waste

For more information visit the NetRegs website which provides free Environmental Guidance for small businesses in the UK. This site will help you to understand what businesses need to do to comply with environmental legislation and protect the environment. - www.netregs.gov.uk

To report anyone you may think is not complying with environmental legislation mentioned above either call Durham County Council on 03000 026 000 or contact the Environmental Agency on 03708 506 506, you may also call the non-emergency police number on 101.

Stanley Town Council's Priorities: Environment; Information & Communications, and; Housing

Pest Control Advice

Residents experiencing pest issues may find it useful to call Durham County Council's team of qualified technicians providing an expert pest control service to residents and businesses in County Durham on 03000 26 10 00.

Domestic services: Provides treatments for a range of pests including rats, mice, bedbugs, cockroaches, fleas, moles, cluster flies and squirrels; does not provide treatments for earwigs, maggots, slugs, snails and woodlice.

There is a charge for the treatment of all pests on domestic premises. From 1 October 2012, the cost is £40.00 per treatment (inclusive of VAT). Payment must be made at the time of booking the appointment.

Wasps and bees: Will treat wasps' nests at ground floor or first floor levels in a domestic property. It may not be able to access wasps' nests at second floor level such as under guttering, eaves and lofts, for health and safety reasons.



It does not usually treat bees due to their scarcity. However, if you have an allergy to bee stings, it will

carry out the treatment. Treatment will only be carried out at ground or first floor levels. Treatment of wasps and bees is at the standard rate of £40.00 per treatment (including VAT).

Commercial services: Provides a full pest control service for commercial customers, either as an individual treatment or on a contract basis. Due to the variation in the size of commercial buildings, a survey is required for most pests. Contact to arrange a free survey.

It also provides the following services for commercial customers:-

- insect treatments, and;
- electronic fly killers (including a servicing schedule for maintenance).

Advice: Provides free advice over the telephone about pests, although it can only advise on treatments carried out by that service.

About the work: All work is carried out with due consideration to health and safety and the protection of non-target animals. It also aims to reduce the risks of pest-borne diseases and damage caused by pests. All officers are qualified to Royal Society of Public Health (RSPH) or British Pest Control Association (BPCA) Level 2 standard.

Join the Big Garden Birdwatch 26th - 27th January 2013

Do you like watching the birds in your garden? Then take part in the world's biggest wildlife survey – the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch.

This is the conservation charity's most important event of the year. It is when people across the country look out of their window and spend an hour of their weekend recording how many birds they see.

Last year, over half a million people counted more than nine million garden birds. The information from this survey helps the RSPB form a comprehensive picture of how well – or not so well - each species is doing.

Over the past three decades, participants have helped the RSPB discover that populations of house sparrows

and starlings have declined while the numbers of blue tits and goldfinches in gardens have increased.

Doing the Big Garden Birdwatch not only helps the RSPB track the ups and downs of garden birds, but gives you the perfect excuse to sit down with a cup of tea and enjoy the wildlife in your garden.

Taking part is very simple. Over the weekend of the 26th - 27th January, spend one hour counting the largest number of each bird species you see at a time in your garden. Then give your results through our website www.rspb.org.uk/birdwatch or by post.

You can get loads more information about the Big Garden Birdwatch and a free pack by visiting their website or calling the hotline 0300 456 8330.

Stanley Town Council's Priorities: Services, and; Information & Communications

Welfare Reform Coming

Important news about changes to benefits

Central Government are making many changes to benefits both now and in the future, this is called 'welfare reform'. These changes will affect local residents and may mean that people of working age, who currently receive benefits, may be financially worse off in the future.

Changes to help with council tax

As part of this welfare reform, from 1st April 2013, a new way of working out who will receive help paying their council tax will be introduced. This will be different from the current council tax benefit scheme. The Government will continue to give the County Council money towards the new local scheme, but funding will be reduced. Therefore, it is likely that working age claimants will get less help towards their council tax than they do now. Pensioners will not be affected by the new scheme and will continue to receive the level of help they get at the moment.

For more information visit:- www.dwp.gov.uk.

Winter Maintenance

Stanley Town Council will be enhancing the snow clearing service in Stanley, by clearing selected footpaths, using its two tractors this Winter Season. We act upon guidance from Durham County Council who authorise the commencement of snow clearing.

The priority areas to be cleared are as follows:

- Durham Road (west) into Station Road and West Road (Annfield Plain);
- Durham Road (west) into Front Street (Annfield Plain);
- Area near Tollgate Terrace (Annfield Plain);
- Area of Catherine Terrace (New Kyo);
- Park Road (South Moor);
- Standerton Terrace (east Middles Road);
- B6313, Front Street (Craghead);
- High Street, Chester Road (east of Library Roundabout);
- Noel Road and Hill Top (east of Library Roundabout);
- A6076, Station Road and Church Bank (west of Library Roundabout);
- Station Road into Rodham Terrace (north west of Library Roundabout), and;
- Good Street into B6173 up to Kind Edward Street (Tanfield).

The map showing these locations is available for viewing at the Town Council Offices.

Participatory Budgeting



“It’s Up 2 U” 2013

“Putting projects to the public vote”

A better way of deciding

Following the success of our “It’s Up 2 U” schemes, Stanley Area Action Partnership and Stanley Town Council are again working together on a joint ‘participatory budget’ scheme. This will offer funding for community projects from £2,000 to £12,000, and give local people the chance to vote for their favourite projects.



Completed applications should be received by 11th January 2013. The “It’s Up 2 U” event will be held on 16th February 2013.

For more information contact:
Stanley AAP
It’s Up 2 U 2013,
Stanley AAP,
DCC,
Front Street Office,
Stanley,
DH9 0SU
Tel: 03000 265 325/265 323
stanleyaap@durham.gov.uk

Give Blood

Did you know, blood donor sessions take place all over the country throughout the year. The National Blood Service holds over 23,000 blood donation sessions a year, many of which are held in mobile donation centres.

To find your nearest blood donation centre, call the National Blood Service free on 0300 123 23 23. You can make an appointment for a date and time that are convenient for you.

Alternatively, visit the National Blood Service website www.blood.co.uk, where you can search for your nearest centre. You can also book an appointment to give blood using the online form.

Most people can donate blood every 16 weeks (four months).

If you have never given blood before, you can register as a blood donor on the National Blood Service website.



Stanley Town Council’s Priorities:
Employment; Environment, and; Training & Education

Urban Blitz Trainees/Apprentices

Durham County Council and Stanley Town Council have teamed up to work on ‘Urban blitz’ – a new and exciting Apprenticeship Initiative.

The initiative was developed to employ and develop young people in careers that support the cleaning industry, environmental maintenance and facilities management industries. Urban Blitz provided young people aged 16-24 with valuable work experience and recognised qualifications. These young people were recruited onto an Intensive Apprenticeship Scheme in Cleaning & Support Services; they were employed within their own communities to undertake environmental maintenance and improvement work across a six month programme.

As part of their Apprenticeship, the young people gained experience in

different cleaning techniques and essential skills including:

- Customer service and customer care;
- Effective team working, and health & safety, to recognised qualification standards;
- First aid training, and;
- Specialist cleaning techniques such as graffiti removal by hand and pressure washer, cleaning washrooms, managing waste including recycling, maintenance and cleaning of landscaped areas.

The young people have now completed the apprenticeship with qualifications in Literacy and Numeracy, a Technical Certificate in Cleaning Science and a Level 2 Certificate in Cleaning and Support Services.

Key outcomes from the project have



included:

- Improved individual skills - individuals realising that they can achieve more and have greater potential;
- Community cohesion;
- Individuals who want to work and are well prepared for the workplace;
- Improved links to local employers, with more job outcome possibilities, and;
- Cleaner, better maintained environments and business communities.

Stanley Town Council's Priorities: Information & Communications; Training & Education, and; Employment

One Point “one stop shop”

Did you know that, working together; staff from the NHS and Durham County Council have created a unique service to provide a ‘one stop shop’ for support, advice and a range of activities for children, young people and their families. This includes support from early pregnancy to the age of 19 years and for some children and young people who have a disability, up to the age of 25 years.

This service is called One Point and makes it easier for you and your

family to access: health visiting; school nursing; educational welfare; behaviour support; educational psychology; personal advice (formerly connexions); youth work; family support; anti-bullying, and; personal support.

Services are offered through ten new One Point Service offices located throughout the County (for example Front Street Stanley) as well as existing Sure Start Children’s Centres, Youth Centres and a number of Health Centres to



extend the reach of the Service into the heart of local communities.

To find out more about this service please contact: 03000 26 11 11 or visit: www.durham.gov.uk/onepoint.

Stanley Town Council's Priorities: Leisure, Culture & Heritage, and; Information & Communications



Colour Your Life

Did you know, art workshops are held every week all year long.

Lamplight Arts Centre

Mondays for families → 16:00–17:30

Tuesdays adult open studio → 10:00–12:00 and 13:00–15:00

Call now to register your place on 01207 218 852 or email colouryourlife@leisureworks.net



Stanley Town Council's Priorities: Public Transport, and; Information & Communications

Proposed changes to bus services

<p>The local bus companies are considering changing several services.</p> <p>Go-ahead buses say, “Diamond services 43 and 44: To improve reliability of our 44 Diamond service for the majority of customers, service 44 buses will no longer serve White-Le-Head and</p>	<p>Tantobie. Most customers can use alternative services 43, X43 and buses provided by Hunters. Following requests from customers for more buses to serve Sleepy Valley, Tanfield Village, Acton Dene and Humber Hill we are looking to replace our</p>	<p>existing service 143, which carries few passengers, with new and revised services. New service 131 will operate from Stanley Bus Station to Acton Dene, returning via Humber Hill, whilst our service X43 will be diverted via Sleepy Valley and Tanfield Village with</p>	<p>extra stops at Sleepy Valley, Tanfield Village, Crookgate Barcus Close and Fellside Road. Customers in these areas will also gain a new Saturday service.”</p> <p>To have your say, contact 0845 60 60 260 or www.simplygo.com.</p>
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Stanley Town Council's Priorities: Information & Communications; Training & Education, and; Housing

SHED – Social Housing Enterprise Durham

Need a job doing? SHED will do the following jobs: Fencing repairs, Cleaning out gutters, Gardening, Painting & Decorating, Fitting security locks, Minor repairs, Bleeding radiators, Rewashing taps and other odd jobs. They will also consider doing any other jobs you request.

For more information call 01207 528 338, visit www.socialenterprisedurham.biz or email info@socialenterprisedurham.biz.



Stanley Town Council's Priorities: Crime & Safety, and; Information & Communications

Police Vehicles

Stanley Town Council has sponsored two additional marked police cars to be used by Officers in South Moor and Catchgate. The Corsas were handed over by Chair of the Town Council, Councillor Peter McLaughlin on Thursday 15th November to Chief Inspector Ian Butler. The new cars will double the number of vehicles available currently in South Moor and Catchgate, allowing a quicker response to incidents of anti-social behaviour.



Councillor Peter McLaughlin said: "When the Town Council consulted the general public just prior to it becoming operational in 2009, the top priority in all 7 council wards was "Crime and Safety". Neighbourhood Policing

is all about the high visibility policing of local communities in order to engage with the public to build their confidence and to work in partnership to prevent crime, anti-social behaviour and the fear of crime that follows. So along with supporting several other Community Safety measures such as the Neighbourhood Wardens, and restrictions on public consumption of alcohol, that's why the Town Council is supplementing the equipment available to local Neighbourhood Policing Teams in its area".

Councillor Mark Boyd added: "The Town Council-sponsored vehicles will be allocated, one each, to the Catchgate and South Moor teams for routine grassroots work in the whole Stanley area. This is one of the many overlapping measures supported by the town council designed to contribute to local crime prevention. The Vauxhall Corsas, which are distinctive from the more common marked Astras seen on the streets of County Durham, are specially painted to serve as a visible reminder of the Town Council's commitment to helping to address the crime and safety matters which the public say ought to be one of its top priorities."



Chief Inspector Ian Butler & Chair of Stanley Town Council, Councillor Peter McLaughlin

Councillor Michele Hodgson, Chair of the Town Council's Crime & Community Safety Committee said: "The Local Government and Rating Act 1997 gives the Town Council the power to spend money on various crime prevention measures, and throughout the negotiation of this sponsorship arrangement with our Police partners, a clear focus on preventing crime and improving the customer service to local communities has been built into the contractual arrangements. It's important to note that, this measure is a service enhancement for the Town Council's area and not a replacement of equipment that would otherwise be funded from the mainstream police budget. In other words, the local council on behalf of the communities it represents recognises that its everyone's responsibility to support the local police in their efforts to prevent crime and disorder to make the Stanley area a safer place for everyone".



Stanley Town Council's Priorities: Information & Communications

Meetings

Meetings of the 'full' Town Council are scheduled for 6.30pm on the 2nd Tuesday of January and March 2013.

As local electors of the parish, the general public are welcome to attend such meetings and a little bit of time is set aside early on in the meeting to allow residents to contribute.

The Town Council's standing committees (Communications & Events, Crime & Community Safety, Finance & General Purposes, and; Planning) meet as and when required.

Unless public presence is prejudicial to the public interest, the public and press can attend all of the above meetings, but if necessary, they may be required to leave before the prejudicial matters are discussed.

The decisions of these meetings, known as minutes, are later placed in the public domain at www.stanley-tc.gov.uk.

Code of conduct

Notice of Adoption of a New Code of Conduct

The Localism Act 2011 was enacted on the 15th November 2011 and implemented in March 2012.

By virtue of the Localism Act 2011 (Commencement No 6 and Transitional, Savings and Transitory Provisions) Order 2012 (SI 2012/ 1463), on the 1st July 2012, local councils (including Stanley Town Council) were required to have a Code of Conduct that complies with the Localism Act 2011.

Local councils are free to adopt any code provided it complies with Sections 28(1) and 28(2) of the Localism Act 2011.

On the 1st July 2012, Codes of Conduct previously adopted by councils under the Local Government Act 2000 ceased to have effect, (paragraph 56 of Part II of Schedule 4 of the Localism Act 2011 refers).

Section 29(7) of the Localism Act 2011 provides that local councils (including Stanley Town Council) are obliged to publish a 'register' of the 'interests' of their Members, i.e. elected and/or co-opted Town Councillors.

Section 28(12) provides that local councils (including Stanley Town Council) must publicise its adoption (or revision or replacement) of a Code of Conduct to the attention of persons who live in that council's designated area.

Pursuant to the above, notice is hereby given that: the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) Code of Conduct for (Town and) Parish Councils was formally adopted by means of Resolution 6.1 of the Ordinary meeting of the 'full' Stanley Town Council

sitting on the 11th September 2012. Therein, it was further Resolved to revise Stanley Town Council's Standing Orders in order to require Members of Stanley Town Council to leave the room where a meeting is being held while any discussion or voting is taking place of any matter in which any Member/s have a disclosable pecuniary interest (as defined within the Localism Act 2011).

In County Durham, Durham County Council is responsible for monitoring compliance with the Code of Conduct, and; Durham County Council is also obliged to publish a register of the interests of the Members of local councils (including Stanley Town Council).

Each Member of Stanley Town Council is required to submit a register of their interests within 28 days. The relevant form is known as "Notification by a Member of a Local Authority of Pecuniary and Other Interests", (Localism Act 2011, Section 29(1)).

The Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) states that, an interest of a Member's spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the member lives as if they were a spouse or civil partner is the member's Disclosable Pecuniary Interest so the member's partner's name does not need to appear in the register. The guide also confirms that there is no legal requirement for the members' signatures to be published online.

By visiting www.stanley-tc.gov.uk and clicking on "Council" and then on "Code of Conduct" local electors can access information regarding all twenty (20) Members of Stanley Town Council and the new Code of Conduct.

Know your local Town Councillors

Annfield Plain



Councillor M Hodgson
t: 01207 231949
Annfield Plain Ward
24 Railway Gardens,
Annfield Plain, Stanley,
County Durham, DH9 8QB
m: 07827 232300
e: michele.hodgson@durham.gov.uk



Councillor L Hopley
Annfield Plain Ward
2 Bells Place,
West Kyo, Stanley,
County Durham, DH9 8TJ
m: 07921 163469
e: louise.hopley@stanley-tc.gov.uk



Councillor R Harrison
Annfield Plain Ward
5 Causey Drive,
Kip Hill, Shield Road, Stanley,
County Durham, DH9 0LN
m: 07979 598992
e: ron.harrison@stanley-tc.gov.uk

Catchgate



Councillor J Nicholson
t: 01207 235036
Catchgate Ward
12 Old Blackett Street,
Catchgate, Stanley,
County Durham, DH9 8LP
m: 07812 645094 or 07500 125296
e: Joan.Nicholson@durham.gov.uk



Councillor D Walker
t: 01207 280636
Catchgate Ward
3 Fairfield, West Kyo,
Stanley, County Durham, DH9 8TR
m: 07789 532 206
e: david.walker@stanley-tc.gov.uk

Stanley Town Council contact details:
57-61 Lenin Terrace, South Stanley,
County Durham, DH9 6LW
Tel: 01207 299 109
www.stanley-tc.gov.uk
email: info@stanley-tc.gov.uk

Craghead and South Stanley



Councillor S B Marshall
t: 01207 232308
Craghead and South Stanley Ward
Graphic House,
Front Street, Craghead, Stanley,
County Durham,
DH9 6DS
e: sallybeth.marshall@stanley-tc.gov.uk



Councillor P Murray-Barrett
t: 01207 283747
Craghead and South Stanley Ward
42 Hollyhill Gardens West,
South Stanley, County Durham,
DH9 6NW
e: paula.murray-barrett@stanley-tc.gov.uk



Councillor T M Parry
t: 01207 283203
Craghead and South Stanley Ward
10 Railway Street, Craghead, Stanley,
County Durham, DH9 6EP
m: 07970 383747
e: tina.parry@stanley-tc.gov.uk

Havannah



Councillor J Carleton
t: 01207 233037
Havannah Ward
19 St. Heliers Way, Stanley,
County Durham,
DH9 0UT
m: 07939 390193
e: jean.carleton@stanley-tc.gov.uk



Councillor T Pattinson
t: 01207 233796
Havannah Ward
58 Causey Drive, Kip Hill, Stanley,
County Durham,
DH9 0LW
e: tom.pattinson@stanley-tc.gov.uk



Councillor D Walton
t: 01207 280494
Havannah Ward
Cresta, View Lane, Stanley,
County Durham, DH9 0DX
m: 07020 971992
e: david.walton@stanley-tc.gov.uk

South Moor



Councillor M Boyd
t: 01207 235110
South Moor Ward
42 Third Street, Quaking Houses,
Stanley, County Durham,
DH9 7HA
m: 07980 099692
e: mark.boyd@stanley-tc.gov.uk



Councillor J Lockie
t: 01207 283316
South Moor Ward
33 Palmer Street,
South Moor, Stanley,
County Durham, DH9 7RD
m: 07910 620757
e: jim.lockie@stanley-tc.gov.uk



Councillor V Wilson
t: 01207 239 804
South Moor Ward
73 Fourth Street, Quaking Houses,
Stanley,
County Durham,
DH9 7HD
e: vince.wilson@stanley-tc.gov.uk

Stanley Hall



Councillor P McLaughlin (Chair)
t: 01207 299177
Stanley Hall Ward
58 Murray Park, Stanley,
County Durham,
DH9 0PN
m: 07882 885376
e: peter.mclaughlin@stanley-tc.gov.uk



Councillor J Pye
t: 01207 231801
Stanley Hall Ward
45 Tyne Vale, Stanley,
County Durham,
DH9 6PD
m: 07939 581285
e: jack.pye@stanley-tc.gov.uk



Councillor G Andrews
Stanley Hall Ward
27 Beaconfield Street, Stanley,
County Durham,
DH9 0BP
m: 07852 167597
e: gareth.andrews@stanley-tc.gov.uk

Tanfield



Councillor J Charlton
t: 01207 281923
Tanfield Ward
21 South View, Tantobie,
Stanley, County Durham,
DH9 9TH
m: 07746 241138
e: joyce.charlton@stanley-tc.gov.uk



Councillor C Bell
Tanfield Ward
Arch House, Oxhill, Stanley,
County Durham,
DH9 7LS
m: 07597 035760
e: christine.bell@stanley-tc.gov.uk



Councillor C Weightman (Vice-Chair)
Tanfield Ward
9 Ballater Close, Stanley,
County Durham,
DH9 6UN
m: 07904 850158
e: christine.weightman@stanley-tc.gov.uk