

STILLINGFLEET PARISH COUNCIL PLAN – 2023/24

The Parish Council's vision is to improve the quality of life for people of the Parish; building upon the character and community spirit within the Parish, addressing their needs and encouraging all social sectors of the community to develop as an inclusive and vibrant community.

Stillingfleet Parish Council aims to:

1. Improve the development, appearance, and environment in which we live; ensuring that these changes do not cause future harm.
2. Be a strong voice on behalf of the local people and businesses, representing their views.
3. Provide effective, efficient and accountable local government for the parish supporting community-based activities whilst operating within agreed budgets and complying with current legislation and best practices.

The Parish Council's objectives are:

- To operate in the community's best interests within agreed budgets.
- To understand, communicate and support the views, needs and aspirations of residents by increasing public involvement and ensuring the parish council is open, transparent and accountable to residents.
- To support local businesses and economic activity in the parish.
- To maintain and manage the Village Green for the benefit of the community within the terms of the higher-level Environmental Stewardship agreement with the Rural Payments Agency.
- To ensure the village infrastructure and key facilities are maintained and enhanced to deliver our community's existing requirement and possible future needs.
- To support the work of parish voluntary organisations in raising grants and providing practical support.
- To ensure our Parish Council is 'fit for purpose' and that councillors and staff are well briefed enabling them to act in and represent the best interests of our community by accessing high quality training and development opportunities evidenced by Council meeting the required standards of the Local Council Award Scheme initially at the Foundation level.

This action plan is a ‘live’ document informed by Community representation at meetings and Community engagement on social media. It will be updated on a regular basis, enabling the Council to track and monitor progress against objectives and timescales and will be published on the Parish Council website so that residents can monitor progress.

Planned Actions: S = Short term (12 months), M = Medium term (1-2 years), L = Long term (3-5 years), O = Ongoing

Aim 1: To improve the development, appearance, and environment in which we live; ensuring that these changes do not cause future harm.					
Planned Objectives	Timescales	Suggested Lead Councillor	Details	Funding Source	Update on progress
Management of Village Green	O	Richard/Nigel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Maintain the green for the benefit of the community within the terms of the higher-level Environmental Stewardship Agreement. ○ Manage the annual haymaking, control of the trees and invasive rushes, drains cleared, incursions prevented, and the owners of leaking and crumbling sewage pipes and manholes made aware of their need for timely maintenance and repair of those structures. 	RPA Stewardship Scheme & Precept	<p>August 2023 Annual hay-making complete</p> <p>Investigating whatever action is recommended by DeFRA to improve the health of the Green</p> <p>When all options have been fully costed will consider whether to gather community opinion on the way forward</p> <p>Environmental Stewardship revenue claim for 2024 submitted.</p>

Village infrastructure	O	Emma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ensure that key village infrastructure and facilities are maintained and enhanced to meet both our community’s existing requirements along with possible future needs. ○ Ensure general maintenance and repairs are carried out in ‘open spaces’ throughout our village. ○ Specific projects identified include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Play Area 	Precept & fund raising	<p>April 2023 Volunteers trained to undertake bi-weekly safety inspections according to an agreed rota.</p> <p>Further grants received to complete the additional play equipment.</p>
Village Public Services	L	Jonathan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Seek to progress the Council’s application for the installation of First Time Public Sewage under Section 101a of the Water Industry Act 1991 by agreeing an indicative construction programme which outlines the timescales for the delivery of the scheme. 	TBA	<p>Feb 2023 Yorkshire Water’s (YW) contract partners have undertaken works to review possible solutions to provide a public sewer network to Stillingfleet and the options have been presented to YW for review & funding approval. Given the size of the village all options are considerably expensive to implement (in excess of £8mil). Once funding is approved the construction works are likely to take upwards of</p>

					5 years to commence, owing to the way that water companies are funded. YW have confirmed they are still committed to this Section 101a determination.
Housing	M	John	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Seek to progress an affordable housing development of approximately 4-6 properties to reflect the findings of the housing need survey and comply with Selby District's policy of affordable housing delivery 		August 2023 Unfortunately no suitable site has yet been identified.
Planning	O	Jo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fully participate in all planning consultations representing the best interests of our community, stressing the importance of our conservation area and urging compliance with the Village Design Statement in order to maintain the distinctiveness of our beautiful village and protect it from the impact of inappropriate development. ○ Use planning levers to object to unsustainable development and encourage the development of climate friendly future homes by 		

			<p>recommending more thorough insulation and under floor heating so that they are ready for a heat-pump economy being introduced in 2030 as progression to a carbon-free world.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Continue to strongly object to the development known as Heronby under Selby District Council's Local Plan. 		
Climate Change / Environment / Net zero	M & L	John	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pursue buy-in to local green energy generation and consumption possibly through a community-owned renewable energy installation (e.g. Solar Farm on the Mine Site, EV points, Ground source heating/solar panels for the village institute. ○ Encourage nature recovery e.g. Tree planting ○ Improving our green space biodiversity - beavers, insects, bats etc 	Countryside Stewardship Facilitation Fund	
Health / Wellbeing		Annette	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Develop a Community emergency plan (Cold weather) ○ Develop a First Aid responder hub ○ Ensure Defibrillator management ○ Undertake risk assessments 		Considering a Community Volunteer Transport scheme for the village.
Aim 2: To be a strong voice on behalf of the local people and businesses, representing their views.					
Planned Objectives	Timescales	Councillor Lead	Details	Funding Source	Update on progress

Communication & Community involvement	S & O	Lesley/Juan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Raise the profile of the Parish Council. ○ Implement a community engagement strategy to actively consult and engage with our local community. ○ Invest in the development of a Village Website to promote and encourage Community/social events e.g., Coronation – 8th May, Christmas, Summer fair, Bonfire night, Scarecrow festival, Remembrance, ○ Liaison with Village Institute and Church to enhance community engagement and involvement ○ Explore all funding opportunities and liaise with NYC and community groups 		<p>Facebook being used more widely to engage with the on-line community.</p> <p>April 2023 – as there appears to be little appetite for a separate village website this initiative has been placed on hold for the time being.</p>
Aim 3: Provide effective, efficient and accountable local government for the parish supporting community-based activities whilst operating within agreed budgets and complying with current legislation and best practices.					
Planned Objectives	Timescales	Councillor Lead	Details	Funding Source	Update on progress
Sound financial management, governance & accountability	S & O	Ruth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Formulate 2023/24 plan ○ Agree 2023/24 budget ○ Calculate the 2023/24 precept ○ Ensure website is kept up to date & meets the Transparency Code requirements 	Precept	<p>2023/24 Plan & budget approved Precept £6,250 submitted</p> <p>Internal & External Audits completed with</p>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Achieve a satisfactory internal audit evidencing effective governance & accountability 		no adverse findings and no actions arising.
Council Development	O	Juan/Ruth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Register intention to apply for Foundation Standard of the Local Council Award Scheme ○ Carry out a gap analysis to identify any gaps that the Council might have in evidencing attainment of each criteria. ○ Identify training needs and enrol councillors on training to ensure all Councillors and staff are capable of fulfilling their roles and representing the best interests of our community. ○ Adopt a Training and Development policy. ○ Hold yearly meetings with individual councillors to discuss training, highlight issues, discuss ideas, feedback ○ Ensure all required documentation, information and conditions are in place for submission to the Local Council Award accreditation panel ○ Conduct a yearly documentation review to ensure ongoing topicality and adherence to upcoming standards. 		<p>Registration for LCA Award scheme submitted</p> <p>1:1s with councillors and clerk held in May/June.</p> <p>Training & Development Policy adopted wef May 2023.</p> <p>Anticipate being ready to apply for Foundation level award in December 2023</p>