

OCTOBER, 2025

STRATFIELD MORTIMER PARISH COUNCIL NEWS BULLETIN



Stratfield Mortimer
Parish Council



YOU ARE INVITED TO AN IMPORTANT PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The new **Neighbourhood Plan** for Stratfield Mortimer has been developed by a dedicated group of volunteers, working as a steering group under the Parish Council. They have created a set of exciting new policies and are now ready to hear your views.

Public consultation events will be held at **St John's School, The Street, Mortimer, RG7 3RD** on the following dates:

- **Saturday 11 October 2025 – 10am to 4pm**
- **Sunday 12 October 2025 – 10am to 4pm**
- **Wednesday 15 October 2025 – 6pm to 9pm**
- **Saturday 18 October 2025 – 10am to 4pm**
- **Sunday 19 October 2025 – 10am to 4pm**

The policies
can be found
by scanning
the QR code



Come along, talk to the team, and share your views on the future of our community.

NEW COUNCILLOR



Justine Allan was co-opted as our newest Parish Councillor on 3 October. She and her partner Al moved to Mortimer just over a year ago and are keen to get involved in local activities and support the community.

Balancing a full-time job between London and Mortimer West End, Justine is committed to dedicating time to her role and is eager to hear from residents about their priorities, ideas, and proposals for improving local facilities for families and the wider community.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



- **Scarecrow Trail-
25 Oct – 2 November**
- **Remembrance Sunday
Parade-
9 November**
- **Christmas Tree Light
Switch on-
30 November**



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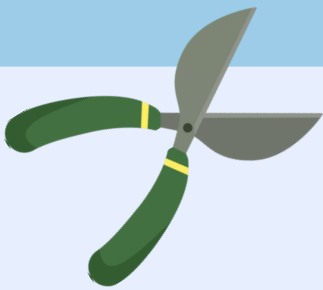
the.clerk@stratfield-mortimer.gov.uk

HEDGE CUTTING

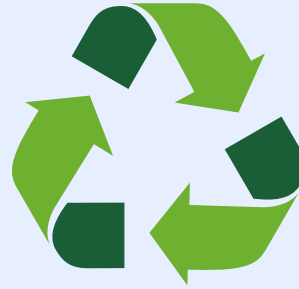
Residents are kindly reminded to cut back any hedges, trees, or shrubs that grow beyond their property boundaries. Overgrown vegetation can make it difficult for people to walk safely on pavements, particularly for those with pushchairs, mobility aids, or wheelchairs.

With the bird nesting season now over, this is the ideal time to carry out trimming and maintenance.

Thank you for helping to keep Mortimer's paths safe and accessible for everyone.



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SMALL ELECTRICAL RECYCLING CENTRE (WEE)

Supplied by West Berkshire Council and kept at the West End Road Carpark by Dads shop.

A few points to note:

- Leaving items next to the bin is **Fly Tipping- please do not do this**
- Small electrical items (WEEE) are anything that needs a plug or battery to work and are small enough to fit in your hand or a small shopping bag, such as toasters, hair dryers, phones, electric toothbrushes, and power tools.

TWO NEW SPEED INDICATOR DEVICES

Two new Smiley Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) have recently been purchased for use around the village to help **tackle speeding**. These devices show drivers their speed and encourage safer driving through Mortimer.

To make the most of them, we **urgently** need more volunteers to join the Community Speedwatch team.

If you can spare a little time to help monitor speeding and keep our village safe, please get in touch with the Parish Council office.



AN UPDATE FROM THE ESTATE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Several improvements have recently taken place around Mortimer:

- Playground: New wet-pour safety surfacing has been installed around three large pieces of equipment on the Fairground, making play safer for children.
- War Memorial: A group of volunteers has carried out remedial works to help preserve this important village landmark.
- Fairground Fence: Following a spate of vandalism, the Parish Council's Custodian has undertaken repairs to the fencing.
- West End Road Carpark: Volunteers from Greening Mortimer, working alongside the Parish Council, have carried out weeding along the carpark border to help keep the area tidy and welcoming.

The Parish Council thanks everyone involved for their hard work and commitment to keeping our village safe and welcoming.



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SCARECROW TRAIL HINT

Our latest scarecrow is inspired by a fearsome creature from Middle-earth... if you're brave enough to guess, think of the giant spider that haunted the tunnels in The Lord of the Rings!





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NEW COUNCILLOR VACANCY

The Parish Council currently has two vacancies for councillors. Serving as a councillor is a rewarding way to help shape the future of Mortimer, support local projects, and represent the interests of the community.

Anyone aged 18 or over who lives or works in the parish, or within three miles of it, is eligible to apply. No previous experience is required – training and support are provided.

If you are passionate about your village, enjoy working with others, and want to make a positive difference, this is a great opportunity to get involved.

For more information about the role and how to apply, please contact the Parish Council office.



WE WANT
YOU!

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE- SUPPORTING NEW IDEAS

The Parish Council's Community Committee is keen to support local groups in Mortimer who would like to try something new for the benefit of the public. If your group has an idea for a project, event, or activity that would enhance community life, we'd love to hear from you.



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QUESTIONNAIRE HEADED YOUR WAY

The Parish Council is exploring new ways to stay connected with residents and make sure your views help shape Mortimer's future.

This month, instead of our usual printed newsletter, we've created this digital news bulletin – and we'd love your feedback!

Please take a few minutes to complete our short questionnaire, either online at www.stratfield-mortimer.gov.uk/connecting-with-you-october-2025

Or by scanning the QR code here



Prefer paper? It will be being delivered to your door mid October. You can also pop your completed form through the library letterbox anytime.

Every response counts – we'd be delighted to hear from each member of your household!



MORTIMER FUN DAY

This year's Mortimer Fun Day was a huge success – and the Parish Council was proud to sponsor the main arena act: Pedal Power vs Parkour!

The thrilling show wowed the crowds with jaw-dropping stunts, incredible balance, and high-energy tricks combining extreme mountain biking and freestyle parkour.

It was fantastic to see so many residents enjoying the event – thank you to everyone who came along and supported our vibrant village community!



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SMPC OBJECTS TO WEST END FARM DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL



Stratfield Mortimer
Parish Council

Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council (SMPC) has submitted a strong objection to Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council's (B&D) Updated Proposed Spatial Strategy, which proposes allocating "Land at West End Farm, Mortimer" for around 350 homes and a Gypsy and Traveller site.

Although the site lies within Hampshire, SMPC highlights that the development would function as an extension of Mortimer, raising major concerns about sustainability, infrastructure, and the village's identity.

SMPC's key objections include:

- Conflict with B&D's own Local Plan principles, which focus growth on Basingstoke and protecting rural areas from large greenfield development.
- Failure to recognise Mortimer's Neighbourhood Plans, which set out local policies on housing type, design, lighting, flooding, energy, and transport.
- Lack of infrastructure planning, as services in Mortimer—such as schools, GP capacity, parking, and public transport—are already under pressure.
- Unsuitable transport links, with the proposed site relying heavily on car use, contrary to B&D's sustainability goals.

SMPC emphasises that any development must be guided by Mortimer's Neighbourhood Plans and accompanied by proper cross-boundary consultation and infrastructure funding.

The Council has urged B&D to remove the West End Farm site (SPS5.15) from the draft Local Plan, warning that it would cause "significant unmitigated harm" to Mortimer and neighbouring West Berkshire communities.

SIGN UP TO THE BULLETIN FOR UP TO DATE ANNOUNCEMENTS



Stay Informed with SMPC News

Keep up to date with local news, announcements, and council updates by signing up to Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council's email bulletin.

We'll only send you important community information — no marketing or spam.
To join the mailing list, simply email:

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