

DECEMBER, 2025

# NEWS BULLETIN



FROM STRATFIELD MORTIMER  
PARISH COUNCIL



## COUNCILLOR VACANCIES

Once Christmas is over it is time to make New Year's resolutions. Could you contribute to the good of the village by becoming a Parish Councillor? We currently have 3 vacancies and, as you can imagine, with the 350 houses campaign we are stretched to cover the other projects that need to carry on. It's your money that we spend in providing facilities on the Fairground or completing the Cemetery extension. How about joining us and making sure we do the best possible for the village? With more people sharing the load it doesn't have to be a big time commitment, can be very rewarding and you get to find out how the village works. **Ask the clerk for more details and/or an application form.**

## PUBLIC MEETING REGARDING 350 HOUSES WELL ATTENDED

Over 250 residents attended a public meeting at St John's Hall on 8 December. West Berkshire Council outlined the Regulation 18 consultation process, while Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council explained how residents can submit planning objections. A new Toolkit was launched to help you prepare responses using valid planning reasons. Attendees were reminded that each individual in a household can submit a separate objection using a unique email address, as individual responses count separately, whereas petitions count as a single response.

Start your objection here: [www.stratfield-mortimer.gov.uk/objection](http://www.stratfield-mortimer.gov.uk/objection)

### DATES OF JANUARY MEETINGS

Dates:

- 8 Jan- Planning
- 8 Jan- Finance and General Purposes
- 15 Jan- Full Council
- 22 Jan- Estate Management
- 29 Jan- Planning
- 29 Jan- Community



### Benches

The Community Committee has purchased two new benches for the Alfred Palmer Memorial Field. Both benches have now been installed, providing additional seating for residents and visitors to enjoy the space.



## Bus shelters

We have been awarded a grant from West Berkshire Council to install new bus shelters and maintain them for the next five years. Following a village-wide inspection, we applied for three shelters: outside Glenapp Grange, on Victoria Road near the Stephens Road entrance, and on the corner of Victoria Road and Reading Road heading towards Burghfield. The Glenapp Grange bus shelter has now been successfully installed.



## Questionnaire Responses

Thank you to everyone who returned the October questionnaire. Support for email bulletins is high, with only 1.5% of respondents opposed.

You told us how you prefer to engage with us: after emails, Facebook and noticeboards are the most popular options, followed by the website and in-person meetings, with less interest in online meetings and Instagram.

Key concerns raised included the proposed 350 homes, speeding, parking and anti-social behaviour. While local control is limited, we will continue to act where possible. You highlighted the need to reach older residents (we are delivering printed bulletins to some) who don't use digital channels and to involve more young people (give us a clue how!).

Support was strongest for a Christmas market, followed by an annual garage sale and low-cost children's activities. Additional ideas were suggested and will be considered.

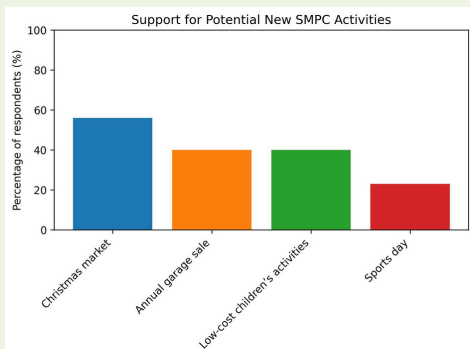
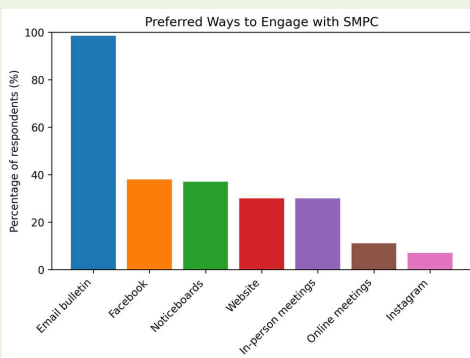


Photo of Pill Box in the snow  
by Mary Auckland- MA  
MRCSLT ARPS

