

STAMBOURNE NEWSLETTER

JUNE - JULY 2026



Published and distributed by Stambourne Parish Council

No: 292

STAMBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Assembly and Annual General Meeting took place on Thursday 21 May 2026 in the village hall. We were pleased to welcome our Braintree District Councillor, Richard van Dulken and our newly elected Essex County Councillor (who is also a member of Stambourne Parish Council) Nathan Robins.

At the AGM the Parish Council elects its Chair and Vice-Chair and appoints representatives:-

*Neil Pyman – Chair
Andrew Drysdale - Vice Chair
Karen Grant
Val Kerrison
Martyn Fall
Nathan Robins
Wendy Anderson*

Representatives were agreed as:-

- Village Hall Committee – Wendy Anderson*
- Emergency Planning – Nathan Robins*
- Footpaths – Val Kerrison*
- Tree Warden – Andrew Drysdale*

Pavilion

The pavilion is available for bookings throughout the summer. If you would like to book the pavilion, please contact me. Details below.

Playing Field

Some of the play equipment is being repainted and tidied up – thank you to Malcolm for this. Thank you also to Martyn who has been sanding down the picnic tables and other maintenance work.

Chapel End Way Defibrillator

Thank you to Vicky who has been monitoring this defibrillator for some considerable time and who will be stepping down soon and handing over to Jacky who has kindly offered to take over.

Planning

It has come to the Parish Council's attention that there are proposals for a large solar farm at Robin Hood End. The Parish Council are looking into this now and limited information is available at <http://www.robinhood-solar.co.uk/> and on the Braintree District Council planning portal at www.braintree.gov.uk using application number 26/01110/SCR.

Finance

The Parish Council's accounts for the year ended 31 March 2026 have been completed and approved by the internal auditor. These will now be sent to the external auditor.

Next Parish Council meetings are 23 July, 24 September and 19 November 2026 all at 7.30 pm in the village hall. These are public meetings and you are welcome to attend.

Full minutes, agendas etc are available on the Stambourne website at www.stambourne.com

*Debbie Hilliard
Parish Clerk
Email: clerk@stambournepc.org.uk
Tel: 01440 785629*

CREAMER FUND

There have been big changes within The CREAMER Fund's Executive Team! At our AGM in March, Dr Andrew Hildrey stood down as Chair having led the charity for over 30 years, to be replaced by Sarah McCarthy. New Trustee, Helen Fisher, has stepped into Sarah's shoes as Secretary. Dr Hildrey will continue to play a key role as he takes on the position of Vice-Chair, and both he and Chris Blewitt will remain valued Trustees. We owe them a HUGE THANK YOU for their years of valued service. They brought enormous experience into their roles and we're very grateful. We now look forward to a new team at the helm, supported by the incredibly experienced Treasurer, Debbie Rogers, who together will guide The CREAMER Fund into an exciting new future

The following report was given by Dr Hildrey at the AGM

AGM Report 2026

This year The CREAMER Fund is embracing evolving technologies. I must credit Alex Cox and Sarah McCarthy who are dragging me into a new technological era!

CREAMER is now focussing mainly on helping to provide diagnostic services at Freshwell Health Centre. It has already provided funding for 24 defibrillators and 7 bleed management kits in the community. The Charity is happy to provide funds for more if needs are identified.

The diagnostic services (X-rays, ultrasound scans, heart echocardiograms, "osteoporosis" bone scans and heart/blood pressure monitoring devices) enable patients within the community to be investigated and managed closer to home and more quickly. The cost is considerable (£50,000) but inestimable. Income from various fundraising activities are greatly appreciated and I must thank Chris and Jane Blewett, Ines Warner and Debbie Rogers for their help with the books; Rosalie Wyatt, Sylvia Gould and her helpers with raffles and Glenis Ashby, Brian and Lorraine Patient and Anni Woodcock with the collecting tins. These fundraising activities all promote CREAMER throughout the community involving many people.

Several very generous legacies have been received for which we are extremely grateful. These legacies are enabling CREAMER to continue its activities.

CREAMER continues to evolve and we hope will enable improving health care for this community for years to come.

We must give credit to all the staff at the Health Centre: all the doctors, nurses and other health care professionals as well as David Shedden's ancillary staff backing them up. The practice is consistently voted in the top echelon in the county and country.

I would like to thank all my fellow trustees for all their help - in particular our secretary, Sarah McCarthy, treasurer, Debbie Rogers, and vice chair Chris Blewett.

Dr Andrew Hildrey
Outgoing Chairman



VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE - NEWS and UPDATES

Stambourne Parish Council are planning to paint the play equipment and tidy up the play area in the playing field. if you are available on **Saturday 6 June, Sunday 7 June and / or Saturday 20 June** please do come along and lend a hand. Paint will be supplied. If you would like any further information please ring Wendy on 07810 136200.

YOGA starting on **Tuesday 9 June at 6.30 pm** in the village hall. This will be a mixed ability class including seated yoga. £10.00 per session. For more details contact Tallulah on 07975806093 or email on tallulahhbq@outlook.com. Please come along to this new class.



Sunday 16 August 2 pm
Breast Cancer Awareness Afternoon Tea and Cakes at Stambourne Pavilion.

Donations of cakes and biscuits very welcome and / or do pop along and buy a few cakes for this worthy cause. Alternatively, bring a picnic and make an afternoon of it. A selection of music will be playing all afternoon. Hope to see you there.

A date for your diaries:
Saturday 28 November 5 pm Christmas tree light switch on at the village hall. After last year's very successful event the committee thought it would be nice to run this again this year. Mulled wine, mince pies, tombola raffle and much more!

STAMBOURNE LADIES GROUP

Come and join our friendly group:



June 10 – Village Hall @ 7:30
Make do and mend
Reuse, recreate and restyle your wardrobe

July 8
Fish and chips in the park
Booking essential



August 12
Picnic in the park

For more info please contact Anna 07981 422665 or Carolyn 07908 844702



Become a School Governor

Help Shape Our School's Future

Are you passionate about education and eager to make a meaningful difference in your local community? We are seeking dedicated and enthusiastic individuals to join our governing body as school governors. St Margaret's C of E Primary School in Toppesfield is a small rural school serving its local community. The school is an inclusive and caring school where our skilled and passionate teachers create exciting learning opportunities.

As a school governor, you'll play a vital role in setting our school's strategic direction, supporting staff and students, and ensuring high standards of achievement. We hold a governing board meeting once a term and encourage governors to visit the school at least once a term as well as developing the role by attending training.

As a governor you will:

- *Contribute to important decisions about the school's future*
- *Work alongside fellow governors and the leadership team*
- *Champion the voice of parents, carers, and students*

We can offer you:

- *A small, friendly board of governors*
- *Opportunities for leadership development*
- *The chance to spend time in our wonderful school*

If you're committed, collaborative and interested in helping every child reach their potential, we would love to hear from you. We are especially interested in people with educational experience or those who are members of the church but would welcome expertise in other areas too. For further details or to apply, please contact Julie Campbell, Chair of Governors gov.jcampbell@st-margaretscofe.essex.sch. Training and support will be provided.

Join us and help shape the future of our school!



Contributions for the next newsletter (to cover events in August, September and October) to Karen Crago, preferably by email to kcrago@btinternet.com, WhatsApp or place in the post box at Tagley Farm by Friday 31 July, please.