

Staplehurst Parish Council

PARISH COUNCILLOR STUART MCPHEE

WRITTEN STATEMENT

I have recently been co-opted to join Staplehurst Parish Council. I am a married man with three children – one still at home (at Maidstone Grammar School). We have lived in Staplehurst for nearly nine years and love the village and the surroundings. Covid has given us even more opportunity to find lots of walks around the village.

I have been impressed by the changes in the village over past few years and I am really looking forward to helping drive further activities for the benefit of our local community. I've now attended my first council meeting – there is a lot going on for me to learn about and assist with!

For work – I am a freelance Transformation Director, supervising and driving change. Making things happen. Most of this work has been for the London Insurance market – including Lloyd's of London, although the past two years of work has been for Co-op group. At work, I am known for my energy, ability to understand the key to unlocking issues, together with my drive and problem-solving skills – I am looking forward to the opportunity to be able to harness those skills for the benefit of the Parish Council. So far, I have joined the Communications Group and expect to join other groups soon.

My wife and I are interested in the local community and have looked for ways to support. We support Greener Staplehurst and have contributed to food banks during lockdown. I want to do more for the local community and I think my skills will be of value. I have thought about the ways that the current crisis has really brought focus to the importance of local communities and parish councils. I want to help drive improvements to local life at all levels.

Outside work, my main interests are breeding (slowish!) racehorses, playing competition bridge and some time on Golf and participating in quizzes.