

Staplehurst Parish Council

Staplehurst Community Clean-Up

29th September 2018 Youth Club site

Councillors Burnham and Buller, with the help of Malcolm Buller, organised the second Clean-Up of the year. A huge thank you to the 25 residents who helped collect masses of litter from our village streets. We concentrated on the 4 main roads and The Parade area as these generate the most litter. Many estate roads were also cleaned. We would also like to thank a further 8 or so residents who worked on our rural lanes at their own risk as MBC will not insure people litter picking outside of the 30mph zone.

The refreshments, amiably dispensed by two members of the Men's Shed, were very welcome. We are grateful to the Youth Club Management for allowing us to use their building and the site for storing the many bags of rubbish. We also would like to thank MBC for the loan of the necessary equipment and for their prompt collection of all the rubbish. Thank you too to Mick and Jean in the Office who also worked hard on this event. Mick also returned to the village and filled several bags of rubbish to add to the pile. Well done too to Borough Councillors Louise Brice and John Perry for joining in this task.

We had fewer volunteers than usual, so sadly a few estate roads could not be cleaned this time. Well done to the residents of Chapel Lane as the only rubbish found there were three cigarette ends. It was good to see young children with their parents recognising how important giving help to others is. (Chocolate biscuits are a good reward too.) There was a good community spirit and some very useful networking went on. We hope you can see a difference in the village. The challenge is to educate people not to drop their litter in the first place especially those who throw it out of their vehicles as they drive through Staplehurst. Real success would be for Clean-Ups to be unnecessary. We know many residents also litter-pick on a regular basis in addition to our Clean-Ups. Thank you to them! We hope to see you next Spring when we will have to do this all over again.

next meeting Spring 2019

JOAN BULLER