STAPLEHURST PARISH COUNCIL

Committee, Group or Sub Group

Staplehurst Community Clean-Up

Meeting Date & Venue

10th March 2018 Youth Club site

Report Author

JOAN BULLER

Report

Councillors Burnham and Buller organised the first Clean-Up of the year.

A huge thank you to the 40 residents who helped collect masses of litter from our village streets. We concentrated on the 4 main roads and the Station area as these roads were particularly bad. However most of our estate roads were also cleaned.

We would also like to thank a further 15 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 WI was in charge of refreshments again this time and they did an excellent job as usual.

We are very 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, Deborah and Jean in the Office who also work hard on this event.

We were pleased to have some family groups helping; our youngest volunteers were twin boys about 3 months old, but they sensibly slept through the whole affair in their twin push chair! We were also delighted to have our County Councillor Eric Hotson helping. Well done too to Borough Councillor Perry and Mrs Perry who cleaned a country lane and Parish Councillor Rory Silkin. Thank you too to the Brownies and their leaders who cleaned the Jubilee Field next to their Guide Centre.

As usual there was an amazing 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 people who throw it out of their vehicles as they drive through Staplehurst. Real success would be for Clean-Ups to be unnecessary.

I walked Pinnock Lane on Saturday afternoon and was appalled to see the amount of rubbish along this lovely rural lane. We would have needed many sacks!

We know many residents also litter pick on a regular basis in addition to our Clean-Ups. Thank you to them!

See you in the autumn when we will have to do this all over again.

Date & Venue of next meeting

Autumn 2018