



Introduction

The Parish Council's 2022 plan has successfully met numerous original objectives, resulting in visible improvements across our community, from playgrounds to parks, from allotments to strengthened alliances.

We are committed to working alongside our residents to ensure the well-being of our area.

As we look ahead, it's time to develop a new plan that will guide the council's initiatives and budgetary decisions through to 2027. We will continue to address ongoing objectives.

This plan incorporates valuable feedback from our recent online and community consultation. While some issues raised may fall outside the scope of the Parish Council's authority, we are dedicated to addressing those that we can influence and implement.

Checking Progress

The council will update the public on its progress via its website, social media, press and notice board.

For more information about our councillors, meeting dates, minutes and agendas and the work we do please visit our website.

Governance and Accountability

The Parish Clerk has responsibility for ensuring the council operates within its own financial regulations and complies with the requirements of internal and external audits.

The council has responsibility for monitoring the progress of this plan and for making strategic, policy and budgetary decisions required to achieve its objectives.

Role of the Parish Council

The Parish Council is dedicated to working with our community to make our area a wonderful place to live, work, relax and visit.

We pay close attention to local life and actively seek improvements in areas that may have been neglected or overlooked.

We aim to foster a sense of belonging and pride among residents, encouraging everyone to actively engage in community life.

As a hub for local opinion, the council partners with dedicated residents, local groups, and organisations to ensure we serve our community effectively and strive for excellence. While the role of a councillor can present challenges, it is also immensely fascinating and rewarding. If you are interested in becoming a councillor, we warmly invite you to attend one of our meetings - everyone is welcome!

About the Parish

The parish of Stainland and District brings together the semi-rural villages of Stainland, Holywell Green, Sowood, Jagger Green and Old Lindley the area of Outlane that lies within in Calderdale.

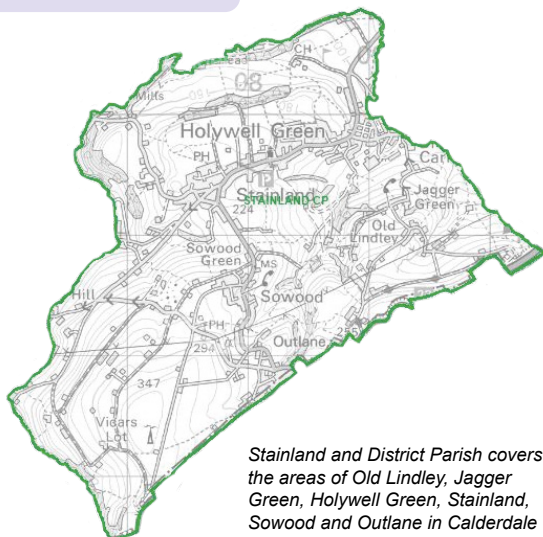
There are a total of 2,043 households and residents have access to two primary schools, four parks, two community centres,

St Andrew's church, sports clubs, and a variety of interest groups.

What Are We Going to Do

We have identified three key themes to guide us.

For each theme, we have outlined ongoing initiatives as well as new objectives which include a mix of short-term projects and more complex long-term goals.



Stainland and District Parish covers the areas of Old Lindley, Jagger Green, Holywell Green, Stainland, Sowood and Outlane in Calderdale



THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

To foster engagement, understanding, and appreciation of the natural environment.

To enhance and safeguard our green spaces for community use.

To protect and enhance existing wildlife habitats.

To promote biodiversity and create additional areas where nature can flourish.

To promote sustainable nature and climate friendly practices within our community.



THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

To enhance and promote the historic and cultural heritage of Stainland and District.

To preserve the character of the Stainland Conservation Area, the parish's listed buildings and other heritage assets.

To enhance public spaces and facilities to improve accessibility and usability for all residents.

To protect the unique identity of our semi-rural community and defend the surrounding Green Belt.

To advocate for green building practices and for safety and wellbeing in the design of public spaces and community areas.



BUILDING OUR COMMUNITY

To encourage pride in the community and foster sustainable, vibrant economic activity in Stainland and District.

To promote involvement and active participation in local events.

To foster a socially inclusive and caring community for all residents.

To represent and advocate for the community's views and aspirations at local, borough, county, regional and national levels.

To strengthen connections among residents and support collaborative initiatives.

Ongoing Objectives

These initiatives have been established since the council's inception in 2018 and we will continue to advance them alongside new projects.

To uphold our responsibilities as landowners of Drury Lane allotments, ensuring their continuing success.

To maintain the ponds in Shaw Park.

To provide ongoing maintenance and care for planters and flower beds.

To manage and maintain gardens and grass verges that are not tended by Calderdale Council enhancing the local landscape.

To care for and sustain native hedgerows planted by the Parish Council and community members, promoting biodiversity.

To replenish existing parish grit bins and evaluate requests for additional ones.

To preserve heritage railings on Parish Council sites that contribute to the area's historical character.

To care for picnic benches and seating provided by the Parish Council while considering requests for additional installations.

To consider and comment on planning applications within the parish.

To comment on consultations on any matters that affect the parish.

To collaborate with organisations to secure optimal facilities and services for our community.

To support local voluntary groups, organisations and clubs.

To provide community grants to new and established groups to foster local initiatives.

To supply Christmas decorations to enhance community spirit during the festive season.

To host Remembrance Day Services to honour and remember those who served.

To offer free open door/drop-in sessions at community venues and promote engagement.



Suggestions for New Projects

These include potential partnerships with other organisations, campaigns for better services and facilities and proposals for new projects and events. Tell us your suggestions.

Consider maintaining green areas of closed churchyards using Community Payback Service where possible.

Develop the Drury Lane Community Orchard as a green space for residents and habitat for wildlife.

Host fruit pruning workshops and seasonal events in the Community Orchard.

Apply for Tree Preservation Orders on notable unprotected trees in the parish.

Identify sites for planting trees and increasing biodiversity.

Consider making improvements to the setting of the Grade II Listed Stainland Cross.

Acquire historically significant tenter posts and reinstate them in the Conservation Area.

Explore the acquisition of the original tenter post site.

Consider accepting the gift of closed churchyards and the care of significant historical memorials.

Improve safety by considering contributing to improvements to street lighting.

Campaign for speed reduction of traffic at pinch points in the parish.

Consider seeking Conservation Area status for Holywell Green.

Consider a grant scheme to encourage sympathetic signage on commercial and community buildings in the parish.

Campaign to encourage retention of historic features that contribute to the character of the area.

Carry out effective community consultation.

Establish a calendar of community events – walks, festivals, workshops, holiday activities.

Sponsor a darts club at a community venue.

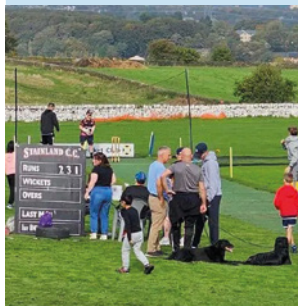
Trial a book and toy swap scheme at The Old Library in the school holidays.

Support local groups to use the community buildings e.g. book club, toddler group.

Offer free taster sessions for young teenagers – music, dance, drama, skills, craft workshops at various venues; community centres, parks, sports clubs.



The first apple blossom in the Drury Lane Community Orchard created by the Parish Council with the aid of a grant from the Tree Council.



Stainland Cricket Club has benefited from grants from the Parish Council to train coaches, improve facilities and purchase equipment for youth teams.



The Friends of Shaw Park assembling the Green and Keen Community Cabin which was part funded by a grant from the Parish Council.



The Parish council have provided free darts sessions for youngsters in the area.



More Suggestions for New Projects

These include potential partnerships with other organisations, campaigns for better services and facilities and proposals for new projects and events. Tell us your suggestions.

Consider making improvements to the entrance to Jagger Green play area.

Support the safer street layout around Bowling Green School and promote complementary improvements to the Green.

Consider seeking Local Nature Reserve status at Stainland Memorial Park.

Consider carrying out reviews/condition surveys of public footpaths.

Promote a parish boundary walk.

Introduce a walking festival for the area.

Organise regular wellbeing walks.

Focus on improved signage for key locations/routes with distances to locations.

To work in partnership with Calderdale Council to enhance the pathway into Shaw Park from the Shaw Lane entrance.



The Drury Lane Allotment site was purchased by the Parish Council in 2023

The site has since been improved for safety and is now has its own tenant's association who manage the site to improve productivity and encourage wildlife

Campaign to encourage retention of historic features that contribute to the character of the area.

Explore partnerships to reinstate / repair Grade II listed follies in Shaw Park.

Commission an updated Conservation Area Appraisal to strengthen planning protection for the village's historic centre.

Campaign for or contribute towards a safer bus stop on Stainland Road opposite West View.

Work in partnership with Calderdale Council to improve local car parks and consider providing electric vehicle charging points.



Sowood Community Centre is well used and well equipped but the fabric of the building could benefit from investment.

Consider providing a Community Transport Scheme.

Campaign to raise awareness of how the parish will be represented by Calderdale ward councillors following electoral boundary changes in 2026.

Campaign for improved access to essential services (including the doctors' surgery) by restoring regular bus service between Outlane and West Vale.

Explore feasibility for the asset transfer of Sowood Community Centre to a charity or CIO to ensure its future as a community centre.

Consider installing information boards around the parish.

Explore the merit of undertaking a Neighbourhood Plan for the area.



The Old Library in Stainland was asset transferred via the Parish Council who provided significant funding for the renovations carried out by the building's trustees and management committee.