

STRETTON-ON-FOSSE PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER February 2018

COUNCILLORS: Isobel Hazelwood (Chairman) 661816; Penny White (Vice-Chair) 663811; Keith Finlay 661157; Chris Long-Leather 663863 ; Peter Balchin 664149 Parish Clerk Sue Finlay 661157

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR: Jo Barker 077489 68712

What's on in Stretton?

Thursday 1st March, in Village Hall committee room, Village Hall AGM and committee meeting at 7.30pm

Friday 2nd March, in Village Hall, Stretton Film Club present: Goodbye Christopher Robin ((PG), 7 for 7.30

Saturday 28th April, in Village Hall, Bridge Afternoon contact Rod Case, 01608 662226

Wednesday 9th May, in Village Hall committee room Parish Council AGM and general meeting at 7.30pm

The Village Website and the Parish Council Email List

If you have access to the internet check out our website www.strettononfosse.com which is there for you, the locals, and for visitors. Use it to find out what is happening in the village, send us your information to upload before and after events, news, photos.... If you have material for the website please contact us via the website or Izzi: ihazelwood@hotmail.com/ tel 661816; or Chris: chris.longleather@btinternet.com / tel: 663863

Are you new to the village? If you have email send your address (and actual address so that we don't deliver paper copies as well) to ihazelwood@hotmail.com. Information about what is on in the village, the newsletter (which appears 3 or 4 times a year) and other matters of general interest will be sent to you. Your email address will not be available to anyone else. Or phone Izzi if you want a paper copy of information because you have no internet (Tel: 661816)

A MUCH REPEATED REQUEST! Is anyone interested in updating the website once a week/fortnight with photos, upcoming events etc? We can't pay but it shouldn't be too onerous. It would need to be someone with an interest in and knowledge of the village and who lives here. If you could help please email ihazelwood@hotmail.com

Neighbourhood Watch – if you would like to join this please send an email to Penny White (pwhite@white.star.co.uk) or phone her on 663811. There has been an increase in theft particularly of garden and agricultural tools in this area recently so any suspicious activity can be reported to Penny and/or the police (on 101 unless it is an emergency). The local police have started a new alert system if you have email: to get Community Messages via the Police click on the link and follow the instructions. <http://warwickshire.police.uk/register>.

Stretton has a Facebook account!

Become a Facebook Friend of Stretton-on-Fosse Online! We have an account so that Strettonites and friends can use it for comments about the village and events, advertise events, sell or re-cycle or ask to buy items, lost and found, start conversations about what interests you about the village, suggestions for the village hall and parish council, fund-raising, post photos etc.

Parish Council News

- **The Portabello Crossroads** safety improvements: The work on improving this is due to start now in early summer. The work has apparently been delayed (again) by the

fact that utilities (pipes etc) have to be moved and that some trees have to be removed to allow a good line of sight for the traffic lights planned.

- **Power cuts:** If there is a power cut you can now **dial 105** to get through to the correct power company to report the cut. Remember the power company may well not know that there is a problem until phoned.
- **Parish Council Information:** On the website you will find the minutes of the last but one meeting of the parish council and the annual accounts. The minutes of the last meeting are only passed as correct at the next meeting so only appear in draft form and are liable to correction. Look under the parish council section.

Village Playground Fund-Raising

And we are off!!!The first playground fundraising meeting took place last week. We met to discuss how we can replace the wooden play equipment which was installed 20 years ago and is coming to the end of its shelf life. The playground is a true village asset and is enjoyed by young and old.

Following the results of the village survey, regarding what the "village people" would like to install in the area - a few of us have joined forces, with the aim of getting this project off the ground. Quite literally!

The project has gratefully received a generous donation of £3,000 via a charity relating to the Hoskins Family and a donation of £515 from the profits from the sale of Stretton's apple juice and the milk and eggs. A wonderful start, I am sure you will all agree to our fundraising campaign.

Over the coming weeks we will be putting together a "**fun**"draising schedule of exciting events which the whole community can get involved with, to raise the much needed funds. We will frequently be updating you about the progress of the project.

We are grateful to the hospitality of The Plough, who are kindly hosting a darts event on 18th February, with the proceeds going towards the playground fund. If you would like to get involved in fundraising for the project, please contact:- Lucy Cox on Lucy.oliver@gmail.com or Jo Holdback on Joanna.holdback@knightfrank.com

The Playground Fundraising Committee Andy Giles, Andy Cox, Ben Aubrey, Claire Sutton, Izzi Hazelwood, Jo Holdback, Lucy Cox, Sarah Green

Potholes, Blocked Drains, Signage, Fly-Tipping and other Pests

The Parish Council are happy to report this kind of problem but anyone can do so by either phoning Stratford District Council or Warwickshire County Council, or reporting problems on their website (see details below). Sometimes it is unclear whether something is Stratford District Council or Warwickshire County Council or Severn Trent's responsibility but if you phone they will point you in the right direction. The more locals complain the more likely it is something will happen sooner. If you need a matter to be chased up, then the Parish Council will gladly add some pressure.

The Mobile Library

Some of you may not be aware that there is a Warwickshire mobile library service which visits the car park of the village hall at 10.10 till 10.30 every third Friday. The next visits are on: 2/3, 23/3, 13/4, 4/5, 25/5, 15/6, 6/7.

Each mobile service has:

- large and small print titles
- spoken word
- books for young children
- no fines or charges and free book requests
- information on the Internet
- local, library and County Council information screens

Access and comfort

- low entrance with two small steps
- ramp at the rear for wheelchair users
- air conditioning

There is also a Home Library Service. This service delivers library books to people who can't get to the mobile library due to ill health or disability. Contact: 01926 851031

There is additional information up on notice-boards or phone Izzi (661816) and she will bring you the information.

Stretton Biodiversity Group

The Stretton Biodiversity Group aims to support the conservation of nature in our village and foster a growing interest in the natural world. We help to monitor and improve key local habitats and species, including maintaining native wild flower patches around the village and the Spinney alongside the gated road. These in turn are helping to support native wildlife - from bees to bats and hedgehogs to hawk moths. We also organise community events, talks by experts and visits to interesting habitats.

Everyone welcome at any events, no expertise necessary! Contact Dave Passingham Tel: 661816.

Stretton-on-Fosse Apple Juice: we have now sold some 500 bottles of our juice this year and made a profit which is being donated to the Playground Fund. All the apples came from the orchards and gardens in the parish.

Events planned for 2018 – NB the dates may change, so watch out for more details etc on noticeboards or from village email circulation

13th May, Pond-Dipping, 10.30am

10th June, Visit to Otmoor Reserve

13/14th July, Bat-watching and Moth-Trapping:

Save on Heating Oil or PLG

With nearly a third of households in Stratford on Avon District being off the mains gas network, saving on heating costs is a particular concern for people living and working in rural Warwickshire (District Council's Home Energy Conservation Act Report 2017). Domestic heating is usually more expensive in rural areas as housing tends to be older and less energy-efficient and so fuel poverty is generally higher. So in 2012 we set up our own Energy buying syndicate to create collective purchasing power and keep prices at an affordable level for users. Membership is open to all in Warwickshire – whether you're an individual householder, a community group or a business – and it's free to join. You'll be pleased to hear that saving on heating costs can add up significantly, too. Over the past 5 years we've ordered over 3.5 million litres of kerosene and saved members over £180,000 against average prices quoted – and a huge £380,000 against the maximum prices quoted by local suppliers!

And by helping suppliers to plan and deliver orders more efficiently, we're saving oil miles and doing our bit to reduce carbon footprint locally, too.

If you've got any questions or would like more information, call Sharn on 01789 472619.

How It Works

Members can place monthly orders via our site. The minimum order amount is 500 litres and each order helps to increase our negotiating power, saving on heating costs for all our customers. Orders must be placed before 12 noon on the deadline date and, once submitted, are regarded as being binding.

Become a Member

From September 2017, we've abolished membership fees, which is a further incentive to join our syndicate. And you can leave us to deal with the hassle of price negotiations as well.

LPG (Liquefied Petroleum Gas) Orders

We have an arrangement with Swift Energy Consultants Limited, one of the market suppliers, so you can also make savings on LPG orders (bulk and cylinders)

Tel: 01789 842182

From Warwickshire Rural Community Council, Warwick Enterprise Park, Wellesbourne, Warwick CV35 9EF

The next Parish Council meeting is on Wednesday 9th May at 7.30 in the village hall committee room. Agenda will be on the notice board and on the website. All welcome. If you want the PC to discuss a matter please contact the Parish Clerk, Sue Finlay, beforehand.

Village Hall News

To book the village hall please contact Becky on 661348 or email: miniplough@yahoo.co.uk

The Village Hall is happy to hire out tables, chairs, crockery, cutlery and sports equipment but we would expect a donation to the hall for the use. Please apply to Becky Morgan.

Stretton Films

at the Village Hall are pleased to present **Goodbye Christopher Robin** (PG) on **Friday 2nd March**. Adults £3.50, children £2.50. Doors open at 7:00pm, the film will show 7:30pm - 9:30pm. Tea, coffee and soft drinks will be available before and after the film. You are welcome to bring other drinks.

The Book Swap

There is a plastic box under or on the seat at the bus stop with books to swap. Just bring a book of yours which you want to donate and take another book. This has now been going for about 3 months so it would be interesting to know how many people use it. If you do, can you let Izzi know on ihazelwood@hotmail.com or a note through her door (11 The Green) if it is worth carrying on/expanding etc.

Another resident had the idea of starting a DVD Swap/ Borrow and Return too. We will start this soon.

Stretton Greenfingers – Stretton's Gardening Club

Membership £10. Contact Chris on 663863 or chris.longleather@btinternet.com. We arrange a number of garden visits, put on the Annual Show in September and arrange 2 talks to which all are most welcome, members have free entry to talks, non-members – a small charge

Community Chickens

11 Households in Stretton look after 2 sets of approximately 12 chickens in the village. If you are interested in joining in please contact Stuart Potter on: 01068 663671.

Regular Events at the Village Hall

Toddlers: Fridays - 10.00 – 12.00 Contact – Lucy Cox 01608 663755

Learn to Dance: Mondays 7.30 to 9. Contact Silhouette Dancing (Meg) 07859 261 078 email info@silhouette-dance.co.uk www.silhouette-dance.co.uk

Line Dancing: Wednesdays, 7 - 8pm. Contact Caroline Green on 01386 870068

Exercise Classes: A choice of exercise classes in your village hall!

Thursdays - 9.00-10am - **Circuit Training**, suitable for all levels of fitness for an entire body workout. (Cardio, resistance & core work)

Thursdays - 10.00 - 11am- **Functional Pilates**- Improve your posture, core strength/stability & flexibility. All classes £6.50 pay as you go. Block booking discount available. For more information, www.julietrobbins.com or contact Juliet Robbins- 07899966303, email - get_fit@julietrobbins.com

Aikido classes: Sundays 4.30-6pm, contact Vince Sensei on 07738 837904 or julia.hunter-anderson@hotmail.com

Tai Chi: Mondays 11-12, contact Vince or Julia as above

Committee: Lucy Cox and Paul Robinson - Joint Chairs, Naomi Dalton - Treasurer, Becky Morgan – Bookings Secretary (01608 661348), Izzi Hazelwood – Secretary. Other committee members are: Geri Hunting, Anna Pike, Jayne Potter, Rod Case, Andy Giles, Steph Fahey and representatives of each of the regular bookings in the hall.

Next meeting: Thursday 1st March at 7.30pm in the Committee Room. This is our AGM and will be followed by a general meeting. All welcome. Date of future meeting will be on the website.

Useful phone numbers and email addresses:

Warwickshire County Council - 01926 410410; www.warwickshire.gov.uk

Stratford District Council - 01789 267575; www.stratford-dc.gov.uk

Highways Customer Services – 01926 412515

Information on fly-tipping, waste and re-cycling – 01789 260616

Shipston Library – 0300 555 8171 (open: Mon, Tues, Thurs 9.30-12.30; Tues, Thurs 13.30-17.30)

Trading Standards – Business advice line – 01926 414044

Consumer advice line – 08454 040506

Shipston Police (non-emergency) – 101 or 01789 444670 or Shipston Library

Ubus – 01789 264491 Abandoned Car Clear – 0800 1699900

Back and 4th Transport – 01789 471595 Shipston Leisure Centre – 01608 662354

Water – Severn Trent – 0800 7834444 Electricity – Western Power – 105 for power cuts

Neighbourhood Watch – Penny White (01608 663811)

Emergency Committee – Izzi Hazelwood (661816), Keith Finlay (661157), Stuart Potter (663671)