STRETTON-ON-FOSSE NEWSLETTER

September 2020

COUNCILLORS:  Isobel Hazelwood (Chairman) 661816; Penny White (Vice-Chair) 663811; Keith Finlay 661157; Chris Long-Leather 663863; Parish Clerk Sue Finlay 661157 or strettononfossepc@btinternet.com

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR: Jo Barker 077489 68712

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**The Village Website, Facebook and the Parish Council Email List**

Our website **www.strettononfosse.com** is there for you, the locals, and for visitors. Use it to find out what is happening in the village and for information on the parish council, the village hall, the gardening club, the bio-diversity group, the church.

Want to keep up with events and what is happening in the village? Send your email address (and actual address so that we don't deliver paper copies as well) to [**strettononfossepc@btinternet.com**](mailto:strettononfossepc@btinternet.com). Information about what is on in the village, the newsletter 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)

Or follow us on **Facebook: 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. There are three of us who monitor the posts – Izzi Hazelwood, Lucy Cox and Julia Hunter-Anderson. We have published on Facebook our policy on what we will and will not accept to post. When we delete a post we will send a private message to the sender so that they are aware why.

**Neighbourhood Watch** – if you would like to join this please send an email to Penny White ([pennycourthouse@gmail.com](mailto:pennycourthouse@gmail.com)) or phone her on 663811. Any suspicious activity can be reported to Penny and/or the police (on 101 unless it is an emergency). Please don’t wait to report something like a suspicious car – phone 101 immediately.

**PARISH COUNCIL INFORMATION**

**SCAP (Stretton Coronavirus Action Plan):** Thank you to so many of you in the village who helped and offered to help with the problems of the Lockdown. We had many more offers of help than we needed but we know many of you just helped neighbours anyway. And it may be that one positive outcome from these months is that you got to know more people locally. For the time being SCAP is being ‘stood down’ but unless you tell the parish council otherwise we will hang on to your offers of help (your details will be kept safe) in case the worst happens again. Of course, there is no reason why someone may not need help at some time so please feel free to contact the parish council.

**Parish Council Meetings:** we conducted our AGM on Zoom in May and have postponed our next meeting until late October, when we will either be sitting distanced in the village hall or on Zoom again. If you have any matters to discuss either at the meeting or with the parish council before that, please contact the Parish Clerk. Minutes of meetings, financial reports etc are all available on the website.

**Vacancy for Parish Councillors:** We have a vacancy on the Parish Council and are really keen to be able to bring in one or two new (younger?) faces (some of us in the Parish Council are getting past our sell-by dates!) – and in particular those who have a real stake in the future of Stretton. If you are interested please contact Izzi Hazelwood who will fill you in on the ‘experience’. It is not a very onerous job – 4 or 5 evening meetings a year, a lot of the work is done by the parish clerk and the chair and by email. There is an interesting time coming up for parishes – climate change, sustainability, changes in the planning laws and in the responsibilities of a parish council. We need fresh ideas and enthusiasm to keep our village thriving.

**Allotments and Community Orchard:** there is great work going on in the allotments in spite of the late start to the gardening year. There is currently a waiting list to have an allotment but if you would like to be on the list please let the parish council know. The community orchard is for anyone in the parish to visit. In a few years’ time there should be plenty of fruit to let everyone have a taste of what is growing there.

**A Plea to Dog Owners:** please, if you have a dog do not let it run loose in the orchard or allotments. We are regularly finding deposits of dog poo on the path in the orchard. There have also been several complaints over the last few months of dog poo bags being left round the village on verges, hanging on hedges etc. Take the bag with you and put it into one of the dog waste bins in the village (one at top of village by the side of The Bull Pen and one by the car park at the bottom of the village) or take it home.

**The Public Footpaths:** we now have a footpath warden in the village who will be looking after all the paths in our parish but will be happy to report on any problems in the surrounding area. Please contact Richard West on 01608 666934 if you have any concerns. He can then liaise with the Warwickshire County Council’s Footpath Officers where necessary.

**A New Bus Service:** a bus service in Stretton?! Yes! Pulhams have just started a new bus service linking Stratford, Ilmington, Shipston, Stretton-on-Fosse and Moreton (amongst other villages) which is passing through the village several times a day in each direction. There is a copy of the timetable in the bus-stop, bus number 51, and it is available on Pulhams website (pulhamscoaches.com). It apparently even links up with train arrivals and departures in Moreton.

**Stretton Food Bank:** starting on the 1st September there will be tins, packets and jars of food placed in the cream coloured cabinet at the front of the Village Hall for anybody who finds they cannot afford to buy enough food for the household. Please feel free to place tinned packets and jars of food directly in the cabinet if you wish to donate. This food is for the residents of Stretton to be taken as required. This collection is in addition to the Shipston Food Bank collection which has a separate container outside the village hall doors. Please note that the surplus vegetables and fruit are also in this cabinet - available for anyone to have and to leave a donation for, only if they can.

**Stretton’s Honey and Apple Juice:** We have a limited number of honey jars still - £3 for a half pound jar from Izzi Hazelwood (11 The Green) or Jayne Potter (Marston). The village apple juice will be on sale shortly, in the village fridge and outside 11 The Green. £2 per bottle or 3 for £5. Please return the bottles, rinsed. Thank you for the huge number returned last year. All profit goes to village causes.

**Wood-chipper and Allen Scythe:** The village now have a wood-chipper which will chip wood up to about 21/2 inches in diameter and an allen scythe for mowing. These have been bought with a combination of funds from the village hall, parish council and the gardening club and can be made available for hire (in the case of the wood-chipper training is necessary or a couple of volunteers will use it for you). Donations for usage to offset the cost of buying and servicing these, please.

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**VILLAGE HALL**

The village hall committee has decided to open the village hall for bookings but with the restrictions recently imposed on all community halls. Initially we are welcoming back the regular bookings as and when possible, but each request for booking will be looked at carefully, to decide whether it falls within the guidelines. Please address your request for a booking to: [strettonvillagehall@strettononfosse.com](mailto:strettonvillagehall@strettononfosse.com), or phone Sharon on: 01608 663865. We are putting in place all the necessary measures to protect everyone using the hall and a risk assessment is available on the strettononfosse.com website.

The Village Hall Committee**:** Lucy Cox and Paul Robinson - Joint Chairs, Jayne Potter - Treasurer, Sharon Harcourt – Bookings Secretary, Izzi Hazelwood – Secretary. Other committee members are: Rod Case, Andy Giles, Becky Morgan.

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**Useful phone numbers and email addresses:**

* Useful contacts for the Parish Council and the Village Hall

To hire the hall: [strettonvillagehall@strettononfosse.com](mailto:strettonvillagehall@strettononfosse.com) or phone Sharon on 663865

To request help on any other issues concerning the hall: [strettonvillagehallhelp@strettononfosse.com](mailto:strettonvillagehallhelp@strettononfosse.com) or phone Paul Robinson 662831 or Lucy Cox 663755

Parish Council: [strettononfossepc@btinternet.com](mailto:strettononfossepc@btinternet.com), or phone parish clerk 01608 661157

Neighbourhood Watch: Penny White, 01608 663811, [pennycourthouse@gmail.com](mailto:pennycourthouse@gmail.com)

* Warwickshire County Council - 01926 410410; [www.warwickshire.gov.uk](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk)
* Stratford District Council - 01789 267575; [www.stratford-dc.gov.uk](http://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) (currently closed, Stratford library open appt only - phone:0300 5558171)
* Trading Standards – Business advice line – 01926 414044
* Consumer advice line – 08454 040506
* Shipston Police (non-emergency) – 101 or Shipston Library (currently closed)
* 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)
* Vale Animal Rescue – 01386 882288 RSPCA – 0300 123 4999