

STRETTON-ON-FOSSE PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2019

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?

Friday, 8th March: Stretton Films present: Bohemian Rhapsody, 7 for 7.30, village hall

Tuesday 12th March: Village Hall Committee AGM, followed by ordinary meeting, 7.30, village hall

Wednesday 3rd April: Parish Council meeting, 7.30, village hall committee room

Saturday 6th April: Bridge Afternoon 2pm

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 email address (and actual address so that we don't deliver paper copies as well) to strettononfossepc@btinternet.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)

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. It could be anyone over 15 – perhaps doing the community part of their Duke of Edinburgh Award? If you could help please email us on: strettononfossepc@btinternet.com.

Neighbourhood Watch – if you would like to join this please send an email to Penny White (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. 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.

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.

Parish Council News

- **On May 2nd there will be district and parish council elections.** Names of candidates must be with Stratford District Council by April 3rd and will then be displayed on the parish council noticeboard and on the website.
- **Dog fouling:** Apologies once again to all those owners who consistently remove their dog's mess from the paths, pavements and roads. There is a substantial fine for those who do not. There have been more complaints than usual recently about dog mess being left on pavements, in driveways and in someone's flower beds. It is possible that a dog has been loose in the village but allowing your dog to roam can also be an offence. And please would those who adorn trees and bushes with the blue plastic poo bags just carry the bag with them!
- **Books in Boxes:** There are 2 boxes in the bus shelter full (to overflowing) of books left for anyone who fancies a read to help themselves to. Until we can think of a better place to keep them which is always accessible we need to restrict the books to INSIDE the boxes. If you would put a tick in pencil inside the cover of a book you have borrowed that would help to identify books which would be better taken to charity shops. Please don't bring more than one book at a time to put in the box. We would welcome any comments about the books, the boxes, where and how we could have a better system – would someone build us a book cupboard somewhere round the village hall? Let the Parish Council know.
- **The Portabello Crossroads** safety improvements: In September we reported that the work on improving was due to start in November 2018. The work has apparently been delayed for the nth time by the fact that the lighting plan had to be approved and tenders have gone out. You will notice that nothing has happened and it is now 2019. The parish council are trying to get this moved on but with little success.
- **The 5 houses being built at Harolds Orchard:** there are 2 x 3 bed, 2 x 2 bed houses and one 2 bed bungalow which are due to be finished in approx. July. Warwickshire Rural Housing Association will rent these houses out. To be eligible for one of these houses you must have: a) been born in the parish **or** b) have lived in the parish **or** c) work in the parish **or** d) have a close relative in the parish. The first step is to register with the District Council's housing register (www.homechoiceplus.org.uk) then when you have had confirmed that you are on their register, you should go to the Warks Rural Housing Association website (www.warwickshireha.org.uk) and fill in the 'Register of Interest Form' for the village of Stretton-on-Fosse. If you have difficulty with these forms please contact anyone on the Parish Council. If you have no internet you can always access a computer at Shipston library. We will remind the village as the dates become clearer. If you know of someone who is eligible but will not receive this newsletter please let them know.
- **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. If you do not have access to the internet keep an eye on the 3 notice-boards in the village.

Village Playground Fund-Raising

We are one year into raising funds for the new playground equipment which will include adult outdoor equipment. We are sometimes asked what is wrong with the current equipment: the Parish Council has it safety checked every year and the wooden equipment is beginning to rot mainly below the surface and has now only a couple of years of life left. All the steel equipment – swings, long slide, rocking horse and igloo is safe and will stay.

So far we have managed to raise the magnificent sum of £17,000. We are amazed at the village's talent for fund-raising – children, parents, the pub, grandparents, events like the U3A Orchestra, Burns Night, villagers and visitors – all have contributed. Watch out for more fund-raising – SOON!

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, Mandy Aubrey, Izzi Hazelwood, Jo Holdback, Lucy Cox, [Sarah Green](#)

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: 1.3; 22.3; 12.4; 3.5; 24.5; 14.6

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.

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

Next meeting: Sunday 28th April, all welcome (contact Dave P above)

Pond-dipping: Sunday 26th May, (TBC)

Moth-trapping – Friday 12th July and Saturday 13th July (we release them afterwards!)

Bat-spotting – Saturday 13th July (TBC)

The next Parish Council meeting is on Wednesday 3rd April 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: minioplough@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.

We also have a data projector, a screen, 2 x triple-display boards which can be hired from the parish council. Please apply to strettonfossepc@btinternet.com or phone the parish clerk.

Soup on a Wednesday! We have been running a village lunchtime event every week from 12.30 till 2. We ask for a minimum of £2.50 for a bowl (or two) of delicious home-made soup (choice of 2) and rolls, made by Seton, a professional chef from the village, followed by tea or coffee. This is a chance to have a chat, get to know others in the village, get out of the house. The customers range in age from about 6 months to 80+. All most welcome. Contact Stuart Potter if you would like to know more: 01608 663671. We aim to carry on till at least the end of March.

Stretton Films

On Friday 8th March at the Village Hall are pleased to present: **Bohemian Rhapsody** (cert 12), a celebration of Queen, their music and extraordinary lead singer Freddie Mercury! 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.

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 (Saturday, 21st – keep the date!) and arrange 2 talks to which all are most welcome, members have free entry to talks, non-members – a small charge

Regular Events at the Village Hall

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

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

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

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

Functional Pilates Thursdays - 10.00 - 11am- 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

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

Next meeting: Tuesday 12th March at 7.30pm in the Committee Room. This is our AGM, followed by an ordinary 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 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)

Vale Animal Rescue – 01386 882288

RSPCA – 0300 123 4999