

PARISH COUNCIL

PUBLIC NOTICE

PARISH OF STOKE SUB HAMDON

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 87 of the Local Government Act 1972 that one vacancy has occurred on the Stoke sub Hamdon Parish Council. Unless a request for an election to be held is submitted in writing to the Proper Officer of the South Somerset District Council, at the Council Offices, Brympton Way, Yeovil, Somerset BA20 2HT by no later than 16th April 2017 by ten electors for the Parish of Stoke sub Hamdon, the Parish Council will proceed to fill this vacancy by co-option

Mrs S Moore
Parish Clerk
17th March 2017

Chair's Update

At our meeting on 1 March we were pleased to award a grant of £250 towards the provision of CCTV at Ham Hill. This initiative has the support of the police and the Country Park Rangers as part of an overall strategy to combat crime and anti-social behaviour in the public car park areas, and the loop road. The equipment will form part of the Prince of Wales CCTV system. The police have stated that there have been 64 reported crimes since January 2016, mostly thefts, but also including assaults and drink driving. It is felt by the Rangers and the police that CCTV would improve the situation and the total installation will cost £3,319. The Friends of Ham Hill are submitting a bid to the Avon & Somerset Police for the major part of the cost.

As we have stated before, this Parish Council is committed to campaigning for retain the historic character of our village in any new developments. To help us in this, our Planning Committee have been proactive in carrying out a detailed survey of every house in Stoke to establish what building and roof materials have been used. This demonstrates that 60% houses (old and new) are of hamstone construction, 21% reconstituted stone, with 82% tile/clay roofs. Where there are red brick or other materials this tends to be immediate post-war construction. We now have facts to back up our views and have sent our detailed results to District Planners for their information. To our knowledge nothing like this survey has ever been done before in Stoke, and we hope it will inform both planners and developers.

Planning Applications:

West Street development: an outline planning application has now been put in by Summerfield Homes for 27 homes on the 15 March, and if you want to look at this on the SSDC site you can find it in the Planning Section on the View a Planning Application Online page under the reference 17/01096/OUT. The application lacks details on building materials other than saying "significant hamstone". Results from the public consultation process run by Summerfield Homes recently showed 60.5% approved, and 27.1% objected. Out of the 775 properties contacted, some 45 people responded. The Planning Committee will now consider the application in relation to its detailed content and SSDC planning policies and respond on your behalf by the deadline of 5 April. We will take our own building survey results and local issues into account when coming to our conclusions. SSDC are due to make their decision by 8 June.

Vodafone /o2 have submitted an application to install a 20 metre column at East Stoke near Stanchester to improve mobile phone reception in the area. We have asked planners that the column is disguised as a tree so that it blends in better.

Planning Decisions: the two extra houses at the Southcombes site in Great Field Road (Blue Cedar Homes) have now been approved, on the same conditions as the original site immediately adjacent. The developer's contributions to the parish under an s.106

agreement once 50% of the buildings on both sites are occupied will be £5,705 for community halls and £10,007 for playing pitches/changing rooms.

Chair's Update

Contact details: Barbara Brooks, Chair of the Parish Council

Tel: 824432; Email: chairsshpc@hotmail.com

Tamarisk, High St (opp Working Men's Club)

WILL YOU JOIN US?

You are all cordially invited to come to the Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday 19th April at 7 pm. In the Memorial Hall. This is a once a year Open Meeting for residents, where you are invited to come and tell us what you would like the Council to look at over the coming year in parish council meetings, be it a new idea for the village, or something you would like to see working better. The meeting will be hosted by the Chair of the Parish Council and the Parish Clerk.

The meeting will open with light refreshments, including wine, tea and coffee at 7pm, followed by your questions at 7.30pm. Some of the clubs in the village will then give a short 5 minute talk about their activities over the year. Afterwards there will be an opportunity to look at their display tables and to find out how you can join, and to have a general get together. Hope to see you there!

Barbara Brooks, Chair

NAME THAT CENTRE!

We'd like your help in naming the new Youth Centre! When we originally bid for the Methodist Church, by default it became the Hamdon Youth Centre. However, we wondered whether it might be better to give it a name that perhaps reflects the history, or events, or people in our village. We'd love to hear your suggestions so thinking caps on please! You can email them to me, Barbara Brooks at chairsshpc@hotmail.com by the end of April, or pop them through my door at Tamarisk in the High Street. We'll let you know in a later edition of the newsletter what has been chosen

LITTER PICK:

The Parish Council are organising a litter pick for Saturday, 13 May. Please come and support us in keeping our village clean and tidy. We will be meeting at 10am at the Memorial Hall. Any children wishing to help out must be accompanied by an adult. All equipment including hi-viz waistcoats will be provided. We have not held a litter pick since 2015 when we had a good turnout of volunteers. Please support us once again so that we can get everything looking nice for the May Fayre and the summer months. For more information please contact the Parish Clerk, Sarah Moore on 01935 822455.

HANDYMAN

Stoke sub Hamdon Parish Council is looking for a self-employed handyman to undertake varied tasks throughout the parish on an ad-hoc basis. This person needs to be readily available, have a practical knowledge of this type of work and have their own transport, insurances and a comprehensive range of hand/small power tools. Please apply in writing or by e-mail to the Parish Clerk. Mrs Sarah Moore, 24 High Street, Stoke sub Hamdon, TA14 6PS or email clerksshpc@hotmail.co.uk

P.C.S.O. REPORT

For any advice and further/up-to-date information on incidents please go to the website: www.police.uk. If you are a witness to or the victim of a crime then it is imperative that you report it to the police immediately whether it is during the day or at night. When reporting an incident please telephone either 101 for non-emergencies or 999 for emergencies only.

STOKE ACTIVE WALKERS

Tuesday, 4th April 2017

Our walk today will begin by going along the bottom of Bowey, out along Norton Path and down over Sandy Lane then up to Greenham's Cross. We will go up Grintley Lane and follow the footpath to join the Odcombe road which will take us down into Chiselborough. From there we will go past the Cat's Head and follow the footpath through the Churchyard and across the fields back to the Lord Nelson for lunch.

We meet at 10.30am at Sea Wall, about 50 yards on the Montacute side of Bonnies Lane. Please wear suitable boots or shoes and clothing according to the weather. All our walks are free and we welcome new walkers to our friendly group. Well behaved dogs are also welcome. ALL WALKS ARE UNDERTAKEN AT THE WALKERS OWN RISK. For more information please contact Norman on 01935 822792.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF THE MEMORIAL HALL - NOTICE OF AGM

We would like to invite you to join us at the Annual General Meeting which will take place in the Memorial Hall on Monday 24th April 2017 at 7:45pm. If you have an agenda item please get in touch with Jill on 01935 829513. We are also looking for additional committee members who would like to get involved in the running of the hall for our community. If you could spare a small amount of time approximately once a month, do get in touch with Clare on 01935 823669 or email sampsonatt@btinternet.com. We look forward to seeing you on 24th April.

THE VILLAGE ARTIST GROUP

Are you interested in Art or just wanting to take up a relaxing hobby? We are a small friendly group who meet in the Memorial Hall on Monday and Friday mornings between 10am – 12pm and Thursday evenings between 7 - 9pm. You can attend any number of sessions for just £20 per term. Why not call in? All abilities are welcome.

If you are interested you can find out more by visiting our website www.yeovilarts.co.uk/villageartists/index.html, or visit our new Facebook page - The Village Artists Group Stoke-sub-Hamdon or just come along for a trial session.

For more information please contact Diana on 01935 881647.

WALKING FOR HEALTH

If you enjoy walking or would like to start walking with other people, then a warm welcome awaits you on the following walks, which are held on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month. The walks start and end at the Lighthouse café in Stoke sub Hamdon.

Every Step Counts starts at 9.30 am and is a 30 to 40 minute walk around the village, with drinks available at the Lighthouse after the walk.

Health Walks begin at 10.30am and the walks last 1.5 hours. Lunches and drinks are available after the walk.

March dates 13th and 27th.

Please contact Walk Leaders, Penny on 822208 or at pennyatrapnell@aol.com

Mark and Jane on 07496 148756 or Anne on 826256 if you would like any more information.

STOKE SUB HAMDON MAY FAYRE

Come and join us on Monday, 29 May 2017 for our annual May Fayre from 11.30 am to 5.00 pm in the grounds of the National Trust Priory and the Memorial Hall and grounds.

Entertainment includes our usual favourites plus more. The Working Men's Club will be running our bar again and there will be plenty of food available to keep you going during the day, as well as a whole variety of different stalls with lovely things to buy.

We are always looking for volunteers to help on the day and so if you are able to spare a couple of hours we would really welcome your support. Offers to bake a cake would also be greatly appreciated by those taking care of the kitchen – we would be grateful for your kind contributions!

Please look out for the May Fayre Programme in the weeks to come.

For more information, or if you would like to help on the day or bake us a cake, please call Denise on 01935 827793 or 07788 900672.

CASTLE PRIMARY SCHOOL – VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

Over the past two years, lots of exciting things have been going on at Castle Primary School. With the support of the Redstart Learning Partnership, with whom the school now works, we have seen the creation of new classrooms, internal remodelling of the communal spaces and a revamp of the existing classrooms into bright, engaging learning environments. The school also benefits from state of the art technology, including new screens and iPads for the children to use in their learning. Small teaching groups across the school ensure that the children get lots of individual attention and the teachers benefit from great CPD to ensure that they stay at the forefront of the educational world.

You may have seen us out and about around the village a bit more too during our Forest School sessions. We take the children out to Ham Hill, Jubilee Woods or other parts of our beautiful locale to take part in amazing outdoor learning opportunities – the school is so lucky to be situated where it is!

We send out fortnightly newsletters to our school community, but these are always available on our website so you can see what we've been up to. www.castleprimaryschool.com.

ROTARY CHARITY TEA PARTY IN AID OF POLIO PLUS

A big thank you to everyone who attended and supported our fund raising event last month; we raised a total of £363.50. Thank you.

Mark Gooch, The Rotary club of Yeo Vale

HAMDON COMMUNITY ARTS PROJECT

As you may be aware, the URC on North Street is has closed as a Church. However, this Grade 2* listed building is still home to the Hamdon Pre-school Playgroup, the Stoke Charity Shop for storage, the Stoke sub Hamdon Band and the Village Clock. As a consequence of this, we have formed a committee of the current users to try to save this beautiful building. We don't want it to be boarded up or to be lost to the community, so we are desperately trying to find ways of using it in the future to provide best value for the village. We need refreshing new ideas of how to use the building and we have had suggestions and ideas that range from drop in cafe, luncheon club, community arts and craft centre, a folk music venue and art gallery to museum and library.

After the initial committee meetings where these ideas were discussed in principle, we felt that a good name for the group that reflected these ideas is the Hamdon Community Arts Project.

We would like to invite you join us in an Open Door - Drop In Event, on the Saturday 6th May 2017, 11am until 3pm at the Hamdon Community Art Project (the URC on North Street). If you have never been in this building, this is your chance to come and have a look at this beautiful space that is full of potential. Come and have your say....any ideas or offers positive of involvement would be gratefully received. We are still in the very early stages of this project but the options are enormous and very exciting.

Maria Eames, Chair, Hamdon Community Arts Project

GARDEN CLUB NEWS

Once again the Gardening Club will stage its annual Flower, Produce and Craft Show at the Memorial Hall and Grounds. This year the Show is a week earlier than usual and will be held on Saturday 29th July. In order to give everyone the opportunity of sowing their seeds in good time or dusting off their knitting needles, a précis of the schedule is:

Vegetables and Fruit classes will include: potatoes, runner beans, lettuce, tomatoes, carrots, courgettes, beetroot, herbs, onions, cucumber, longest runner bean, rhubarb, etc., **The Flower classes** remain as last year and **Home Produce** has one or two slight amendments. For those among you who are keen on **Handicraft**, the classes include: a hand knitted or crocheted item, an article in wood, metal or pottery/ceramic, an article in

cross-stitch, tapestry or embroidery, a machine or hand sewn article and a patchwork/quilted article not to exceed 15" x 15".

The two children's classes are: A painting or drawing of a tree for the under 8 years old and an imaginary animal made from any NATURAL plant materials (vegetables, fruit, seeds, nuts etc. can be used), no pasta and it must NOT be painted for the 8-11 years old.

The photography classes include: Pets, A River Scene, Weather Vanes, Weeds and A Musical Theme.

We hope by giving this information early enough we will encourage many of you to enter our event. The Schedule and Entry Form will be circulated with the June Village Newsletter.

The Garden Club meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month and visitors can be assured of a warm welcome. At our April 26th meeting, Ian Williamson will enthral us with his Nepal Adventures and you are all welcome.

For further information on the Gardening Club please contact either our Secretary Tricia Toosey on 01935 823691 or our Chairman Sue Winwood on 01935 823671.

EASTER MARKET AND FAYRE

Saturday 15th April, 12pm-4pm, Stoke-sub-Hamdon Memorial Hall. 25 Food, Craft and Clothing Stalls, Freshly Cooked Wood Fired Pizzas, Bouncy Castle, Jam Making, Children's Arts & Crafts, Easter Egg Hunt and much more. FREE ENTRY.

CHURCH NOTICES

Holy Week and Easter

The Christian Year has two central dates - Christmas and Good Friday/Easter. The former was instituted when the Roman Empire was at its height (in the 4th century) and used the Western Calendar based on the Sun (and hence has a fixed date). Easter was celebrated almost immediately after it happened; initially by the Holy Day moving from the Jewish Sabbath to Sunday - to celebrate the day of resurrection. The annual celebration of Easter reflected the date in the Jewish calendar based on the Moon, and therefore varies (falling on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the Spring equinox).

This year's Holy Week and Easter celebrations

April 9th **Palm Sunday** services at St Mary's

8.00am - Prayer Book Communion

11.00 am - Common Worship Communion

6.30 pm - Evening Worship

April 13th **Maundy Thursday**

7.00 pm - a meal at All Saints Hall recalling the Last Supper

April 14th **Good Friday**

9.30 am - a Walk of Witness from St Mary's Church to the Memorial Hall (remembering Jesus' walk carrying his cross):

10.00am - a short service outside the Memorial Hall (including the erection of the Cross) (followed by Hot X buns).

April 16th **Easter Day**

6.15am - a "sunrise" service on Ham Hill (adjacent to the Toposcope)

11.00am - an all-age communion service at St Mary's

More details from Peter Thomas 881202 or Annie Gurner 824167

HAMDON YOUTH GROUP

Hamdon Youth Group is delighted to report that the church has agreed to sell the Methodist Hall to Stoke PC as a Youth and Family Community Centre and it will become our permanent home at some point during this year. Meanwhile we are holding weekly clubs in the Lighthouse Cafe. Despite this uncertainty two of our young volunteers have completed a

Basic Level NVQ in Basic Level Youth Work and Safeguarding Child Protection. Well done Janet and Charlie and we're glad you found them useful!

The programme for April sessions, 7- 9pm on Mondays for young people Year 6 and above is April 3rd - Family, what is it?; April 10th - Open Door; April 17th - Easter Fun and April 26th - Games Night. Meanwhile the drop-in cafe in Norton and the Youth Forum meet on alternate weeks in Norton VH Meeting Room and we'd love to welcome more young people to these and our Stoke club nights. Further info from our Youth Worker Lou on 07402 987921 or email lou.chant@cyp.me.uk. On social media find 'Stoke & Norton Youth Groups' on Facebook and 'Hamdon Youth Groups' on Instagram.

HAM HILL COUNTRY PARK EVENTS

All events can be booked online at www.southsomersetcountryside.com or by phone 01935 462282

Tuesday 11th April - The Eggathon – between 10.00am – 12.00 Noon. How eggciting! This is a real Easter Eggstravaganza of traditional egg games. We will start by painting our eggs and decorating them. Then we will take part in an egg rolling competition; will your egg roll the furthest? And egg rolling races where you push your egg along a track with a hazel stick and finish with a good old Easter egg hunt. There might even be some chocolate ones!

Booking is required and the cost is £5.00. Children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult, accompanying adult free. Max 24

DIARY OF EVENTS:

April

1 st	SPAG – 'The Charity Shop'
4 th	Stoke Active Walkers
15 th	Easter Market and Fayre
19 th	Annual Parish Meeting
24 th	Memorial Hall AGM

May

6 th	Hamdon Community Arts Project Open Door/Drop-In Event
13 th	Litter Pick
29 th	Stoke May Fayre

July

29 th	Flower, Produce and Craft Show
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