

PARISH COUNCIL

Please note: there is no Parish Council meeting in August. The next meeting will take place at the Memorial Hall on 8th September at 7pm

Somerset Choices: Somerset Choices is a new website that aims to help people help themselves stay independent, healthy and well. It will put people in control of their care and wellbeing and give them more choice when it comes to who provides their care and support. Visit the site: www.somersetchoices.org.uk

The new website guides people through self-help forms, provides easy access to information and a directory of local services, products, groups and events in their local area. Such as care homes, help at home, mobility equipment, personal assistants, lunch clubs, exercise groups and breaks for carers.

The site is now live in a test version – which means people can access the site but lots of work is still going on behind the scenes to improve the content and respond to feedback. More local care and support providers are also being encouraged to upload their details so that the site contains a really comprehensive directory of local services. If you have any initial feedback on the website please email: help@somersetchoices.org.uk.

There will be promotional activity to raise awareness of Somerset Choices including newspaper and radio advertising and events across the county. The event date is on Friday, 25 September in Yeovil Town Centre where you can talk to a member of the team about Somerset Choices and what it will offer, and to try the site out.

The Somerset Choices website has been developed by Somerset County Council, in partnership with the local Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and District Councils.

Keep your independence at home with Careline: Careline gives that little extra support to people who want to remain living at home independently for as long as possible while bringing peace of mind to their family and friends.

Do you live alone or sometimes feel at risk; have elderly, frail or infirm dependents; worry about their safety in an emergency and; want to help them maintain their independence?

Careline provides help at the touch of a button, which can be worn as a pendant or on a wrist strap, and dials through to our team 24-hours a day, 365 days a year. Through Careline you can enjoy the independence of living in your own home, secure in the knowledge that emergency help or advice is available at your fingertips. We offer a free demonstration and if you are happy with it, our staff can fit the unit for you immediately.

Contact us on either 01935 479815 or careline@southsomerset.gov.uk or go to our website: www.southsomerset.gov.uk/careline

The initial connection/setup fee **£32.70***, Hire and monitoring **£3.81** per week

**waived if on certain benefits*

PARKING UPDATE

Somerset County Council, in partnership with its contractor NSL, is responsible for parking enforcement in Somerset. To avoid any potential confusion for residents or their visitors the following guidance has been provided for information.

Receiving a Penalty Charge Notice:

If you have received a penalty then please do not ignore it. If you wish to challenge a notice then please write to the Council explaining the background and why it should be cancelled. The County Council will consider any mitigating circumstances.

Challenges that are received within 14 days will protect the option to pay at the discounted amount. If your challenge is unsuccessful, there is an option for the case to be heard by an independent adjudicator. There is no charge for the hearing which can be in person, by telephone or in writing. The adjudicator's decision is final.

Unclear Parking Restrictions:

Over time, signs and lines can fade or become damaged, and this can result in the parking restrictions becoming unclear. If the restriction is unclear there is the possibility the driver may be confused as to what is and isn't permitted. Residents who notice any unclear parking restrictions, either a sign or line problem, are encouraged to contact the South Somerset Area Highways Office.

Obsolete Parking Restrictions:

It is possible that enforcement may occur in areas where historic restrictions remain, and the original reasons for the restrictions may no longer be relevant. In these circumstances it is appropriate to consider whether they should be removed or changed.

If residents are aware of any restrictions that they think could be removed, details should be provided to Stoke Sub Hamdon Parish Council.

Contact Details:

Stoke Parish Council
Sarah Moore, Parish Clerk
24 High Street, Stoke sub Hamdon TA14 6PS
Email: clerksshpc@hotmail.co.uk

South Somerset Area Highways Office
Mead Avenue, Houndstone Business Park, Yeovil, Somerset, BA22 8RT
Email: countyroads-southsom@somerset.gov.uk

Somerset Parking Services
County Hall
Taunton
TA1 4DY
www.somerset.gov.uk/parking
Email: parking@somerset.gov.uk

Guidelines for Challenges and Representations:

<http://www.somerset.gov.uk/EasySiteWeb/GatewayLink.aspx?alld=41118>

P.C.S.O. REPORT

There have been 2 dwelling burglaries which are currently under investigation, an incident of GBH which is under investigation, an incident of criminal damage - 2 people have been charged and, three incidents of theft all of which are still under investigation. Please be advised that there has been an increase in non-dwelling burglaries i.e. sheds, garages, farm building. Make sure you protect your valuables and keep an account of them by taking photographs and recording serial numbers. You may wish to consider investing in a shed alarm and these can be purchased from any D.I.Y. store.

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 4 August

Today's walk will take us along Bowey then down across Shelves to Matts Lane. We will follow the footpath to Broadmead Lane and across the field to Manor Farm in Chiselborough. Then we will take the footpath up past Chiselborough Church to the Cats Head pub, go up to the Middle Chinnock road, turn left and go back towards Chiselborough, follow the footpath to the right along the back of the houses to pick up the Odcombe road. We will turn left into Chiselborough and back through Manor Farm and across the fields 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.

TAI CHI

Shibashi Tai Chi Class at the Stoke Sub Hamdon Memorial Hall, Wednesdays 5.30-6.30 pm £4 per per person. Call Martyn Powell 07717 893 749.

VERY IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Memorial Hall will be closed for 1 week from 10 August while the heating system is being refurbished. The works are very generously being funded by the Parish Council for which the Trustees are indebted.

If there are any problems please contact Ann Stuart 01935 824890

POP IN PROGRAMME

August

- 4 Boccia
- 11 Holiday - no meeting
- 18 Holiday - no meeting
- 25 Summer Poems

September

- 3 Music by Helen's Group

For more information contact Jennifer Kerr 01935 882609

FLOWER PRODUCE & CRAFT SHOW

Saturday, 1 August

There will be classes for all growers to enter. All the usual Fruit & Vegetable classes plus **NEW** this year; Marrow, Rhubarb & the longest Runner Bean. There are classes for Home Produce: baking, and jam making; Handicrafts: wood/metalwork, needlework, and knitting; also Flower Arranging and Photography.

The photography classes are "Seaside - Flotsam & Jetsam", "Garden Insects", "A Windy Day", "Old Abandoned Farm Implements/Machinery", and don't forget the "Musical Inspiration" class, any photograph with a "musical" theme. Photographs on photographic paper not to exceed 7" x 5" on a white paper mount 8" x 6".

Children under 8 years can enter an animal made of fruit and/or vegetables, 8 - 11 years are asked to decorate 3 fairy cakes & display on a tea plate. Please bring your entries to the Hall between 9.45am & 11.30am on 1st August. There will be lots of stalls and other entertainment, including Stoke Band, so do come along at 1.30pm to see who has won a trophy or just to enjoy the day. STROKE SUB HAMDON GARDENING CLUB LOOKS FORWARD TO SEEING YOU.

WALKING FOR HEALTH

Summer Walking for Health dates for your diary: 10th & 24th August and, 14th & 28th September. "Every Step Counts" starts 9.30am and lasts 30 to 40 minutes. "Health Walk" starts 10.30 am and lasts 1 hour 40minutes. The walks are friendly, social and free, come along and enjoy the beautiful area in and around Stoke sub Hamdon. For more information please contact Penny on 01935 822208 or Mark on 07974103275

STROKE BAND 70TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT

Stoke Band will be celebrating their 70th Anniversary on 5 September with a concert at the United Reformed Church. It will be a free concert with a retiring collection. Doors will open at 7pm and the concert will start at 7.30pm. Teas and coffees will be available. There will be display of photographs depicting the history of the band including the previous Stoke Military Band. We look forward to seeing you there.

Jane Herbert

HAMDON YOUTH GROUP

Lots of summer fun is planned for our Youth Club, now open from 7 - 9pm on MONDAYS in Stoke Methodist Hall and we're welcoming anyone Year 6 and above so come along and join in!

The programme for July

6th Movie Night

13th Dodgeball

20th Glass Painting

27th BBQ/ Water Fun

Youth Forum on alternate Wednesdays in Norton is the place to go to get your ideas and opinions about your village and its facilities heard by authorities. Don't just complain to your friends - get something done! Ask our Youth Worker, Lou, about this.

Owing to a couple of people having to drop out due to pressure of work, relocation etc., we are in desperate need of VOLUNTEERS, both to assist on Youth Club nights and to help behind the scenes. Please contact John Bailey (881227) or Lou.

The AGM of Hamdon Youth Group is on July 15 at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room at Norton Village Hall and we'd really welcome any interested member of our community to join our friendly group. For more information please contact Lou Chant on 07402 987921 or email lou.chant@cyp.me.uk or find us on Facebook@ [Community Youth Project](#).

ROLL UP! ROLL UP!

The Circus is in town!

The National Festival Circus will be performing at Norton sub Hamdon Primary School on Sunday 20 September, with performances at 1pm, 2.30pm and 4pm.

Please see www.nationalfestivalcircus.co.uk for a preview of the event. Tickets are £5 for children, £6 for adults, and will be on sale at Norton Village Stores and participating local schools. Please contact Jo Parker via e-mail nortoncircus@outlook.com for more information. This is a fundraising event, all proceeds going to the Friends of Norton School (registered charity no 1037353) and is kindly supported by Orchards Estates and Walter Wall Carpets, Coombe Farm, Pattermores Dairy Products and Beechwood House Care Home. Printing courtesy of Phillipa Coleman and Sainsbury.

LATEST NEWS ON ST MARY'S ROOF REPAIR

Thank you so much for your generous contributions to the Roof Repair Fund. The people of Stoke have come up trumps and have already given a total of over £7,000 towards this project. (much of which will also attract a 25% lift because it has been Gift-aided). We have also recently heard of a provisional donation of £5,000 from a charity. As the newsletter goes to press we are a few days away from the tenders being opened - to discover whether the estimate made for our Architect is in the right area. We are also awaiting the approval of the Diocesan Advisory Committee of the plans that have been submitted. When the work (mainly replacing the copper Nave Roof) takes place, which may be some time away, there will obviously be some disruption. We will keep you informed through the newsletter. Thanks again for your support.

Peter Thomas

LAST NIGHT OF THE PROMS

The Rotary Club of Yeovil presents 'Last Night of the Proms' concert with the British Philharmonic Concert Orchestra on Friday, 4 September at 7.30pm at the Octagon Theatre. The programme will include popular classics, light orchestral pieces, music from the movies and theatre and the big finale complete with pomp and flag waving. Proceeds will benefit Yeovil Hospital Charity CT Scanner Appeal. Tickets cost £24.50/£22.00 and are available from The Rotary Club of Yeovil – 01460 240984, Old Mill – 01935 426181 or the Octagon Theatre – 01935 422884. Please book early.

BEE SURVEY

Plantlife's hugely successful 'Bee Scene' survey has been rescued by family-owned cereal maker Nature's Path, after its original funding had ended. Over 30,000 children have already taken part in the wild flower survey since its launch in 2010. Families can discover whether their local area is good for bumblebees by looking for bee-friendly wild flowers such as foxgloves, dandelions and clovers in their local green spaces. The results are then uploaded onto a virtual meadow map of the UK. The survey raises awareness of the importance of biodiversity in their local area, giving enjoyment of wild flowers and realising their importance as part of our natural heritage.

Nature's Path has a strong commitment to sustainability and the natural environment and has stepped in to enable the Bee Scene initiative to reach many thousands more children and families this year after its National Lottery funding ended. 'Bee Scene' is a simple and effective way to encourage children and their families into their local parks or countryside - to enjoy them together away from the television screen, computer games and other pressures of modern life. By using a simple flower key, they are able to count different flower shapes and colours and look out

for bumblebees, so helping children understand how valuable their local green spaces are for wildlife.

Full details and bee scene resources are available online at www.plantlife.org.uk/beescene

DIARY OF EVENTS:

August

1 st	Garden Club - Flower Produce and Craft Show
10 th	Memorial Hall Closed for Refurbishment
10 th	Walking for Health
24 th	Walking for Health

September

4 th	Last Night at the Proms
5 th	Stoke Band 70 th Anniversary Celebrations
14 th	Walking for Health
20 th	National Festival Circus
25 th	Somerset Choices Event
28 th	Walking for Health