Marston Sicca



Parish Newsletter

March 2022

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COMMUNITY FOOD SHARE/CARE

Community Food Share – Operated by a small team who distribute food to those who require that extra help.

Please contact
Stephenie Hillier (07720 975023) or Jane Batchelor (07522 559865).
All inquiries and conversations are strictly confidential.

If you would like to donate food towards **The Community Food Share there will be a collection box outside The Poppin, Long Marston.**

Thank you.



Editor's Notes

"In like a lion, out like a lamb" is the famous quote for March. After the storms we have just had, I am not sure if that is more appropriate for last month. I hope you all managed to keep your fences!

This month sees another film night in the village hall. Dream Horse is a film based on a true story about an unlikely racehorse bred by a small-town bartender, who has very little money, no experience, and convinces her neighbours to chip in. It's described as a "feel -good" film. **Friday 27th March at 7pm**.

Next month is the Easter, and I would love for the children to design, draw, or even take a photo of what they think Easter represents. The winner will have the picture on the front cover. All entries will get a small prize for entering. As previous competitions, please put your name and contact number on the back of your picture. Thank you.

A gentle reminder that all articles for the newsletter should be sent by Sun 20th March.

Remember Shrove Tuesday, 'Pancake Day', is on March 1st. We have savoury pancakes and then sweet. Yum.

Have a good month,

Steph



Parish council comments

The Parish Council have raised various concerns about the B4632 and the increasing amendments to various applications which all appear to delay highways improvements to the B4632 corridor. These concerns have been raised with County Councillor Daren Pemberton who is being urged to provide a detailed response and to attend Parish Council meetings.

Members of the public were querying plans for the open space being transferred to the parish council. This relates to land behind Perry Orchard and in accordance with S106 conditions, involves three separate transfers – two lease hold sections of the space (the orchard and space for potential community building or pavilion) based on a 999-year lease, and a freehold section of the land (centre space/playing field). The final legal aspect of the transfer relates to rights of services to the site. A recent, initial survey was organised to prepare a framework of ideas for the site with a working group co-ordinating this and other data to form an action plan. A further survey may be conducted but ideas, costings and time frames will be prepared for public consultation in the village hall in due course and a map of the site will be placed on the Parish Council website and notice board.

The new charity status for the Pavilion Community Centre has been concluded and separate bank account has been organised. CIL monies received for specific use within the Pavilion will continue to be administered through the parish council but separate application for funding and administration will now be conducted through the new charity. The pavilion continues to broaden the range of community services it provides and includes a regular meeting place for those suffering with Parkinson's (in association with the leisure centre that is organising light exercise) and the feed a friend project

that has secured enormous support. Our thanks to all the generous coffee shop users who have enabled this project to be a huge success. This valuable community centre is also discussing ideas with the Job Centre to prepare a local, focused 'job club' for residents of Meon Vale and surrounding villages. More details on this will be provided in the next newsletter.

Allotments at Meon Vale are now ready for use with license applications in place for residents who are keen on acquiring or sharing a plot. The Parish Council are preparing to organise the pitch boundaries to ensure the site is ready for use. Some residents have already expressed an interest but would ask any resident who is interested in the allotments to contact the parish clerk: Clerk@marstonsicca-pc.gov.uk.

The council has received communications relating to various issues within the village including parking within Barley Fields and overgrown hedges that are encroaching on public footpaths. We will be contacting all households where hedging is proving to be a problem and are reviewing viable options to tackle other issues raised.

Councillor Clarke confirmed plans for the Jubilee celebrations have been organised in the village hall for June 4th and will be posting more details relating to this family fun day nearer the time.

Councillor Johnsey confirmed a further appraisal had been made to Barley Fields play area with the planting to be addressed soon. A separate appraisal will be conducted to the play area within the open space, and we are discussing related conditions to the site with SDC.

Councillor Davis advised progress continues to be made with regards to the Neighbourhood Plan. We all appreciate this is an arduous task with various stages requiring assessment and modifications. The council would like to thank the NP working group for all their hard work and perseverance.

Our District Councillor Manuela Perteghella gave a detailed review on various matters relating to the parish and Stratford District Council. The main district council news is the setting of the council budget. A reduction in financial support from central government is being forecast and consequently there is a review on costs & revenues for the district council. There is a planned increase in the green bin charge and there are some proposed cuts in services including the closure of Stratford's Tourist Information Centre. The Parish Council will continue to assess any potential service changes to the local area.

Other news confirmed the government's announcement that residents living in properties in council tax bands A to D are expected to receive a £150 rebate to help address the cost-of-living crisis.

Councill Perteghella also noted the ongoing battle with SDC where the matter of dropped kerbs was raised at Full Council. This relates to Meon Vale where a significant amount of pavement has no dropped kerb making it especially difficult for residents with mobility issues. The matter is ongoing and should be considered a part of planning conditions for future developments.

Councillor Whittacker gave a detailed report including an update from Meon Vale residents' association who work collectively to raise and resolve issues within Meon Vale but also to encourage community engagement and activity. Speeding, Village Hall use and environmental plan for the woodland and wetland areas continue to be a priority. The report also included proposed climate change initiatives for councillors to consider as the parish council look to adopt a Climate Change and Biodiversity Policy. As we work in conjunction with SDC on this important topic, the council may organise a further working party to help orchestrate an action plan. More details will be made available during first quarter 2022.

PLANNING MATTERS

22/00204/AMD,4 Box Bush Cottage

Amendment to planning application 21/01340/FUL to reposition part of the northern wall by 200mm so that it is line with the existing wall thus allowing the cloakroom to be slightly larger.

This amendment has been APPROVED by SDC.

20/02569/REM, Meon Vale.

Reserved matters application for 38 dwellings on eastern part of phase of 4B which includes vehicular access to Station Road and open space.

This has been APPROVED by SDC

All others extant planning applications pending a decision

Next Meeting March 21st @ 7.30pm Long Marston Village Hall.

Debbie Woodliffe
Parish Clerk



HollieGuard is an app that can track a person's location as they make their way home, as they're out jogging or cycling, or simply going about their day-to -day tasks.

If they feel unsafe, all they need to do is shake their phone to send an alert to a group of contacts to warn them that they may be in danger. Once the phone has been shaken, it will then start recording both audio and visual footage of what's happening around them.

This will be saved and sent to their contacts so they can see what's happening and call the police or ambulance service if they are required.

If the phone is shaken again, a flashing light and high-pitched beeping will start coming from the phone to alert people nearby that that person may be in danger.

Key features of the app include:

• **Journey** - Allows a person to safely and confidently travel by providing their emergency contacts with real-time updates of their movements as they move between two places.

• **Meeting** - This function allows the person to identify when they are going to a potentially dangerous meeting or working alone. An alert will automatically be created if the timer expires, or they do not cancel the meeting.

• **Man Down** - Man Down will send an alert to a dedicated contacts to make them aware if a person hasn't moved in a while. The app will flag sudden non-movement and impact, for example if someone has been assaulted or fallen down.

• **Duress** Pin - If a person is being forced to cancel an alert they can enter the Duress Pin of 9999. The alert will appear to have been cancelled, but will remain active on HollieGuard's secure server, so they will know the person has been forced to cancel an alert.

The app was set up in memory of 20-year-old Hollie Gazzard, who was stabbed to death in 2014 at the salon she worked at in Gloucestershire by a jealous ex-boyfriend who couldn't accept that she had ended their relationship.

With over 22,000 users already, the police force is supporting this app to help people in the country to feel safe as they are out in their communities – be it exercising, meeting someone new, or just to monitor their journey home.

For more information and to find out how to download the app, please visit www.hollieguard.com.

Report from your District Councillor

Dear Residents

Hope you are all keeping well.

Then main district council news this month is the setting of the council budget. A drop in government financial support for the council after next year is being forecast by the current Cabinet in their budget proposals, and the Cabinet has planned an increase in the green bin charge – which was introduced just last year, and four years of the maximum council tax increase allowed by the government. There are also some proposed cuts in services including the closure of Stratford's Tourist Information Centre – despite the setbacks that the tourist and hospitality trades have seen in the last two years, and the threat to the Shopmobility scheme, which helps disabled residents and visitors and those with mobility issues.

Our group has proposed an alternative costed budget, which would oppose these cuts. Among our proposals were a Community Climate Change Fund for groups (improving village halls, community planting, repair cafes, cycle infrastructure, etc.). Often community groups, parish councils and village halls need to secure match funding for larger initiatives and this would be a fund which could help achieve match funding. We proposed funding for extra business support to assist with the Recovery from COVID, as government grants for local authority are increasingly won through competitive bids, and we proposed specific funding for practical energy and finance advice for residents for tackling the energy crisis and the high cost of living.

We also urged the Cabinet that the abolishment of the over-65s parking permit is reviewed and costed to cover the administration and reduced income. And we requested a report back on the communication strategy for the 123plus waste contract, which will be implemented next year. The Cabinet budget, as well our alternative budget, was debated and voted on Monday 21st February.



The Cabinet rejected all of our amendments except for the energy advice funding.

Cost of living crisis – council tax rebate

In other news, the government has announced that residents living in properties in council tax bands A to D are expected to receive the £150 rebate to help address the cost-of-living crisis. There is additional financial support too for vulnerable households in England as discretionary funding, both schemes will be administered by the council.

Meon Vale

At the Full Council meeting I raised the issues of lack of dropped kerbs for pedestrians – especially residents with mobility issues - in new developments, and asked that these should be conditioned by Stratford District Council in consultation with County Highway at time of granting planning application and in view of the Equality Act. I'm now waiting for a reply from the Portfolio Holder.

I'm helping some residents who are having to fight to have ill-fitted windows and doors replaced, as well as other serious issues in their newly built homes. These homes should have been built to the highest quality standards, and this is unacceptable.

In happier news, I've been invited to attend the official opening of Tudor Grange Academy primary school in Meon Vale, so look forward to meeting the headteacher, her team and the pupils very much and see how I can support the new school community.

Warmest best wishes

Cllr Manuela Perteghella
Manuela.perteghella@stratford-dc.gov.uk

Mob. 07870488071
Facebook: www.facebook.com/ CllrManuelaPerteghellaWelford

Long Marston Gardening Club

Unfortunately due to torrential rain in the morning, all our members bar two, cancelled our visit to Painswick Rococo Gardens to view snowdrops. We cosied down in a pub instead but were told we missed a wonderful viewing of snowdrops. Will book again for next year.

The programme for 2022 has now been sent out and our first outing in the community mini-bus is to Coton Manor Gardens on Saturday 5th March to view Hellebores. All places on the bus have been taken but if there are any others who would like to go I could take a car load. Roll on the Spring.

Wiggy Taylor
wiggytaylor@gmail.com

Long Marston Ladies

Long Marston Ladies started February 2022 in style, with Sarah Gray Stylist. Some members were easy to identify with classic, boho or edgy. Everyone enjoyed the tips Sarah gave and will be sorting their wardrobes. Amongst the many things Sarah talked about was to be comfortable with your own style. Everyone brought their everyday handbags and favourite shoes which confirmed their appearance style. Many laughs during the evening ensued as Sarah has a wonderful sense of humour.

March meeting brings us Sara Sharma with Chair Yoga.

Membership is £25 for the year and includes all meetings and a Christmas party with 3 course meal.

longmarstonladies.co.uk

Spring Cleaning

As you start your annual clear outs, please remember the Shoebox appeal, small toys, pens, pencils, notebooks with pages left, unused stationery, good condition hats, scarves, gloves, jewellery, knitting wool oddments, small household items, these are all useful to us.

Towels can be cut down and edged to make flannels so please don't throw them away. As you buy your new summer shoes, please let us have your empty boxes. Often shoe shops have some spare boxes under the counter, we would be grateful if you could collect those for us.

Items can be left at the Poppin, in labelled bags in the Bus shelter, or in the box by Gaverne's front door, (a few bungalows on left just before going out the village towards Welford, and opposite Rumer Close).

Many thanks

The Shoebox team.

RUMMAGE SALE

LONG MARSTON VILLAGE HALL

SAT MARCH 26TH – 2PM

BRIC-A-BRAC, BOOKS,
CDs, DVD'S TOYS,
CLOTHES, RAFFLE,
TEA AND COFFEE AVAILABLE.

All profits to help maintain the fabric of our ancient parish Church of St James the Great.

Any items for the Rummage sale, can be taken to the village hall from 11am on the Saturday.

Village Hall News & Events

We've another busy month at the village hall for March.

As preparations begin for this year's **summer fete**, there will be an informal get together for anyone interested in being involved on Tue 8th, 7:30pm . Join us for a glass of wine and a trip down memory lane with John's film show of past fetes.

After another well attended family film in February, our **March film night** (Fri 25th, 7pm) is a comedy drama for the grown ups, **Dream Horse**. Refreshments will be available and the bar open. Come and join us if you can and pencil in 30th April for the next kids film.

You'll be able to bag a bargain at the **Rummage Sale** planned for 26th at 2:30pm.

And last but not least, the ever popular **bingo night** will be back on 1st April with the bar open from 7pm and eyes down at 7:30pm

Cat Price, Village Hall Committee



Dates for your diary

1st Mar - Long Marston Ladies 7:30pm
Library/Coffee 10:20am
2nd Mar - Long Marston Ladies 7:30pm
3rd Mar - Line Dancing 6pm
7th Mar - Art Class 10:30am
8th Mar - Zumba 9:20am
Fete get together 7:30pm
9th Mar - WI 7:30pm
10th Mar - Line Dancing 6pm
14th Mar - Art Class 10:30am
15th Mar - Zumba 9:20am
17th Mar - Line Dancing 6pm
21st Mar - Art Class 10:30am
Parish Council 7:30pm
22nd Mar - Zumba 9:20am
Library/Coffee 10:20am
24th Mar - Line Dancing 6pm
25th Mar - Film Night 7pm
26th Mar - Rummage sale 2:30pm
28th Mar - Art Class 10:30am
29th Mar - Zumba 9:20am
31st Mar - Line Dancing 6pm
1st Apr - Bingo, 7 for 7:30pm

For bookings please call Jackie on 01789 720328

Warwickshire
POLICE

Welcome to Warwickshire Connected

Get connected with what is happening in your local area, keep up to date and get involved in shaping what goes on where you live or work.

Warwickshire Connected is a free messaging service brought to you by Warwickshire Police where you decide when and how you hear about the issues that matter most to you, whether that be getting regular crime updates, the latest information on ongoing incidents and emergencies or learning more about what your local police are doing.

This is also the place where you can get involved in helping to make your local area a safer place, tell us what police should be doing in your area, shape the initiatives that help to keep people and property safe and tell us what matters are causing your communities harm.



The Poppin

Gosh, hasn't it been a windy couple of weeks. Hopefully you have all come through it with little or no damage to yourselves or your property.

Pancake day will soon be with us. We have all the ingredients to make delicious pancakes for your family. We have a very talented lady in the Village who, for a limited time, has made some beautiful, planted, hand painted pots. They make lovely gifts.

Remember that Easter is round the corner and we will be stocking easter eggs, at reasonable prices.

We are having issues stocking some items, from time to time. Please bare with us, as this is a problem with distribution.

You will have noticed our new Newspaper stand. It is a vast improvement to the old one and makes life easier for us all.

We can start looking forward to spring and our gardens soon. Which means we will, again, be stocking compost for the garden.

Thanks again for your continued custom.

Simon Kiener/Margaret Clarke

Kid's Jokes

Why could the teddy not eat pancakes?
Because he's stuffed

A 6 year old girl said grace at dinner "Dear God, Thank you for the pancakes"
Mother asked her "why have you thanked God for pancakes when we"re having chicken for dinner?"
She smiled and said "To check he was paying attention"

Customer: Waiter will the pancakes be long?
Waiter: "No Sir, they will be round"

I can't believe it's pancake day, it's really creped up on us



Our Meeting in February was the first one for 2022 so we started off with a greeting of a glass of homemade mulled wine to welcome everyone back.

We then enjoyed an inspired talk about Silk and Silk Painting given by Mary Day. She is highly qualified and loves working in this tricky medium and brought many specimens of her work for us to feel and examine. Some items were complex and amazing and as is the way with silk so soft and tactile.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 9th March 7.30pm, Village Hall when Grenville will give a talk *"Trip down the River Lot, Dordogne"* illustrated by many photos. As always, visitors always welcome.

Liz



Catherine Brown – March 3rd

Henry Gray – March 16th

Struan Brown – March 16th

Samuel Potter – March 23rd

Please email any children's birthday dates to marstoneditor@yahoo.com.

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Sue welcomes you to

Mickleton Antique Centre

Open 7 days 10-5

Under new ownership! (formally The Shed)
25 dealers topping up weekly !
Seasonal plant centre
...a real Aladdin's cave...

Avonvale Churches

Anglican Churches serving Quinton with Admington,
Long Marston, Meon Vale, Welford and Weston

CHURCH SERVICES IN MARCH

1st Sunday of the month – *6th March*
Long Marston 9am Holy Communion
Welford 10.30am Family Communion
Quinton 10.30am 'Altogether' Family Service

2nd Sunday of the month – *13th March*
Weston 9am Holy Communion (BCP said)
Quinton 10.30am Holy Communion
Welford 10.30am 'Open Doors'
a contemporary service of worship and teaching
Meon Vale 4pm Family Church and tea

3rd Sunday of the month – *20th March*
Welford 9am Holy Communion
Long Marston 10.30am Breakfast Service

Mothering Sunday – 27th March
Weston 9am Holy Communion (BCP) with hymns
Quinton 10.30am Family Communion for Mothering Sunday
Welford 4pm '4th@4' Messy Church for Mothering Sunday
Long Marston 10.30am All Age Praise for Mothering Sunday

IN ADDITION - FOR ALL THE CHURCHES

Ash Wednesday 2nd March 10.30am in Quinton Church
Benefice Service of Holy Communion with the Imposition of Ashes.

4th Wednesday of every month at 10.30am in Welford Church
(23rd February and 23rd March)
a short service of Holy Communion normally followed by Refreshments

Further information from revdrosgreenhalgh@gmail.com

CHURCH SERVICES IN APRIL

1st Sunday of the month – *3rd April*
Long Marston 9am Holy Communion
Welford 10.30am Family Communion
Quinton 10.30am 'Altogether' Family Service

Palm Sunday – *10th April*
Weston 9am Holy Communion (BCP said)
Quinton 10.30am Holy Communion
Welford 10.30am 'Open Doors'
a contemporary service of worship and teaching
Meon Vale 4pm Family Church and tea

Maundy Thursday – *14th April*
Benefice Service of Holy Communion in Weston Church at 7pm

Good Friday – *15th April*
Benefice Last Hour Service in Quinton church at 2pm

Easter Sunday – *17th April*
NB change to normal services
Weston 9am Easter Holy Communion (BCP)
Long Marston 10.30am Easter Breakfast Service with Communion
Welford 10.30am Easter Family Communion
Quinton 10.30am Easter Family Communion

4th Sunday of the month – 24th April
Weston 9am Holy Communion (BCP) with hymns
Quinton 10.30am Holy Communion
Welford 4pm '4th@4' Messy Church

IN ADDITION - FOR ALL THE CHURCHES

4th Wednesday 27th April at 10.30am in Welford Church
a short service of Holy Communion normally followed by Refreshments

From the Rector

March sees the start of the Christian season of Lent, the 40-day season of penitence, self-examination and fasting running up to Easter. Jesus began His earthly ministry by fasting in the wilderness for 40 days and taught His disciples to 'fast' too (Matthew 6:17).

But have you ever wondered why we eat pancakes just before Lent? The tradition dates back to Anglo-Saxon times, when Christians prepared to spend Lent in repentance and severe fasting:

On the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday, the church bell would summon them to confession, where they would be 'shriven', or absolved from their sins, which gives us 'Shrove' Tuesday. At home, they would then eat up their last eggs and fat, and making a pancake was the easiest way to do this. For the next 47 days, they pretty well starved themselves.

Pancakes feature in cookery books as far back as 1439, and today's pancake races are in remembrance of a panicked woman back in 1445 in Olney, Buckinghamshire. She was making pancakes when she heard the shriving bell calling her to confession. Afraid she'd be late, she ran to the church in a panic, still in her apron, and still holding the pan. Flipping pancakes is also centuries old. A poem from Pasquil's Palin in 1619 runs: "And every man and maide doe take their turne, And tosse their Pancakes up for feare they burne."

Some people have noted that the ingredients of pancakes can be used to highlight four significant things about this time of year: eggs stand for creation, flour is the staff of life, while salt keeps things wholesome, and milk stands for purity.

The day after Pancake Tuesday is Ash Wednesday – the first official day of Lent when Christians traditionally started their spiritual discipline of fasting which nowadays involves missing one or two meals during the day, or perhaps refraining from TV, alcohol or social media, and identifying the things that get in the way of our focus on God.



The act of giving something up gives us space to focus on God for His strength, provision, and wisdom resulting in a more intimate relationship with Christ: 'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.' (Matthew 5:6).

Lent can also be a time to embrace new spiritual disciplines, eg: joining a study group, doing 'random acts of kindness', giving more time to prayer or solitude, or reading a Lent book.

As a church we have a number of ways you can mark this special season and everyone is very welcome:

Ash Wednesday Service of Holy Communion with the imposition of ashes Wednesday March 2nd 10.30am in St Swithin's Church, Lower Quinton

Benefice Lent Course to be held in Quinton village Hall where we will be studying the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book 'Embracing Justice'. Please contact Revd David Thurburn-Huelin on 01789 720967 for further information.

So however you mark Lent this year - let's really make it count!

Ros

The Masons Arms

LITE LUNCH MENU

Available Monday to Friday 12pm-3pm

Starters £3.50 – Mains £7.50 – Desserts £3.50

STARTERS

Soup of the day with toasted ciabatta & butter
Garlic & rosemary ciabatta bread with mozzarella
Halloumi fries with chilli jam
Garlic mushrooms in hot oil with sourdough dippers
Salt & pepper chicken bites with mint yogurt

MAINS

Gammon steak with fried egg, fries & salad
Smoked haddock fishcake fries, coleslaw & minted peas
Chicken or Quorn chicken curry with rice & naan
Wholetail scampi with garden peas, fries & tartare sauce
Cheese & bacon burger with fries & coleslaw
Minute steak with two fried eggs & fries
Grilled halloumi on vegetable orzo with a pesto sauce
Plant based fish burger with fries & vegan coleslaw

DESSERTS

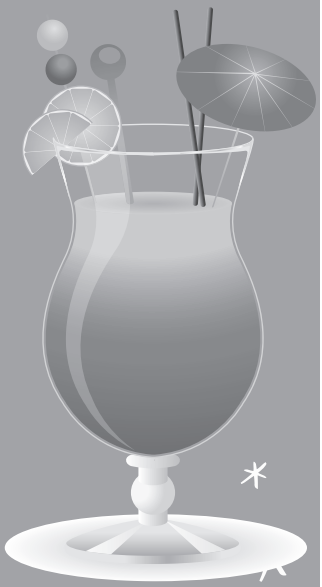
Caramel apple pie
Sticky toffee pudding
Devils chocolate cake

Free from & dietary requirements? Please speak to our team

Ladies Night

FASHION SHOW WITH
COCO IVY & THE QUAD COLLECTION
COCKTAILS & CAKE
BEAUTY, HOME, FASHION STALLS & MORE
PRE LOVED WOMENS FASHION SALE
AT QUINTON & ADMINGTON VILLAGE HALL
FRIDAY 25TH MARCH
DOORS OPEN 7PM

Come and enjoy a relaxed evening
Tickets £10 including a Cocktail
Bring your own bottle
Tickets in advance from Jane
JaneChurchWarden64@outlook.com
or call 07365517962



All profits to
St Swithins Church Fabric Fund



The Residents' Association (MVRA) Report

The MVRA is anticipating a full schedule over the coming months.

General Meeting Open to Everyone

On 21st February the RA held its quarterly public meeting at The Pavilion, Sid Hammond our local officer from Shipston Police Safer Neighbourhood Team, provided an update on crime figures, the figures represent very low statistics, compared to Stratford and other parts of UK. We had the chance to ask questions and discuss things that were important to residents.

Any incidents requiring police attention can be reported as follows: dialing 101 is always an option this will be recorded and tagged to the local team at Shipston who will pick it up, alternatively email details and even a photo or recording to sid.hammond@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk or for more urgent attention call his mobile on 07967 303185 In an emergency, then always use 999.

If you want to sign up to Warwickshire/Police Warwickshire Connected to keep abreast of police alerts & incidents in our area you can sign up here: alert@neighbourhoodalert.co.uk

If you missed the meeting please try and make the next one.

Community Safety Event – Family Event Lots of Attractions

On 26th March (save the date) in conjunction with SDC's Communities Support Team Partnership (Carol Roberts chairs) the RA is holding its Community Safety Event Day at the Pavilion and Village hall. The agenda is provisionally:

- PCC Philip Seccombe is speaking (15mins)
- Cllr Seccombe WCC is giving a 5 min address
- SDC councillor representative (5 mins)
- A general overview of WPCC priorities for Warwickshire

This is an event for all the family with lots to see and do. From a police dog demonstration and an opportunity for children to test their cycling proficiency, through to bike marking and hopefully the opportunity to get up close and personal with a fire engine, we hope the event will be both fun and informative. The event will be opened by Philip Seccombe, Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner, and people will have the opportunity to talk to him and share any concerns with him. Organisations such as MVFCP, Orbit, Platform, and St Modwen etc will all hopefully have stands there too.

Other Developments

The **Meon Vale Community Plan 2022** has been updated - it will provide the focus for working with other organisations in the Meon Vale Partnership and in applying for grant funding. The draft Meon Vale Community Plan will be published shortly for comment.

Wellington Avenue Speed Bumps – all gone, the RA is waiting for the 20 is plenty campaign to start to raise awareness St Modwen action, no calming is currently installed.

We are holding a community tree planting event on the mornings of 5th or 12th March, further details to be announced, keep an eye on our web site, but we will need lots of willing helpers.

Accessibility Audit - The accessibility audit can be viewed on the Meon Vale RA website here www.meonvalera.org/post/accessibility-audit-update.

St Modwen responded to the accessibility

audit on 22nd December, and the response can be viewed on the MVRA's website: www.meonvalera.org/post/accessibility-audit-update

The Meon Vale Families and Children's Partnership (MVFCP)is being set up to bring in services and support to help families living in Meon Vale facing challenging times and might compliment the FoodShare initiative by providing support in other areas.

Allotments we understand that this will be ready very shortly it has been rotovated and now each plot needs setting out, ready for release

Actions Outstanding to be raised with St Modwen

- Speed bumps – removed the '20 is plenty' campaign is yet to be explained
- We are still waiting for an Environmental plan for woodland and wetlands from St Modwen
- Street lighting on Bailey Avenue this is almost complete
- Village hall ideas to turn it into a business hub, proper community building

Dates for your Diary

- Residents Association General Meeting 21st February
- Feast Street burgers in the Meon car park Saturday 26th 12 – 8.00 pm
- School open day 4th March
- Partnership Security Event at Meon Vale in conjunction with Meon Vale Support Partnership & local police team – 26th March (1 – 3pm)
- Easter egg hunt April 18
- Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations (2 – 5 June)
- Queens Jubilee event in Quinton 4 June
- Queens Jubilee Street Party in the park by Church Group 5 June
- Summer Meon FUNFEST with live music and stalls 13 August
- Halloween 31 October

Meon Vale Has Been Granted Wildlife Site Status

It was just about 12 months ago, it seems much longer…. that plans to develop the woods for housing were scrapped after a huge campaign with hundreds of residents from MV and beyond mobilised to #savemeonwoods. The RA headed up by our Chair, Rosemary Kidd, was instrumental in this campaign with massive support from residents, local Parish Councils, our District Councillor Manuela Perteghella and many more local wildlife groups and organisations. We were very fortunate for such widespread support and now the good news was announced this week;

MEON Vale has been designated as a Local Wildlife Site by Warwickshire County Council.

The status recognises it as a home to some of the UK's most distinctive and threatened species including the rare Bechstein's bat, the critically endangered water vole and specially protected Little Ringed Plover.

The award comes following a report by the government outlining the benefits of woodlands and other natural environments to the nation's mental health.

Habitats at Meon Vale include ponds, wetlands, woodlands and wildflower grasslands – home to a wide variety of wildlife including water voles, deer, butterflies, newts, birds, and bats. It was also the site of the first sighting in Warwickshire of the very rare Bechstein's bat species. More about this can be found here in the Stratford Observer https://stratfordobserver.co.uk/news/meon-vale-granted-wildlife-site-status/

For further information and to contact the RA: The Meon Vale Residents Association' website is now live at www.meonvalera.org. We're also on Facebook so make sure you follow us and stay up to date with everything that's going on in the community https://www.facebook.com/MeonValeRA

If you would like to get involved and volunteer on community projects and events as part of a thriving team of people of all ages, email us meonvaleresidents@gmail.com

Pancake Day Wordsearch

E	F	R	G	R	I	D	D	L	E
P	U	R	Y	S	E	L	P	A	M
I	P	F	Y	S	E	G	Y	L	A
L	C	N	S	I	L	E	U	S	L
F	L	E	M	O	N	E	G	S	L
F	R	I	L	O	B	G	N	O	E
T	L	N	H	F	E	A	P	T	T
K	R	U	O	L	F	S	C	A	U
I	Y	C	I	N	N	A	M	O	N
H	C	R	A	M	S	T	W	E	N

FRYING PAN
FLIP
WAFFLE
EGGS
BACON
SUGER
FLOUR
MAPLE SYRUP
MILK
DESSERT
LENT
CINNAMON
LEMON
MARCH
GRIDDLE
HONEY
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Meon Vale granted wildlife status

MEON Vale has been designated as a Local Wildlife Site by Warwickshire County Council (WCC).

The status of the recently developed village, in Stratford district, recognises it as a home to some of the UK's most distinctive and threatened species including the rare Bechstein's bat, the critically endangered water vole and specially protected Little Ringed Plover.

The award comes following a report by the government outlining the benefits of woodlands and other natural environments to the nation's mental health.

Habitats at Meon Vale include ponds, wetlands, woodlands and wildflower grasslands – home to a wide variety of animals including water voles, butterflies, newts, birds, and bats. It was also the site of the first sighting in Warwickshire of the very rare Bechstein's bat species.

The wetlands provide a valuable habitat and breeding ground for wading birds including the specially protected Little Ringed Plover, and is home to two pairs and five juveniles of the species out of a total of only 15-20 pairs in the county. The breeding of a pair of Little Ringed Plover was recorded in the area in June.

Developer St Modwen says it is committed to encouraging and maintaining biodiversity at Meon Vale including designing and managing the wetland area as a nature park, adding new habitats and pathways, installing and monitoring bat boxes, enhancing streams and ditches and restoring grassland to create wildflower meadows.

Spokesperson Andrea Clarke said: "We're proud of the habitats and biodiversity achievements we have made so far at Meon Vale, and are continuing to work with specialist ecologists and local residents to identify other, longer-term opportunities for further biodiversity improvements which we can implement.

"As we have seen more than ever since the beginning of the pandemic, access to green spaces and the natural environment is incredibly valuable to people's health and wellbeing, and we want to continue to improve important spaces like these."

Residents keen to support biodiversity have also been awarded £4,900 in funding from WCC's Green Shoots Fund for its Making Meon Vale Sustainable project. The Meon Vale Residents Association will use it to support the planting of new wildflower meadows to accelerate biodiversity growth around the village.

It will also be used to purchase compost bins and water butts to support water saving in households and community allotments.

Last year, campaigning residents secured the ancient woodland after the area was earmarked for potential development.

Stratford District Council was considering St Modwen's proposal for a further 300 homes on some 32 hectares of woodland. But, following fierce opposition from campaign group Friends of Meon Vale, the developer pulled its housing plans for the 80 acre site.



Long Marston Village Hall

Friday 1st April

Doors open 7.00 pm

Eyes down 7.30 pm

Easter prizes!
Bar, snacks,
And raffle!

Children welcome.
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Contacts

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Ian Johnsey	Chairman
Bill Tempest	Vice Chairman
Anthony Hodges	Councillor
Noel Davis	Councillor
Michael Hillier	Councillor
Margaret Clarke	Councillor
Richard Whittaker	Councillor
Debbie Woodliffe	Parish Clerk/RFO

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THE POST OFFICE, LONG MARSTON 01789 721411

NOMINATED SAFE-GUARDING PERSON

Linda Thomas 01789 721180

DEFIBRILLATOR

This is located outside the Poppin shop. A 999 call giving the location will provide a code and method of use.

ST JAMES THE GREAT

Rector Rev Ros Greenhalgh

01789 751546

revdrosgreenhalgh@gmail.com

Church Warden Carol Watts

01789 507319

POLICE

Emergency only – 999

Non urgent contact – 101

SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM

www.safer-neighbourhoods.co.uk/ship

PCSO 6230 Emma Turner

PCSO 6040 Fin Moore

PC 1508 Sid Hammond

Shipston Police Station 01789 444670

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THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE 2022

SAVE THE DATE

The Queens Jubilee in the Village Hall

Saturday 4th June from 9.30 to 4.30pm

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT?

We will be reflecting the year of the Queens Coronation

So there will be music, vintage board games, painting competion, refreshments, loads of prizes and much more PLUS Mel Harvey and his fabulous magic Punch and Judy Show

Also – **Junior Long Marston's got talent show for 2-16 years**

If you can sing, dance, tell jokes, juggle, play a musical instrument, read poetry or do magic – fill in the free entry form below and post your entry form in the Ballet Box outside the shop from March

Keep a look out for more information and the times of the different events in the Sicca News

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Talent: .....

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