

Marston Sicca

Parish Newsletter

October 2022

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Editor's Notes

As you may well all know now, this is my favourite time of year. I love my wellies, hats and scarves, cold mornings, and dark evenings. I would say I am in the minority! It is the month where our 'little darlings' dress up in various costumes as they go trick or treating for Halloween. Please can you remind them to only approach houses that have a pumpkin in the window. Thank you.

For all interested in pumpkin carving, there are details in the newsletter for our pumpkin carving competition. Meon Vale Residents Association are once again putting on the Halloween woodland Walk on Saturday 29th October, with a party and disco for all witches, ghouls and scary beasties in the Meon vale village hall. Times have not been confirmed but will be posted on forums. Please keep an eye out.

Please can all articles be emailed to me, marstoneditor@yahoo.com, by the 20th of the month. Recently articles have been late, or not sent at all. Thank you.

Have a good month,

Steph

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.



Report from your District Councillor

Dear Residents

September saw the sad news of the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. My thoughts and prayers are with the Royal Family. We are mourning the loss of a great monarch, who served our country with dignity and grace all her life. For many, she has been a constant beacon of strength, she will be missed so very much.

To me the Queen represented leadership, duty in public life, compassion. She was valued and loved by millions of people around the world, and the recent Platinum Jubilee celebrations showed how much she was respected and admired. In the weeks ahead, there will be time to reflect on the Queen's great achievements, and celebrate her life, as well as welcoming our new monarch, His Majesty King Charles III.

In the meantime, I would like to say, like Paddington Bear's touching message to the Queen during the Jubilee:

"Thank you Ma'am, for everything."

Full Council meeting – 17th October

At the next council meeting we are proposing a water resources and efficiency motion in new developments, and also a cost of living motion, asking Council to review some of their schemes. Among the questions to be submitted to full council are: a proposal to produce a local list of heritage buildings, water pollution; budget assumptions, energy bills and councils' leisure centres, the 123plus waste collection. If you have an issue you would like me to raise at Council meeting, please let me know and I can then ask questions, which can become the bases for new policy proposals. Residents can also submit written questions to the Council. If you would like to do so, let me know and I will send all the contact details and explain the procedures.

Polling Station Review



As you might be aware, there are new ward boundaries for the district of Stratford-on-Avon coming into force in time for the local elections in May 2023. As a consequence of this, the Council is required to review the locations of the polling districts and polling places to make sure that these are in the right areas for the new wards. A Draft Polling Review 2022 Schedule, which can be accessed on the Council's website at www.stratford.gov.uk, by clicking on the 'Polling Station Review' button, sets out the Council's initial proposals and comments of the polling districts and places, following a review. For the village of Long Marston I support the proposal of the village Hall, which is very well known to residents and has been used for many years as our polling station.

For the village of Meon Vale I support the proposal of the Meon Vale Village Hall, which was used in the most recent local elections and is well known to residents and they can walk to it. For the new settlement of Fernleigh Park (Long Marston Airfield) the council proposes either Long Marston or Meon vale village halls, I think the Moen Vale Village Hall is more accessible for this settlement.

As usual, please don't hesitate to contact me with any query, issue or concern you might have.

Warmest best wishes,
Manuela

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

Mob. 07870 488071
Facebook: www.facebook.com/CllrManuelaPerteghellaWelford

HALLOWEEN

Monday 31st October 2022

The Masons will kindly be donating 10 pumpkins, and the Parish council are providing the prize money. A big thank you to both! Of course, you can bring your own.

You will need to collect your entry form and pumpkin from The Poppin on Friday 21st October and return your carved pumpkin and entry form by Friday 28th October. They will be judged and ready to fetch on Saturday 29th October.

The winners will be posted on The Poppin notice board and will be published on the Facebook page (with permission from parents) The three age groups are 3-5 years, 6-10 years, and 11-15 years. First prize is £10, second prize is £5, and all other entries will receive a bag of sweets. Remember to put your creation outside your front door. Happy trick or treating and keep safe.

If you save the pumpkin you scooped out, it makes a delicious soup!

Margaret Clarke



Long Marston Ladies

The Sprit of Illmington entertained Long Marston ladies at the September meeting. Bill Buckley owner and founder spoke from behind the bar as opposed to the stage as he felt more comfortable and at home there. He told the ladies of his journey to master the distilling art before offering samples of the first product Apple Brandy to further developed gins and liqueurs. Flavours made with real fruit such as raspberries, cherries, and almonds to name but a few. The ladies bought some bottles for Christmas. Or maybe sooner!

Long Marston Ladies
longmarstonladies.co.uk

I would like to thank all who supported the Evening of Comedy and magic hosted by Paul Ray in the village hall.

What a tonic to have such a laugh whilst raising money for such an amazing charity.

Helen Leedham





Parish council comments

The Parish Council recently met with David Cole from WCC at the open space site to the rear of Perry Orchard. Our primary objective was to organise a repatriation of funds to the PC from the Biodiversity Offset fee paid by Lagan Homes to WCC. With ongoing communications with Stratford's head of enforcement (their failure to ensure conditions were met), the Parish Council felt WCC should see the state of the site and discuss financial support prior to the land transfer being concluded. Two of the three areas within the open space have been signed to transfer, the third, relating to an area for parking and community building / pavilion has been delayed due to a slight change to the lease. This is not a major issue and is currently being resolved.

Cllr. Hillier advised council members of Severn Trent planned works to Long Marston Village. The need to replace sewers to the main road and Wyre Lane will inevitably involve disruption and closed roads. Severn Trent are considering access options with works planned for the latter part of 2023. Details will be posted nearer the time.

Discussions with St Modwen regarding assets within Meon Vale are ongoing. St Modwen have reviewed proposed changes to the village hall with a view of finalising works prior to Christmas. The Pavilion has also reviewed remedial work to extend the kitchen and enhance the seating areas both in and out. The work is jointly being organised by both Marston Sicca and Quinton Parish Councils.

The council discussed again the options regarding the newsletter, in particular rising costs, increased distribution coverage and wastage. The discussion was to determine the advantages of an online option that would be selected by residents who wanted to read the newsletter vs. costs and wastage for hard copies delivered across the board. The editor has been successful in securing advertising agreements which has helped mitigate costs but does not unfortunately absorb the rising prices for the extra printing. We are reviewing resident's feedback to determine best options.

Planning Matters

22/00114/OUT – All Things Wild. The Parish Council along with 13 others, have objected to this application. The B4632 is not an appropriate location to house a theme park forcing traffic to cross Stratford and through the villages with increase in light and air pollution.

22/01952/OUT, Ashmead House, construction of 4 self-build dwellings. Residents will recall previous objections to proposed development to the paddock adjacent to Hopkins Field. Decision: Object

Our next meeting will be held 17th October Long Marston Village Hall

Debbie Woodliffe
Parish Clerk

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HALLOWEEN WORD SEARCH



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COSTUME
GOBLIN
CANDY
MONSTER
SCARECROW

SKELETON
OCTOBER
BROOMSTICK



St James the Great

October is the time of year when the church celebrates harvest. We come together to thank God for the food we have, to thank the farmers for their work in growing the crops, caring for their animals and to appreciate the things we grow for ourselves in our gardens and allotments.

We are also grateful for the fishermen who risk their lives at sea and for those who farm our Salmon. We cannot live without food and in this day-and-age we are so blessed to have food from all round the world with plenty of variety and our shops full of produce. However we do have to think of those who are not as fortunate, those who go hungry through lack of finances, or are in areas of war or famine, but also we have to consider the environment and ways we can maintain food production and improve the ecology and reduce our carbon footprint.

We all need to think of new ideas for production, to eliminate waste, to help those in need, help the environment and to balance all these things together. We know all these things but sometimes it's very hard to change our habits.

I feel at the moment our benefice and parish is in a similar situation. We are at a time without a vicar and it will be some months before one will be appointed. We are very lucky to have Andrew and David as priests who come in to help, and Yvette and Linda to lead services too. Although it is a difficult time for our church, it is also the time we can consider change. We have to put a profile (job description) together to attract a new priest and in doing so have to think of what we would like for the future.

We have to consider our changing village, the growth in new houses, the different types of people and their needs and hopes for the future. This gives us an opportunity to think about community, the types of services we offer, how to include newcomers, to appreciate all our faithful congregation and friend, and to bring everyone together. This is exciting but also daunting.

We need to think about our problems and difficulties, but also the chance for improvement, new ideas and hope. Your thoughts and ideas would be very welcome. Please email spence_carol_watts@hotmail.com.

Carol Watts

October Services, St James the Great

Sunday 2nd October at 9am, with Holy Communion

Sunday 9th October at 10.30am, Harvest Festival

Sunday 16th October at 10.30am, Breakfast Service.

Sticky toffee apples were the memories of my childhood, but here is an alternative which is fun for the kids to make

Ingredients

- 200g milk chocolate, finely chopped
- 4 small eating apples

To decorate

- sugar strands, finely chopped nuts, sprinkles, honeycomb pieces
- 50g of each white and dark chocolate, chopped (optional)

You will also need

- 4 skewers, wooden chopsticks, or large lolly sticks

Method

1. Put the chocolate in a heatproof bowl set over a pan of just simmering water, being careful that the bowl doesn't touch the water. Stir frequently for 10 mins until completely melted, smooth and shiny. Remove from the heat. Alternatively, heat the chocolate in short bursts in the microwave, stirring between each burst, until melted.
2. Put the apples in a heatproof bowl and pour over boiling water from the kettle. Drain carefully, and wash under hot water to remove any residual wax on the skin. This helps the chocolate stick better. Pat dry with kitchen paper, remove the stalks and push a lolly stick or skewer in its place.
3. Line a baking tray or large board with baking parchment. Hold the apples by their sticks and dunk into the melted chocolate. Use a spoon to coat the tops of the apples if you like. Once the apples are completely coated, hold over the bowl for a few seconds for excess chocolate to drip back into it, then place, stick pointing up, onto the prepared tray. Leave to set for a minute or two.



4. Tip the decorations into separate bowls. When the chocolate on the apples is just starting to set but not fully firm, sprinkle the decorations onto the apples. Hold them on their side and rotate using the stick to completely cover. Place back on the tray and leave until completely set.
5. If using the white and dark chocolate to decorate, heat each separately, as you did the milk chocolate in step 1, then leave to cool slightly. Melt the dark chocolate first, then when the chocolate apples are set hard, use a teaspoon to drizzle this over them, again holding the stick so the apple is on its side and rotating the apple. Have a sheet of baking parchment underneath to catch any drips. Place back on the tray and leave to set, then repeat the process using the white chocolate.

Will keep in an airtight container in a cool place for two days.

FROZEN BANANA GHOSTS

Ingredients

- 200g bar white chocolate, broken into chunks
- 4 medium-large, ripe bananas
- 85g desiccated coconut
- handful dark chocolate drops

Method

1. In a small bowl, gently melt the chocolate either in the microwave – in short bursts on high or over a pan of simmering water (make sure the bowl isn't touching the water). Set aside for a moment while you get the bananas ready.

2. Peel the bananas, cut in half, and push a lolly stick into the middle of each piece. Spread the coconut out in a shallow bowl. Line a large baking tray with baking parchment, and make sure there is room for the tray in the freezer.



3. Using a pastry brush, coat a banana half in chocolate, letting excess drip away. Sprinkle with plenty of the coconut until coated, then set it on the prepared sheet. Now add two chocolate eyes and a mouth, and if you like, cut a few little eyebrows from the chocolate drops too. Freeze the lollies for at least 4 hrs, and up to a week.

Warming Soup Recipes

SOUP OF THE EARTH

Ingredients

- 25g butter
- 1 large onion, peeled and chopped
- 100g potatoes, peeled and chopped
- 225g carrots, peeled and thickly sliced
- 225g swede, peeled and roughly chopped
- 900ml chicken stock
- 300ml milk
- Small bunch of parsley
- Salt and ground pepper

Method

Melt butter in a large saucepan, add the onions and fry gently until soft.

Add all other veg and stock, cover and simmer until vegs are soft.

Leave to cool slightly and then blend until smooth.

Return to heat, add milk, season, and reheat.

Serve with crusty bread.

GREEN BEAN AND PARMESAN SOUP

Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons butter
- 225g trimmed green beans
- 1 crushed clove of garlic
- 450ml veg stock
- 40g grated parmesan cheese
- 50ml single cream
- 30ml chopped parsley to garnish

Method

Melt the butter, add the green beans and garlic and cook for 2/3 minutes, stirring frequently

Stir in the stock and season with salt and pepper, bring to the boil

Turn down heat and simmer, uncovered for 10/15 minutes until beans are tender.

Blend until smooth and reheat slowly.

Stir in Parmesan cheese and cream. Sprinkle with parsley.

The Residents' Association (MVRA) Report

MVRA held their Open Quarterly Meeting on 15th September:

- The RA created the following groups and will over future weeks look to organise meetings to gather volunteers:
- Wildlife and Environment Group
- Arts & Crafts Group
- Youth Group
- The Community Mile
- Very informative talk by Heart of England Forest from Ros Anscombe lasted 1 hour
- The Cotswold Vale Action Group looking at building defects gave an hour long report on progress, including some concerns of apparent building issues in the housing association's stock plus the action group has now been expanded to Meon Way Gardens, see www.meonwaygardens.co,uk

There is another public meeting for residents affected, including Meon Way Gardens, held in the Village Hall Tuesday 27th September 7pm – we will report on outcome next month.

Local Events

- Halloween 29 October joint event with others, held in village hall and woodlands
- Pumpkin Carving – watch this space
- Christmas festivities– watch this space
- More events to be announced next month

Save the Date 17th October, Consultation on Nursery Provision and Money Advice Market

This is a combined event held at Meon Vale Tudor Grange School; pick the time slot depending on your requirements, everyone welcome come and have a chat:

- First session 2pm to 5pm – Consultation on need for nursery provision & the drop-in Money Advice Market,
- Second session 5pm to 7pm – drop-in Money Advice Market only, that focuses on advice around managing household expenses effectively etc.

There will also be advice on healthy eating, nutritional advice, cooking demonstrations, great 'one pot' recipes and more. This is sponsored by Warwickshire County Council and the MVRA, with participation from The Pavilion Coffee Shop and Community Space. Look out for further details on FB.

Revised Plans for the Woodland Playground

Revised plans have been submitted to this application to create a new children's play area at Meon Vale (Use Class F2), to include a Neighbourhood Equipped Area of Play (NEAP) and a Local Equipped Area for Play (LEAP) the details can be seen on the E-Planning System under ref 22/01075/FUL.

Meon Vale Football Club

Plans have been announced to (hopefully) finally use the football pitches, Honeybourne Harriers has expressed interest in using up to 5 pitches for junior players, and as part of the proposal they may change their name and of course, local residents to Meon Vale will be invited to join the teams. More on this next month.

Volunteers

The MVRA is looking for volunteers, if you have a few spare hours and wish to meet new people and want to help make our community a better place to live, please email: meonvaleresidents@gmail.com. Come along to our next meeting on 15th September and discuss what you would like to see happen on Meon Vale this coming year.

Useful Information

Any incidents requiring police attention can be reported as follows: dialling 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

The MVRA 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 www.facebook.com/MeonValeRA



escape | arts youth

STRATFORD UPON AVON YOUTH CLUBS

Juniors

Tuesday: 8-12yrs

Yr 4&5 8-10 yrs

3.45 - 5.15pm

Yr 6&7 10-12 yrs

5.30 - 7pm

Ken Kennett Centre, Justins Avenue

Seniors

Wednesday: 12-18yrs

Drop in Youth Club

3.30 - 5pm

Youth Club Activity

5 - 7pm

Stratford Youth & Community Studio (old H&M) Bell Court

FREE activities, drinks & snacks at both groups . Lots of opportunities to develop leadership skills within Youth Club, plan trips/activities and gain Arts Award qualifications.

email:youth@escapearts.org.uk

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The Poppin

Dear Readers,

Hello, my name is Brad and I'm the new chairman of The Poppin Committee, it's an exciting change of focus for me from my day job in energy supply.

It's been a busy month, with the annual Poppin BBQ to thank all the volunteers for their efforts. We are thinking of opening this up next year to welcome anyone from the village to encourage new volunteers, many hands make light work being the motto we are adopting.

There are some really threatening winds of change on the horizon for the shop, not least the energy costs for the next few years, our purchasing methods, and our focus on value to the community.

Over the weeks and months, we hope to bring a raft of improvements, many will be spurred on by your feedback on the survey we have just released. We need your opinions as they do matter, so please look out for it, the address is at the bottom here.

Also, there is a print off for any of us that don't do keyboards, and also tickets with the web address, so please do ask when you visit.

We want to also provide a community larder that will have staple goods in it and allow any of our community to help themselves if they need food support. This winter is going to be a tough one for many of us, so we want to help in any way we can and protect people's dignity too. Hopefully you will see it in the next month or so.

Thanks for your time, and please do support The Poppin when you can, it's very apparent that it is important to so many and we want to be here for the long term.

The Poppin survey - www.b1nqk643jgu.typeform.com/to/Cbs63gzR or please scan the QR code:

Stay safe,
speak next month,
Brad & The Committee

The Salvation Army Big Tea Party

Friday 28 October in Long Marston Village Hall (half term)

10am – 1pm

A fundraising event for the work of The Salvation Army

Various cakes and hot and cold drinks available for a suggested donation

Information available about the work of The Salvation Army

If you would like to bake goods or help to host on the day, please do get in touch with Maria Carter (Rumer Close), email: ball.maria1@gmail.com

Maria from the village will be hosting the event and serving 'an Army cuppa' - you are welcome to ask questions about the famous international Christian church and charity that is active across 132 countries.

If you cannot make the event but would like to donate a cake or cash, please contact Maria directly at the email address above.

Blessings to you

Vanessa Higgins came to our September Meeting and demonstrated flower arranging using striking containers to exemplify the different styles.

Vanessa then showed us her craft work which included needlework of embroidery, quilting and exquisite material figurines. She also makes dolls houses but this time brought a 'baddies room' – fine pretend leaded glass windows, a chap in black, lots of creepy things, a worn out arm chair with a spring through the seat. It proved a great deal of fascination looking into all the detail.

Next Meeting is on Wednesday 12th October at 7.30pm in Long Marston Village Hall, 'Shakespeare and Me' an anecdotal performance.

Liz Marcuse

Kids Joke Corner

Knock Knock
Who's there?
Phillip
Phillip who?
Phillip my bag with sweets

What did the orange pumpkin say to the green pumpkin?
You look a little sick

What do ghosts wear when they can't see clearly?
Spooktacles

What sound do witches make when they eat breakfast?
Snap, crackle, and pop



Our Grandma Kissed A Pumpkin

Our grandma kissed a pumpkin
on a Friday afternoon.
She also kissed a crayon
and a giant red balloon.
I saw her kiss a chipmunk
eating cookies with a queen.
She kissed us in these costumes
at our house on Halloween!

Darren Sardelli

My Next Door Neighbour Is A Witch

My next door neighbour is a witch,
And she lives way down in a ditch.
Her clothing is a little strange,
Because she never wants to change.
She has a black robe and a black hat,
Green skin and a smelly black cat.
A big fat wart grows on her nose,
And seventeen pimples on her toes.
But...her food is EVEN worse,
Because she eats it course by course.
Her first course is seven dead bats,
Laid on top of seven rats.
Then she has twenty flies
With lots and lots of llama eyes.
Her main course is a horrible soup,
Because it's made with doggie poop.
But worst of all is her dessert.
It's little children rolled in dirt.
Last night she had a witch's feast
And turned into a greedy beast.
I think she cooked my best friend Tilly
And ate her with some peas and broccoli.

Samiya Vallee

Long Marston Garden Club

Friday 23rd September, the official start of Autumn, we visited Bourton House Garden just up the hill from Batsford Arboretum. It is known as a garden at its best late summer and early Autumn, and it certainly didn't disappoint. I would highly recommend a visit as it is still open until end of October on Tuesdays to Friday from 10am to 5pm. Adam Frost, BBC2s Gardeners' World quoted "probably one of the BEST summer gardens I have ever seen".



On Wednesday 26th October it is our last visit of the year to Hill Close Gardens, Warwick, CV34 6HF. There are 70 cultivars of Hardy Chrysanthemums, part of the National Plant Heritage collection. They are at their best from late October to November. Free entry to RHS Members and our cost is £8.40 for a guided tour and refreshments. Please let me know final numbers by 10th October.

Wiggy Taylor

Shoebox Appeal



A big thank you to all the people who have already donated generously to our appeal. Our store of goodies is growing nicely, ready to fill the children's boxes. We are still desperately short of SOAP and TOOTHPASTE as well as toothbrushes, combs, flannels, pencils etc, notebooks, gloves, and small scarves. We can never have enough small toys!

Any donations can be left in the Poppin or in the box by the front door of Gaverne, opposite Rumer close.

SHOEBOX COFFEE AND CROISSANT MORNING

Saturday October 8th

10.30am to 12noon

Long Marston Village Hall

Croissants, Cakes, Coffee, Tea, Raffle and Bring and Buy. Come along and learn more about the Teams4U Shoebox Appeal.

SHOEBOX PACKING

Children's Shoebox Packing.

Friday November 11th

3.30pm to 5.30pm.

A chance for Village Children to participate in the packing of the boxes, choosing from all the goodies that will all be in the hall. Certificates are available to those who help. Primary children need to be accompanied by an adult, older children can be unaccompanied

Shoebox Packing Morning

Saturday November 12th

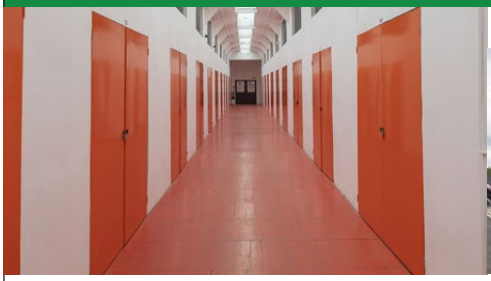
8.30am to about 11.30am.

This year, with the help of the villagers we are hoping to pack over 300 boxes. Everyone is welcome to pop in and help us pack, even if you only have time for one box. This is an enjoyable chance to help others and join in village life.

Thank you from the shoebox team.

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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

Marston Sicca Parish Council

Email: clerk@marstonsicca-pc.gov.uk

Tel: 01386 834321 / 07485 437702

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THE POPPIN VILLAGE STORE

01789 721011

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

Church Warden – Carol Watts
07730 419958

Church Warden – Mike Edwards
01386 644231 – 07786 484114

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 6362 Ben Cole

PC 1508 Sid Hammond

Shipston Police Station 01789 444670

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