

STOKE PARISH COUNCIL

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Issue 2015.3

PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

On Sunday 8th November Councillors John Ellis, Sue Abel and I attended the Remembrance Day service at Hanbury Church to show our respects and commemorate the contribution of British and Commonwealth military and civilian servicemen and women in the two World Wars and later conflicts. It was a truly moving service.

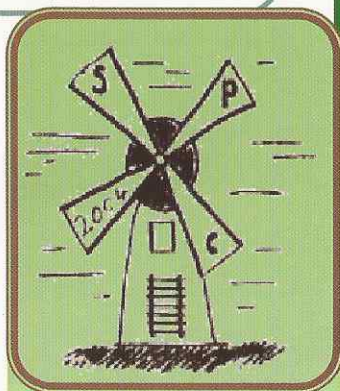
> Regarding the work carried out in the Parish I would like to take this opportunity to thank Stoke Parish Council members for their commitment and support since I became Chairman in May this year. This has been invaluable.

> It is great to see that the gymnasium in Stoke Heath Recreation Area and the playground in Ryefields Road have now been completed and are being used on a daily basis by the local community.

I am very pleased that BDHT are providing a new portacabin to replace The Shac, this has been a valuable asset to the local community and hopefully it will be fully functional by Christmas.

It has been suggested that we offer a computer service to those within the community who have trouble using a computer. If anyone would like access to a computer and help with setting up email and SKYPE addresses please contact the clerk at the Parish Council office. This is an ideal opportunity for you to contact friends, relatives and loved ones over the Christmas period.

> We have 'Carols in the Park' arranged for Saturday 12th December 2015 at 7.00pm to be held at Stoke Heath Recreation Ground. There will be hot drinks and mince pies provided. Please wrap up warm and join us for this lovely family occasion.



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CAN YOU HELP TO KEEP YOUR CHURCH OPEN ?



THE TOWER IS FALLING DOWN!

IT IS GOING TO COST OVER £100,000 TO REMEDY OF WHICH £20,000.00 IS FOR SCAFFOLDING.

HOW CAN I HELP?

1. PLEASE GIVE AS GENEROUSLY AS POSSIBLE – GIFT AID IF YOU ARE A TAXPAYER.
2. HELP ORGANISE AN EVENT – Please contact one of the Friends of the Tower (names below).
3. GIVE THE EQUIVALENT OF A TANK OF FUEL - We can achieve our target if everyone in lives in the Stokes donates this, again as GIFT AID if a taxpayer.

WE ARE NOT SURE WITHOUT THIS WORK HOW LONG THE CHURCH CAN REMAIN OPEN.

Friends: Gary Stokes, Catherine Stokes, Clem Huzzey, Christine Huzzey, John Ellis, Jill Howe

ALYSON JEWSON NEWLY CO-OPTED PARISH COUNCILLOR

If you hear my dulcet tones it is obvious I do not come from "round ere". Spending my formative years in Barnsley, I then married and moved to Wakefield in 1977. New employment for my husband necessitated the move to Bromsgrove in 1986. Nearly thirty years on and I have still not lost my Yorkshire accent!

I have two adult children, a boy and a girl. My daughter has two little boys which makes me a very proud grandma. Both our children started their education at Charford First School, progressing through St Johns, and finally to South Bromsgrove High School. Over the years I have been involved in various volunteering roles, and still remain a governor at South Bromsgrove High School. A post I have held for around 17 years. It is a privilege to be part of the Governing body of such an excellent, high achieving school. We are very fortunate in Bromsgrove to be able to give our children such a good education, from the first schools upwards.

My working background is mainly in banking, initially with National Westminster Bank for 12 years, then with Yorkshire Bank in Bromsgrove for 14 years. I have also worked at Safeway and in the offices at a debt collection agency. I am now the General Manager at Avoncroft Arts Centre.

My busy life does not allow for many hobbies. I collect cacti, enjoy walking and gardening. The gardening usually involves me buying a plant and watching my husband dig the hole for it! I love cooking, especially baking, and make a mean Christmas cake. I could almost say I enjoy decorating if I didn't have to do the sanding and washing down. The last few years have been spent with a paintbrush in my hand, either at work, my daughter or son's home, or even mine if I have found the time.

My pet hate is litter and fly tipping. We are very fortunate to live in some beautiful countryside and it saddens me that a small minority of people have to spoil it. Most Sunday mornings, after the dog has been walked round Piper's Hill Wood, my husband and I collect discarded fast food cartons. Not a nice job, but one I am happy to do. I applaud the Council for their stance on litter. Fly tipping is dealt with promptly. Litter begets litter.

I look forward to the challenge of my new role as Parish Councillor.

CHILDRENS CHRISTMAS COLOURING COMPETITION

Children of our Parish are invited to enter our Christmas Colouring Competition. Just colour in the picture opposite using either crayons, paints or felt tips.

Send your entry together with your name, address and age to The Parish Office at 17B Ryfields Road, Stoke Prior.

A gift voucher to the value of £10.00 will be awarded to the winners of two age groups. 3 to 8 & 9 to 12.

The paintings will be judged by members of our communications committee and prizes will be awarded at our Parish Assembly.

Come on kids, get colouring !!!!

Christmas Waste & Recycling Collections

NORMAL COLLECTION DAY	REVISED COLLECTION DAY
Tuesday 22nd December	No Change
Wednesday 23rd December	No Change
Thursday 24th December	No Change
Friday 25th December	Monday 28th December
Tuesday 29th December	No Change
Wednesday 30th December	No Change
Thursday 31st December	No Change
Friday 1st January	Saturday 2nd January



PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Firstly I would like to say how pleased the Council is to see that the SHAC in Stoke Prior is to be replaced by BDHT. The Parish Council worked very hard behind the scenes to help achieve this being prepared to put a substantial amount of its own funds to support the project having recognised the importance of the SHAC to the local community. This has been a very good example of how the Parish Council works to get things done without making a great show of it.

I am also pleased to report that the replacement and restoration of the children's play equipment at Ryefields Road Recreation Area has been successfully completed at a cost of over £36,000. The Parish Council will also look at providing better seating at the site. We recognise that in this world of technology etc that it is important that young children have the opportunity to play in the open air on good quality outdoor equipment.

The Parish Council has made strong representations on behalf of the local community regarding the proposed housing development at the former Polymer Latex site in Stoke Works. At the time of writing a final decision by the District Council's Planners is still awaited but it is expected to go ahead.

We remain very aware of the concerns regarding speeding along Shaw Lane and the B4091 and are working closely with the Police and the County Council on this and other highways issues affecting the parish..

May I remind you that the Parish Council is still looking to co-opt 2 Councillors so if you are interested, please contact me on **01527 757190** or email clerk@stoke-pc-worcs.gov.uk.

COUNCIL SURGERIES

May I remind you that Councillor's surgeries will continue to take place on the first Saturday of every month at 9.30 am at the Parish Council office at 17B Ryefields Road, Stoke Heath. These meetings will be attended by John Ellis, Vice Chairman of the Parish Council together with local District Councillors. These meetings are your opportunity to let us know the issues which affect you.

CAROLS IN THE PARK

You are all invited to attend the Parish Council's 'Carols in the Park' event being held on Saturday 12 December 2015 commencing at 5.00pm at Stoke Heath Recreation Area.

The carols will be led by Revd Wyn Beynon and will be followed by hot drinks and refreshments provided by the Parish Council.

You may also like to take this opportunity to make a small donation to the fund towards the restoration of the tower at St Michael's Church (see page 2) which is in need of urgent repairs. The Parish Council believes that the church is integral to the parish and support any actions to help this work to be completed.



FORTHCOMING PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Parish Council will meet at 7.30pm on the following dates over the next few months in 2016:

Monday 4 January 2016
 Monday 1 February 2016
 Monday 7 March 2016
 Monday 4 April 2016



Peter Williams (Chairman)	07970782690	Planning (Chairman), Communications, Fete Working Group
John Ellis (Vice-Chairman)	01527 570287	Planning, Communications, Finance & Resources, Stoke Heath recreation area, CALC representative
Sue Abel	01527 821692	Planning, Communications (Chairman), Fete Working Group
Diane Brown	01527 570274	Planning, Finance & Resources, Fete Working Group, CALC representative, Picnic Site
Paul Eden	07808053556	Finance & Resources, Fete Working Group, Shaw Lane recreation area
Jill Howe	07967700145	Planning, Communications, Finance & Resources, Fete Working Group
Jon Miller	01527 575003	Fete Working Group
Keith Shakespeare	01527 759573	Finance & Resources, Fete Working Group, Stoke Prior Village Hall Management Committee
Dean Smith	07970782690	Planning, Communications, CPRE representative
Alyson Jewson	01527 578821	Fete Working Group
Vacancy		
Vacancy		

Parish Clerk	Neil Gulliver Parish Office, 17B Ryefields Road, Stoke Prior, Bromsgrove Tel 01527 757190 or 07927311041 E-mail: clerk@stoke-pc-worcs.gov.uk
Parish Website	http://www.stoke-pc-worcs.gov.uk
Comments and Articles	clerk@stoke-pc-worcs.gov.uk
District Councillors	Mike Thompson (Labour) 07861739942 Malcolm Glass (Conservative) 07791187901
County Councillors	Bromsgrove South Division Christopher Bloore (Labour and Co-operative) Tel 07905 612710 E-mail christopherbloore@hotmail.co.uk