

Stoke Parish Council

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Issue 2018.1

PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER SPRING

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Chairman's Report

Christmas does seem a long time ago now but I am very pleased to report that there was a good attendance at the Christmas Carol Service last year, – thank you to the organisers and all those who attended.

Leading up to Christmas, three of your Parish Councillors and I spent a very enjoyable evening driving around Stoke Heath and Stoke Prior looking for the best display of Christmas lights. It was a close decision but we chose a winner for each area (names and photos appear inside the newsletter)

Date to remember

Film Evening – Saturday 14th July 2018

Following the success of the 'Film Evening' last year, The Parish Council has decided to organise another film evening. Lessons have been learnt from last year's event and planning is in progress.

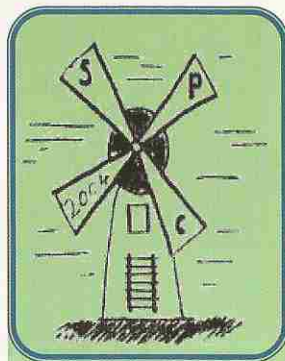
Annual Parish Meeting – Wednesday 16th May 2018

We are grateful to Chris Cooke and his team for picking up 135 bags of litter and rubbish around the village. Items collected included 12 whisky bottles, 2 drug syringes and needles, 20 filled black bags of dog poo (on Shaw Lane, between Ryefields Road and Ryefields Road) even though there are dog poo bins provided. Around 50% of the litter was alcohol cans and bottles. We must be vigilant to keep our Parish clean and tidy.

I would like to invite all parishioners to attend the monthly Council meetings which are held on the 1st Monday of the month (except August) to see for themselves what takes place.

If you would like to bring to the Councils attention any concerns you have about your area please do contact the Stoke Parish Council Office on 01527 757 190 or email clerk@stoke-pc-worcs.gov.uk

Cllr Peter Williams
Chairman Stoke Parish Council



Inside this issue:

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE	1
WINNERS OF CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMPETITION 2017	2
DEFIBRILLATOR	3
PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY	3
CAROLS IN THE PARK	4
ROUND TABLE	4
CHRISTMAS SLEIGH	
OUTDOOR FILM SHOW	6
ST MICHAEL APPEAL	8
BARRATT HOUSING	10
PHOTO'S FROM ROUND THE PARISH	10
OPERA WORCESTER	12
PART-TIME ASSISTANT CLERK	13
JOHN COBBETT WALK DISPLAY	13
PARISH COUNCIL NEWS	14
PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE AND CONTACT	15
CONTACTS	16

WINNERS OF CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMPETITION 2017

Dark Lane, Stoke Heath



Rosemary Drive, Stoke Prior



DEFIBRILLATOR

We are pleased to tell you that the new defibrillator has been installed outside the Parish Office in Ryefields Road, fully funded by the Parish Council. It is also the Parish Council's in-tention to install a second defibrillator in the Stoke Heath area in the next few months.

So what is a defibrillator or AED? A defibrillator delivers an electrical current through the chest which aims to shock the heart back into a normal rhythm allowing it to pump again. Rapid response using automated technology can significantly improve the quality of life of a survivor, as the longer the brain is starved of oxygen, the more damage can occur.

An AED is a portable defibrillator which uses intelligent technology to restore a 'shockable' heart rhythm. When applied to a patient, a sequence of voice commands and screen mes-sages guide the user through the defibrillation process. This means that the machine may be used safely by people with no medical background or training. An AED is not restricted to use by trained personnel only, it is totally user friendly.



PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY

The Parish Council still has a vacancy for a Councillor to represent the Stoke Prior part of the Parish.

The vacancy will be filled by way of co-option so if you are interested in applying for this posi-tion please contact the

Neil Gulliver, the Parish Clerk on 01527 757190
or email clerk@stoke-pc-worcs.gov.uk.

Equally if you would like to have a chat with the Clerk or the Chairman about the role please contact Neil Gulliver and this can be arranged to suit you.

CAROLS IN THE PARK 2017

We had a lovely turn out for last years Parish Council's 'Carols in the Park' event held on Saturday 9 December 2017 at Stoke Heath Recreation Area.

With Carols will be conducted by the Revd Wyn Beynon

and followed by free hot drinks and refreshments provided by the Parish Council.



ROUND TABLE CHRISTMAS SLEIGH

Over the Christmas period Bromsgrove Round Table and many volunteers helped to run the Sleigh around the Bromsgrove area. It was a great success that put a smile on many people faces over the Bromsgrove area. Without the help and support from the people of Bromsgrove and other organisations from within the area we wouldn't be able to provide the ser-vice that we did. A massive thank you needs to be given to GTAccess via Jon Till who has been storing the sleigh over the past years. It also needs to be paid to Rob Spittle at Guest



Motors who have provided the vechicle that pulls the sleigh around. However the biggest thanks goes out to the locals who gave up their time to help us collect and also put a smile on peoples faces. This year we managed to raise £6,614.40 which has been our best year yet!

I must stress that the money we raise stays in bromsgrove and will be given to people/ charities in need in the Bromsgrove area. We are purely a charity organisation and rely on the donations of Bromsgrove residents to help people less fortunate that ourselves and without that we wouldn't be able to do what we do.



So that you know where the money has started to go; we have donated 15 starter home packs to St Basils of Bromsgrove. This will enable them to look after young people and help them to get a roof over their heads.

If you would like to be part of this great organisation please get in touch via our Facebook page, the Round Table website or we meet in the Ewe and Lamb every Friday evening from 6pm.

Thank you and look forward to seeing you all this December. We always need more volunteers to help over Christmas, if this appeals to you then please put yourself forward. We need you!

Jack Slattery
Chairman of Bromsgrove Round Table



OUTDOOR FILM NIGHT 2018

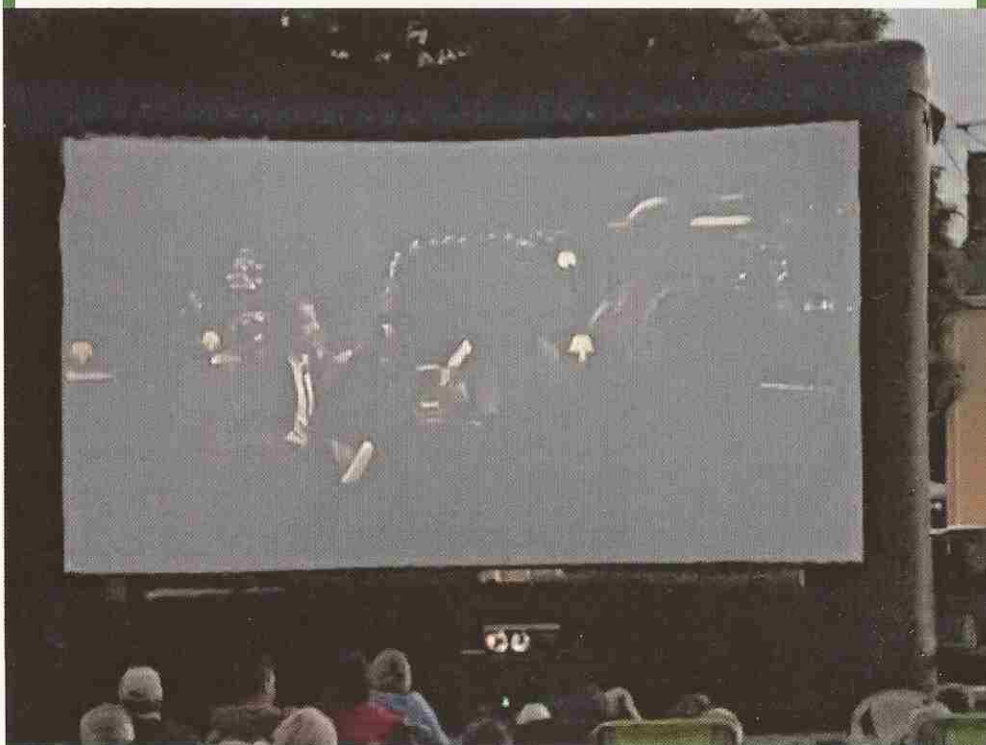
After the success of last year's event, the Parish Council is pleased to announce that the outdoor film night will be back again this year. Please note the date in your diary – **Saturday 14th July 2018.**

The event will again take place at the Stoke Heath Recreation Ground (Hanbury Turn Junction).

Details are still being finalised but it is intended that, as well as the main film, there will be support entertainment prior to the main event. Refreshments will also be available.

No decision has yet been made about which film will be shown.

If you have any ideas about which film you would like to see, please feel free to text Neil Gulliver, the Parish Clerk on 07927 311041 or email clerk@stoke-pc-worcs.gov.uk



Outdoor Film Night

Saturday 14th July 2018

Film Starting Time: 8.30pm

Film to be Confumed

*Venue: Stoke Heath Recreation Ground
(Hanbury Turn Junction)*

*Stoke Parish Council would like to invite you to a Film
Night*

The main thing is to make sure you bring a camping chair and loads of warm clothing. It is surprising how cold you can get when sat still - so blankets and sleeping bags make for a much more comfortable experience. In addition to this, you may like to bring a picnic, a bottle of wine, some nibbles and a hot flask can make all the difference.

FREE ADMISSION

For more information

contact Neil Gulliver (Clerk) on 01527 757 190

St Michael and All Angels Tower Fund Raising and Appeal

The tower friends continue to raise funds for the repairs needed at St Michael and All Angels.

To date, the friends have raised £60,000.

This includes:

£3,000 awarded by Lasletts Charities

(in their funds for us to call for before 1st August 2019)

£1,000 pledged by Worcester & Dudley Historic Churches Trust

£350 raised from the sale of Jill's cards leading up to Christmas

Kind donations being made from family of friends following the loss of their loved ones

They achieved their 2017 YE target of £55,000 and are now striving to raise in excess of £70,000 by the end of 2018. This will be challenging but with help it is achievable.

The Friends of the Tower plan for 2018 fund raising is:

February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
TBA	10 th Table Top Sale	26 th HM	TBA	24 th Opera Worcester	13 th Business Breakfast		TBA	5 th Barn Dance		TBA
Table	16 th	Royal Marine Band/AMVC Concert	History Talk		20 th Peter Hartley		History			Carols in the Park
Top Sale	Easter Raffle						Talk			

The sale of the Easter Raffle tickets has been a great success. The tower friends extend a big thank you to all who have helped and supported them over recent months selling tickets, buying tickets and for providing prizes. The draw is take place on Friday 16th March at the Stoke Prior Sports & Country Club. The draw will be at 7.30pm followed by a light supper. This is being provided by the tower friends as a thank you for everyone's support. They hope you can join them for what will be an enjoyable evening.

After the Easter Raffle, the tower friends look forward to welcoming HM Royal Marine Band and The Alcester Male Voice Choir to the Chateau Impney on April 26th What a magnificent evening they have ahead for us! Please can I ask that we help sell tickets and support this event. We at the Parish Council will as always do all we can to support the tower friends at this and all their fund raising events.

Then something different. They will with great delight welcome Opera Worcester who will be performing at St Michael and All Angels on Sunday June 24th. Details of this concert will appear later in posters, flyers, the Link magazine etc. So please watch out for further information.

St Michael and All Angels Stoke Prior proudly presents

THE BAND OF H.M. ROYAL MARINES

Alcester Male Voice Choir

Thursday 26th April 2018 7.30pm - 10pm

Performing in the magnificent Regent Suite of the beautiful Chateau Impney Hotel
Droitwich Spa Worcestershire, WR9 0BN

Tickets £35.00 (unreserved seating)
Available from Christine Huzzey
Email cwahuzzey@btinternet.com
Tel: 01527 831706

Cheques made payable to Stoke Prior Tower Appeal
On-line tickets by email: sales@timebsites.co.uk

On Friday 13th October 2017 the tower friends hosted a business networking breakfast at St Michael and All Angels. The morning was deemed a great success and raised £1,700 for the appeal fund. Due its success and at the request of local businesses they will be repeating the breakfast on July 13th. Again, the event is to be sponsored with all the breakfasts being paid for by a local business.

On Friday 20th July, Pete Hartley will be in concert at St Michael and All Angels. Pete is a virtuoso violinist and mandolinist. This is part of the Bromsgrove Festival. This is certainly one for the diary. To help Google Peter Hartley and listen to his music – simply divine!

The tower friends are finalising arrangements for a repeat of the 2017 popular Barn Dance. This is planned October 5th. This is always a fun evening with all tickets being sold easily and quickly.

Their Project Enquiry application for funding from the Heritage Lottery (HL) Grants Programme has been submitted. This has been acknowledged by the HL West Midlands Office. The HL Officer is to meet the Church Warden and the Tower Friends Chair on Tuesday 20th March to discuss the application in more detail. I am sure you join us all at the Parish Council in wishing them well with their application.

The tower friends have tirelessly funds for the tower repair and in putting their 2018 plans into reality. If you or no anyone that can help us grow the fund account, please let us know. They need all any and would appreciate any help that can be given.

Donations can be made to the tower fund by sending a cheque to Gary Stokes, 15 Bredon Road, Bromsgrove Worcestershire B61 7HD. Cheques should be made out to "SP Tower Fund". Alternatively, you can make a donation by BACS. Please ring Gary on 01527 577069 for the information on how to do this. If you are a Tax payer then you can Gift Aid your donation. In doing so, the tower friends can claim to the HMRC for the tax element of your donation. To do this write to be gifted aided on the reverse of your cheque along with the first line of your address and post code. They will do the rest.

Remember their YE target of £70,000+. The total amount needed to £250,000. Please let's help them to save any further deterioration of St Michael and All Angels.

BARRATT HOUSING

BARRATT HOUSING DEVELOPMENT OFF WESTON HALL ROAD, STOKE PRIOR

The Parish Council is continuing to try to work with the developers so that we can keep you informed about the site is being developed and to also act as a link with them when local residents bring issues or problems to our attention. We are very aware that the development may cause problems at times over the coming months and we will do our best to deal with them.

In the meantime, the developers have given us the following timetable for the development programme:-

Site remediation complete – March
 Roads & sewers start – March
 Foundations start – May
 Sales start – May/June
 First occupations – December

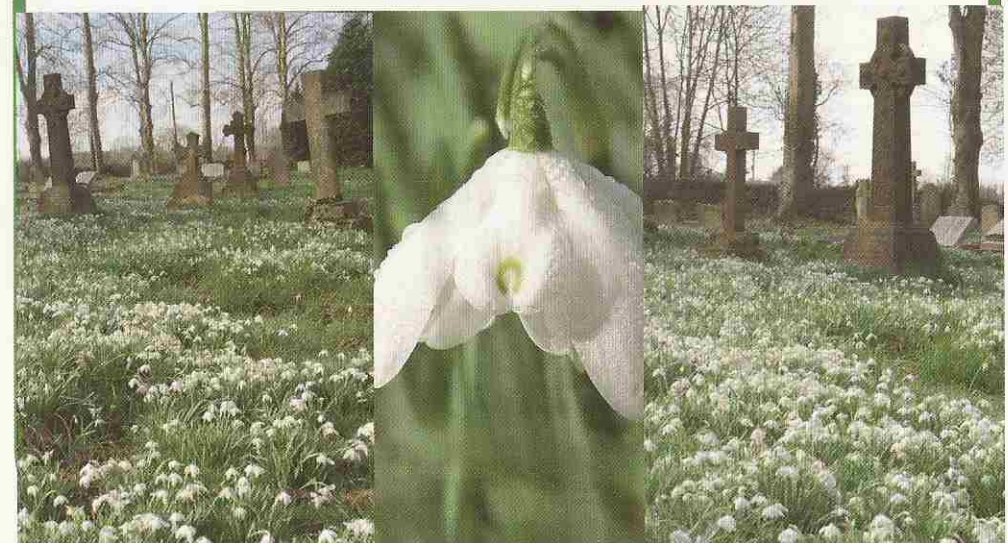
We will bring you further updates in due course.

PHOTOS FROM ROUND THE PARISH



Snowdrops and Crocus are in the Churchyard page 10 & 11
 and the snowdrifts are up Brick House Lane pages 15 & 16

Taken by Cllr Gill Howe



St Michael and All Angels Tower Friends proudly presents

Принес
И белых и черных и желтых ребят, нас много на ша-ре зем. ном. Бе.

Sunday 24th June 2018

**OPERA
WORCESTER**

Formerly Great Witley Operatic Society
Concert will commence at 3.30pm

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Для окочу.

и.р. н.р.

2458

St Michael and All Angels
Stoke Prior, Bromsgrove B60 4JT
Tickets £10.00 (unreserved seating)
Includes a plated Afternoon Tea served after the
performance at 4.30pm

Available from Christine Huzzey
Email cwahuzzey@btinternet.com
Tel: 01527 831706

Cheques made payable to Stoke Prior Tower Appeal

STOKE PARISH COUNCIL POST OF PART-TIME ASSISTANT CLERK

Salary £16,123 p.a. (pro rata 24 hours per month)

Stoke Parish Council is looking to recruit a conscientious and reliable Assistant Clerk or Trainee Assistant Clerk who is willing to train for this interesting and challenging role.

The successful candidate will work with the Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer to support the needs of the Parish Council and assist with the efficient running of the Parish Office and Council facilities.

The post is for 6 hours per week (hours of work are subject to agreement) but the applicant must be willing to attend evening meetings as required. The successful applicant will be based at the Parish Office in Stoke Prior.

Good IT skills including knowledge of Microsoft Publisher and website management are essential for this position.

For more information or an application pack, please contact the Parish Clerk on 07927 311041 or email Clerk@stoke-pc-worcs.gov.uk

Closing date for applications is Wednesday 23 April 2018



JOHN CORBETT WALK DISPLAY

The John Corbett Display will be on show at Easter Model & Collectors
Show on 31st March, 1st & 2nd April 2018
Stoke Prior Sports and Country Club B60 4al

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

from the Parish Clerk

As I write this newsletter, we are fast approaching the end of another financial year in which the Parish Council has again been working hard to help provide the necessary services and help for the local community. The major project this year has been the installation of the defibrillator which is referred to in more detail elsewhere in this newsletter. Other than that we have not been engaged in any other major projects this year but we have continued to ensure that all the facilities are kept up to a high standard and properly maintained.

One issue which seems to never go away is the problems caused by irresponsible dog owners who do not clean up after the pets. We continue to do all we can to deal with this problem but would ask all dog owners to take responsibility for cleaning up after their dogs and using the waste bins across the parish. If there is any area of the parish which you think lacks a bin please let me know. Let's sort this problem together for the health and safety of everyone especially the children in the parish.

Once again I would like to say a big thank you on behalf of the Parish Council to Chris Cooke, the Parish Lengthsman and Ian Gerard, who carries out the grounds maintenance across the parish. Both Chris and Ian work extremely hard throughout the year in helping to keep the area safe and in good order.

Remember the Parish Council is there to support everyone who lives in the parish but we cannot do it alone. We need your help to know what is going on out there so please come to our monthly meetings or just contact the Parish Clerk when issues arise. We cannot try to solve problems or issues if we do not know about them!



FORTHCOMING PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Parish Council will meet at 7.30pm at Avoncroft Arts Centre on the following dates over the next few Months in 2018:

Monday 9 April 2018
Monday 4 June 2018
Monday 2 July 2018
Monday 3 September 2018

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Parish Council's Annual General Meeting will take place on
Wednesday 16 May 2018
 at the Stoke Prior Village Hall starting at 7.00pm.

This meeting will be hosted by Peter Williams, Chairman of Stoke Parish Council, and is an opportunity to hear what the Parish Council is doing and for you to raise any concerns or issues which affect the parish. This is an important meeting for the Parish Council to be able to talk to local residents.

PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE AND CONTACT DETAILS

The Parish Office based at 17B Ryefields Road is open to the public every Monday and Wednesday mornings between **10am and 1pm**.

Neil Gulliver, the Parish Clerk will be happy to try and help local residents with any issues which concern them.

You can also contact the Clerk outside office hours on
 07927 311041
 or leave a message at the office on
 01527 757190
 or email
clerk@stoke-pc-worcs.gov.uk.

If you want to meet the Clerk outside of the above hours, an appointment can be arranged to suit you.

Monthly surgeries no longer take place due to lack of demand.

As with the arrangements for meeting with the Clerk, if any local resident has a particular issue or problem that they wish to discuss with the Chairman or Vice Chairman or your local District Councillor, again please contact the Parish Office to make an appointment.

CONTACTS

16

Peter Williams (Chairman)	07970782690	Planning (Chairman), Communications,
John Ellis (Vice-Chairman)	01527 570287	Planning, Communications, Finance & Resources, Stoke Heath recreation area.
Diane Brown	01527 821692	Planning, Finance & Resources, Picnic Site, Worcs CALC representative
Jillian Howe	01527 570274	Communications, Finance & Resources, Stoke Prior Village Hall Management Committee
Susan Abel	07808053556	Planning, Communications (Chairman),
Dean Smith	07956609500	Planning, Communications,
Keith Shakespeare	07808173400	Finance & Resources,
Alyson Jewson	01527 578821	
Chris Jewson	01527 578821	Parish Footpaths Officer,
Liz Eden	07803764360	Communications
Liz Miller	01527 831942	Planning,
Vaccancy		

Parish Clerk	Neil Gulliver Parish Office, 17B Ryefields Road, Stoke Prior, Bromsgrove B60 4NA Tel 01527 757190 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	Malcolm Glass (Conservative) 07791 187901 Mike Thompson (Labour) 07861 739942
County Councillors	Bromsgrove South Division Christopher Bloore (Labour and Co-operative) Tel 07905 612710 E-mail christopherbloore@hotmail.co.uk