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Summer 2024



ALL THE NEWS FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

Shenstone Festival & Stonnallbury

Friends of Shenstone Station unveiled a new birthday board celebrating 140 years of the station.

The building itself was open to visitors including William who enjoyed selling tickets before becoming a train driver when he grows up.

More on Page 7



Stonnall Supreme Champion Ace & more news of Stonnallbury Page 5.



Very wet Mabel!

Little Aston and Shenstone Neighbourhood Plan Revisions

The July meeting of Shenstone Parish Council approved for submission to Lichfield District Council two revised Neighbourhood Plans, one for Little Aston and the other for Shenstone. The two Neighbourhood Plans have been revised following evaluation by separate working groups and community stakeholders and the proposed revisions have been put to a first round of local consultation which added to the proposed revisions and amended others.

The District Council will now consider the proposed revisions to ensure they meet all the Neighbourhood Plan legislative requirements and will conduct a further round of consultation. The District Council will then submit the revised Neighbourhood Plans for an independent examination. This may include a referendum on the proposed changes if the independent inspectors concludes that is required. This process will take several months.

The proposed revisions to the Little Aston Neighbourhood Plan include:-

- Future provision of footpaths and cycle ways
- Designation of a Quiet Lane
- Strengthening of the Village Hall as a Community Hub
- Conservation Area Solar Panels
- Pedestrian safety measures
- Low energy construction measures
- Light pollution reduction

The proposed revisions to the Shenstone Neighbourhood Plan include

- Future provision of footpaths
- Provision of toddler play provision for the south of the village
- Conservation area solar panels
- Pedestrian safety measures
- Traffic calming
- Wildlife routes protection
- Low energy construction measures
- Light pollution reduction
- Small Business Development in existing community buildings

The draft revised plans are available on
www.shenstone-staffs.gov.uk

Danceathon



Congratulations to the wonderful team who organised and participated in the Danceathon at the Richard Cooper room recently raising a fantastic £2,600 for Acorns Hospice. Well done

Postie keeping busy!



Our secret post box decorator continues to bring smiles to all in the village with the wonderful event inspired decorations.

Here we have bumble bees marking the start of Spring, Easter bunny & chick & a DDay commemorative soldier.

An Aston Villa football tribute has not been included in the newsletter for fear of upsetting rival fans! (But it was excellent!).

Footerley Rough Woodland Bluebell Weekend



On the weekend of the 18th/19th May the woodland landowner Mr Williams, very kindly allowed access to the Footerley Rough woodland to allow local residents to see the bluebells in flower. Over 50 people visited the woodland over the opening period on each day to see the extensive carpets of blue under the tree canopy and in dappled sunshine. A magical sight. The weekend was a success for all involved and will take place again next year, slightly earlier to secure the very best of the bluebells in bloom period.

Thanks go to Brian and Chris, gamekeeper and assistant for supporting the visitors each day with access. The woodland is now closed to the public for another year to protect the animals, birds, plants and trees that live there.



New defibrillator for Little Hay

The Parish Council are delighted to announce that another defibrillator has been purchased.

The latest addition is on the wall outside The Hollybush in Little Hay.

Whilst we always hope that there won't be any need to use them, sadly we know this is not the case & they are vitally important. The defibrillator installed in the Spring on Smarts Avenue in Shenstone Woodend has already been used.



Summer update JPE Shire Oak Quarry

JPE Shire Oak quarry is fully committed in encouraging open and regular communication with everyone relating to The Quarry as they are aware of the potential impact they might have on people around the Stonnall area.

In particular, they would like to thank a number of residents for their support and help over the past few months as they have seen an increasing number of incidents with children trespassing on site with the theft and removal of signage around excavation areas.

This places the children in extreme danger around the site and especially near the excavation holes which are in excess of 30 feet deep.

JPE Shire Oak are more than happy to arrange visits to the site from an educational perspective if parents feel it would help in explaining safety matters and the workings of the quarry.

Surprisingly, JPE have recently also had a break in to a number of buildings and stores causing costly damage and general vandalism on site.

From an operational perspective, they are currently digging rock sand out from Phase 3b to a depth of 20 metres before they hopefully hit prime mineral that is used in the construction industry by October of this year. Rock sand is commonly used as a fine infill additive to concrete and also to be used with a blend of compost for use in topsoil such as Tarmac Topsoil.

The restoration set out for 2024 Northern area is going very well and should be completed by September/October ready to be seeded. The restoration phase for 2025 has already been started in places.

The construction sector is still slower than normal and JPE is 50% below the 2019 levels on aggregate taken out and 60% below the level of landfill coming in to site.

Despite this, JPE are very optimistic they will be able to meet their overall objectives within reasonable timescales whilst doing their best to mitigate any impact from the quarry on the local area.

JPE Shire Oak Quarry/Landfill

Open Tower Dates July - December 2024



July 6th Sat 10.00 - 12.00
July 21st Sun 2.00 - 4.00
August 3rd Sat 10.00 - 12.00
August 18th Sun 2.00 - 4.00
Sept 7th Sat 10.00 - 12.00
Sept 22nd Sun 2.00 - 4.00
Oct 5th Sat 10.00 - 12.00
November 2nd Sat 10.00 - 12.00
December 7th Sat 10.00 - 12.00



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St John the Baptist Cemetery, Shenstone

The Parish Council has recently updated the fees for St Johns after holding them for four years.

Full details are available on the website.
www.shenstone-staffs.gov.uk

Overgrown hedges



Residents are reminded that hedges on private land which block pavements are a serious issue and the responsibility of the landowner. The Parish Council receive regular calls from residents unable to safely pass by overgrown hedges or overhanging branches, especially with a buggy/pushchair or in a wheelchair.

There are many areas, especially in Shenstone & Stonnall, where pedestrians can only walk on one side of the road anyway so if this is blocked it is extremely dangerous.

Please respect your neighbours & keep hedges & branches safely trimmed back.

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**Shenstone Seniors
Brunch Club**

**On the first Saturday of every month
from 10.am – 12.0pm
at the Methodist Church, New Rd.**

Mary & the team serve hot bacon baps,



**butter milk pancakes with cherry compote,
breakfast pastries, tea, coffee or fruit juice,
for our senior residents:**

3rd Aug, 7th Sept, 5th Oct, 2nd Nov, 7th Dec

Want to know what your Councils are responsible for?

People often ask about the different Councils that operate in our area and what each Council actually does! With so many different rules and regulations it is understandable that residents may become confused who to deal with and contact in certain situations.

Recent queries relate to who is responsible for mending potholes and as you will see from the below list this is a County Council key responsibility. Likewise matters of local planning decisions rest with Lichfield District Council.

Here is a brief list of the sort of areas each level of Council should look after.

County Council	District Council	Parish Council
Education Transport/roads/road repairs Planning of large County developments Fire and public safety Social care Libraries Waste management Trading standards	Rubbish collection Recycling Council Tax collections Housing Planning applications Parks and open spaces Leisure facilities Public Toilets	Allotments Public clocks Bus shelters Community centres Play areas and play equipment Grants to help local organisations Consultation on neighbourhood planning <i>They also have the power to issue fixed penalty fines for things like:</i> <i>litter</i> <i>graffiti</i> <i>fly posting</i> <i>dog offences</i>

Full contact details of your local Parish, District and County Councillors can be found on The Shenstone Parish Council website should you need to contact them and also on the rear page of the Parish Council Newsletter which is issued several times per year.

Great Big Green week

Shenstone Community Library & Shenstone Environment Group have been really busy supporting the national Great Big Green Week. They are well on the way to beating last year's contribution to Staffordshire Wildlife Fund with funds raised likely to be in excess of £1,000.

First of all, there was the gallery exhibition: 'Cherish Our Wildlife Through Art'. Over forty local artists exhibited, including paintings, pottery, embroidery and poems, some donating subsequent sales to the charity. Those who exhibited were invited to an artists' forum and were treated to a talk by three local, prominent artists.



There were beekeepers.....



and cyclists....



and all the children at Greysbrooke Primary School contributed to this artwork



And finally, there was Shenstone's own Gardeners' Question Time, with contributions from a team of experts, including Shaun Rimmer from Staffordshire Wildlife Trust.

The Shenstone Community Library Environment Group is always pleased to hear from people in the parish who want to get involved. Please contact shenstone.community.library@gmail.com

STONNALLBURY

2024

Well, it doesn't seem to matter what month/date we choose for this festival, we can't get the weather right. In spite of some very heavy downpours and a thunderstorm the team and visitors soldiered on. The dog show was a little late starting but was well supported with a great turn out of very gorgeous and well-behaved canines.

A GREAT SUCCESS.

Alongside the dog show we had Hoopers agility ring, a temptation alley and dog photo booth. The event concluded by a demonstration by Through the Dogs Eyes, showing owners the correct way to train their fur babies.



Many thanks to Stonnall Paws for the dog show prizes and entry wristbands. And a big thank you to our judges.

Debbie Ward – Dog First Aid Training

Fiona Howell – RSPCA Inspector

David Salter – Shenstone Parish Councillor

David Salter then went on to open the afternoon festivities looking resplendent in his official regalia.

A big hit this year was the 100ft marquee to house most of the craft stalls and provided tables and chairs for visitors to shelter and have their refreshments.

Once again, we had stalls and games by St. Peter's school, Stonnall scouts and SCAR with additional support from our local constabulary. In addition, we provided a bouncy castle and gaming van for the youngsters.

There was a good selection of refreshments but sadly the pizza van never managed to get out of the mud at a previous engagement in Derby.

The field was kept buzzing with music and live acts organized by our very own DJ Boots.

Special thanks go to Paul Starkey transport for providing a vehicle and generator for our stage.

A massive thank you also goes out to Shenstone Parish Council, Lichfield and Staffordshire Community groups, local councillors, Joseph Powell, Phil Whitehouse and David Smith for the financial support we have received in the form of grants. Without these funds provided by these good organisations and our local sponsors, Stonnallbury would not be able to take place.

And last but not least, a personal thank you from the Stonnallbury Committee chair, Linda Waters, for the committee's unwavering support and many voluntary hours of hard work and research. We have a wonderful team with amazingly diverse skill sets.

THANK YOU TEAM.



LITTLE ASTON - Party in the Park 2024

Another brilliant night with the very best live bands in the country. Headlining LittleAstonbury was Paloma Faith's band the Faithettes who have just finished their UK tour with Paloma, celebrating 45 years of UB40 with Johnny 2 Bad, UK Bee Gees and local band Monkey Business.

The evening climaxed with traditional Prom songs performed by the brilliant Chess Taylor and superb fireworks display to delight the 2,750 ticket holders who attended this year.

The event is run by a dedicated team of volunteers who organise what has become the major fund-raising event for Little Aston Recreational Ground Association, every penny raised goes towards the upkeep and improvements at the park.

The Chair of Party in the Park (Little Astonbury) Committee Mark Watkins said " This is the twelfth event of this type & just keeps getting better & better. After the storms of last year, we were pleased to escape without any drama but plenty of fireworks! A fantastic night was had by all"



Shenstone Festival

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the tremendous success of our festival. Hopefully you have now recovered from your efforts!

We sold over 1000 programmes which is a record for us, and more than 100 raffle tickets - exact figure for sales are still being established.

The 140th anniversary of Shenstone Station was marked with the opening of a commemorative mural & the station building was open to allow visitors to look around. One keen young visitor, William, who wants to be a train driver when he grows up, particularly enjoyed sitting in the ticket office chair!

At Trinity on Saturday volunteers hardly drew breath, serving more than 145 customers to tea and cake in just two hours. The WI sold out of their lunches, and the library was super busy on both days. Some of the Gardeners recorded more than 400 visitors over the weekend and the classic cars proved as popular as ever. Both churches excelled themselves in the floral displays and it was nice to hear St John's bells ringing out on Saturday evening.



D Day Celebrated at Shenstone Country Club

The Country Club event was held on Saturday 1st June and attended by over sixty people.

Villagers commemorated the 80th anniversary of the Normandy Landings on 6 June 1944, also known as D-Day that ultimately tipped the course of the Second World War in the Allies' favour.

Many recollections of post war Britain were shared, residents who have since served their country in the armed services attended and music from the period was played.

Attendees enjoyed the company and the sunshine as the photographs show.





The Parish Council (PC) and Shenstone Playing Fields Committee (SPFC) issue this joint statement to clarify the situation regarding the future of the SPFC following the adjournment of the SPFC AGM on 17th June.

Appointment of Trustees:

There had been concern raised regarding the method of appointing Trustees as it was discovered that the previous committee had used the unrevised constitution in error. The Parish Council subsequently worked with members of the SPFC in an effort to regularise those concerns.

Representatives:

There have been recent changes to the SPFC governing documentation with the intention of giving residents more of a voice. Whilst the SPFC had sought advice from the Charity Commission on the most recent changes it is agreed that a more thorough process should have been followed.

Resignation:

All the Trustees of the SPFC have made the decision to resign from their positions on the charity in support of one another. The Trustees state they have had strong support within the village and are very grateful for the many messages of encouragement. However, they acknowledge that despite reassuring the community on their appointment and in relation to the ongoing negotiations with the Country Club, due

In part to misinformation, trust has broken down with some members of the community.

The outgoing Trustees have offered to provide a full and thorough handover to the Parish Council until the appointment of the new committee and will happily make themselves available if needed.

Appointment of a new committee:

The Parish Council as Custodian Trustees give reassurance that they will manage the essential day to day running of the Playing Fields short term and will arrange an AGM so a new committee can be appointed.

The application process for becoming a trustee committee member of the charity will be reopened and managed by the Parish Council.

INTERIM MANAGEMENT

Football Bookings:

All current football bookings and holiday camps remain in place. It has been confirmed that Sophie Baggott will very kindly continue to act as Bookings Secretary for all football related schedules, matches and enquiries and that pitch maintenance will continue as normal.

Playground:

There is strong support for the renewal & rejuvenation of the play area and the Parish Council will support the new committee in its endeavours to achieve this.

Shenstone Country Club

There have been ongoing rumours that the SPFC have issued an eviction notice to their tenant, Shenstone Country Club. The Parish Council can confirm that an eviction notice has never been served. The Parish Council will support the new Committee to ensure that the ongoing legal issues with the Shenstone Country Club are resolved in the best interests of the charity and in accordance with the tenant's lease.

Shenstone 10k fun run:

The SPFC was resurrecting the Shenstone 10k fun run in September to help raise money towards the new playground.

The outgoing SPFC Trustees have discussed the different options and have proposed that the event still goes ahead. The PTA of Greysbrooke School have very kindly agreed to take on the remaining work needed to organise the event. However, instead of the profits being used to go towards a new playground, the profits will go to Greysbrooke School. All sponsors and runners will be approached by the organisers and will have the opportunity to consider whether they still want to sponsor / take part in the event. The Parish Council Chair will propose that a contribution will be made from the Parish Council to help towards the loss of revenue to the Playing Fields.

It is hoped the sponsors and runners will continue to support this event to allow it to be a great success!

Full Parish Council Meetings 2024

Tues 10th September at Shenstone Community Library
Tues 8th October at Shenstone Community Library
Tues 12th November at Little Aston Village Hall
Tues 10th December at Shenstone Community Library

Meeting of Finance, Legal, Health & Safety Committee

All meetings start at 5.30pm

Tuesday Sept 24th
Tuesday Nov 19th

Meeting of Neighbourhood Planning & Property Committee

All meetings start at 5.30pm

Tuesday Oct 22nd
Tuesday Dec 17th

Volunteers needed - Shenstone Baby & Toddler Group

We are a friendly group of parents, grandparents, carers and local residents that run playgroup each term time Wednesday from 9.45-11.45am at St John's Church Hall.

Our volunteers take it in turns to set up the toys, make teas and coffee and everyone attending helps tidy up at the end. Most importantly you get to meet lots of lovely people and might even get some newborn cuddles.

Sadly we are likely to be unable to open after the summer holidays without more support.

If you'd like to see what we are all about or would like to help us on a regular or ad hoc basis, please take a look at our Facebook page (Shenstone Baby & Toddler Group) or contact the Parish Clerk & she will put you in touch with us. contact Jessica - jessica_stein@hotmail.com.

Also, if you are looking after children aged 0-4, please do come along. There's fruit for the little ones, and the kettle is always on for the adults. It costs just £3 for one adult and child and an extra £1 for each additional adult or child.



Shenstone Parish Council

Members' Contact Details

SHENSTONE WOOD END / SHENSTONE WARD / LITTLE ASTON AND STONNALL WARD

- **Councillor David Salter - CHAIR SHENSTONE PARISH COUNCIL**
Tel: 0121 308 4421 / mob: 07956 142215 e-mail: david.salter@lichfielddc.gov.uk
- **Councillor David Thompson - CHAIR NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING & PROPERTY COMMITTEE**
Tel: 01543 480953 / mob: 07582 603003 e-mail: david.thompson@shenstone-staffs.gov.uk
- **Councillor Lesley Edgley VICE CHAIR SHENSTONE PARISH COUNCIL**
Tel: 01543 481 861 e-mail: lesley.edgley@shenstone-staffs.gov.uk
- **Councillor Gail Nicholls**
Tel: 01543 376629 e-mail: gail.nicholls@shenstone-staffs.gov.uk
- **Councillor Mick Cox**
Tel: 01543 374 869 / mob: 07968 724222 e-mail: mick.cox@shenstone-staffs.gov.uk
- **Councillor Phil Whitehouse**
Tel: 07887 372 982 email: phil.whitehouse@shenstone-staffs.gov.uk
- **Councillor Dino D'Ambrosio**
email: dino.dambrosio@shenstone-staffs.gov.uk
- **Councillor Ruth Graham**
email ruth.graham@shenstone-staffs.gov.uk
- **Councillor Stuart Harrison**
email: stuart.harrison@shenstone-staffs.gov.uk
- **Councillor Christopher**
Callow email: christopher.callow@shenstone-staffs.gov.uk
- **Councillor Simon Fisher** email: simon.fisher@shenstone-staffs.gov.uk
- **Parish Clerk: Shirley O'Mara**, Shenstone Parish Council, 25C Main Street, SHENSTONE WS14 OLZ
Tel: 01543 481 947 e-mail: admin@shenstone-staffs.gov.uk

COUNTY COUNCILLOR	DAVID SMITH	david.smith1@staffordshire.gov.uk
DISTRICT COUNCILLOR		
STONNALL & LITTLE ASTON	JOSEPH POWELL	joseph.powell@lichfielddc.gov.uk
DISTRICT COUNCILLOR		
STONNALL & LITTLE ASTON	PHIL WHITEHOUSE	phil.whitehouse@lichfielddc.gov.uk
DISTRICT COUNCILLOR		
SHENSTONE	DAVID SALTER	david.salter@lichfielddc.gov.uk
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT	SARAH EDWARDS	sarah.edwards.mp@parliament.uk

Contact the Parish Council on 01543 481 947 or
e-mail admin@shenstone-staffs.gov.uk

SHENSTONE

St John the Baptist Church	Vacancy	01543 480 286
Trinity Methodist Church	Rev Joanna Thornton	01543 253744
Shenstone Day Care (Friday Friends)	Rita Hancocks	01543 480 560
Shenstone Cares	Debbie Farrow	01543 480 472
Shenstone St John's Hall	Administrator	01543 480 286
Shenstone Village Hall	Tresa Rock	01543 481 504
Shenstone Wesley Hall	Carole Share	01543 480 033
Richard Cooper Room	Tresa Rock	01543 481 504
Scouts Group	Brian Devonshire	01543 481590
Women's Evening Institute	Gina Whorton	01543 480 884
Shenstone Lunch Club	Brenda/Val	07793866975/07828862754
Shenstone Baby & Toddler Group	via Facebook	
Shenstone Tennis Club	Rob Ashley	rob.robashley@gmail.com
Shenstone Community Library	Librarian	01543 480 915
Lammas Land Management Committee	Richard Partridge	01543 481 102
Friends of Shenstone Tower	Stuart Jones	07541 089990
Shenstone Pathfinders F.C.	Gary Cantelo	01543 480 171
Shenstone Playing Fields	Parish Office	01543 481 947
Shenstone Painting Class	Dave Upton	0121 353 5338
Friends of Shenstone Station 1884	Jane Arnstein	Arnstein.jane@gmail.com
Shenstone Quilters	Joy Shorey	01543 481 297
National Women's Register	Lynne Young	01543 480 420
Rainbow Guide Group	Rosemary Lawrence	01543 483 437
Footherley Club	Dave Doige	0121 605 1252
Guides	Sarah Hardie	07946 777170
Brownies	Angela Hiney-Bancroft	01543 481610
Shenstone Strollers	Peter Gravestock	01543 897529
Shenstone & Stonnall Mens Group	Jim Pole	01543 480545
Shenstone History Group	Bronwen Ross	01543 328963
Shenstone Reading Group	Community Library	01543 480915
Shenstone Magazine	Graham Birt	01543 483138
Tai Chi	Neil Rankine	01543 480151

STONNALL

St Peters Church, Stonnall	Vacancy	01543 480 286
Stonnall Matters	Cllr Mrs Val Neale	01543 374 430
Stonnall Village Hall	Kelsey May	stonnallvh@gmail.com
Stonnall Community Centre	Mick Cox	info@stonnall-community-centre.co.uk
Stonnall Gardeners Guild	Pam Ramsell	01543 372 241
Stonnall Coffee Club	Val Neale	01543 374 430
Stonnall Brownies & Guides	Sarah Hardie	07946 777170
Stonnall Scouts/Beavers/Cubs	Marie Jenkins	07977 516 161
Stonnall Playing Fields Management Committee	Gail Nicholls	01543 376629
Stonnall Women's Institute	Jacky Morrison	01543 375 639
Stonnall Stitchers	Dot Horton	01543 374796
The Stonnall Conservation Society	Lynne Ingram	01543 374 629
Stonnall Reading Group	Pam Osbourne	01543 373 370
Film Club	Mick Cox	info@stonnall-community-centre.co.uk
Stonnall Neighbourhood Watch	Maxine Wakefield	01543 375 108
SCAR (Stonnall Campaign about Roads)	Adrian Walters	SCAR.stonnall@gmail.com
Diamond Jubilee Allotments	Debbra Tullah	07787 666 932
Stonnall Singers	Bob Share	01543 480 033
Stonnall Juniors Football Club	Jim Bowker	07724 168881
Buddy Bag Foundation	Karen Williams	karen@buddybagfoundation.co.uk
Mint Theatre Society	Liz Daly	07837 868913
Tai Chi	Neil Rankine	01543 480151
Shire Oak Quarry Liaison Group	Phil Whitehouse	07887 372 982

LITTLE ASTON

St Peters Church, Little Aston	Rev Philip Daniel	0121 352 1095
Little Aston Recreation Ground (LARGA)	David Salter	07956 142215
Little Aston Table Tennis Club	Chris Flemming	0753 424 8672
Little Aston Pre School Play Group	Leighsa Wack/Sara Bradbury	07950 047 172
Little Aston Community Association	Steve Bennett	0121 308 4947
Little Aston Village Hall	Elizabeth Paxton	07861 259 982
Little Aston Bowling Club	Rod Crowley	0121 353 3226
Little Aston Tennis Club	Pete Sutton	07504 458648
Tai Chi	Neil Rankine	01543 480151
Little Aston Evening Women's Institute	Maura Trowman	Maura.trowman@yahoo.com
Little Aston Brownies	Emma Paxton	emmapaxton@live.co.uk

USEFUL NUMBERS

Lichfield District Council : 01543 308 000 Staffordshire County Council : 0300 111 8000 Staffordshire Police: ring 101