



PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

New Parish Clerk

We are very pleased to welcome Lisa Wilson as our new Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer. Lisa has over four years' experience, and has been Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer to Lopen Parish Council since April 2023 so will be bringing a wealth of knowledge with her. She will be taking up her appointment from 1 October 2024 whilst also continuing her role at Lopen PC. We would also like to thank Terry Heath who has helped the Parish Council enormously as Interim Clerk since July 2024, and who will be staying with us for a short while to complete some pieces of work and to ensure a smooth transition.

Allotment Gardens

The Parish Council has been working to complete a new tenancy agreement for all allotment holders. Tenants will be required to pay a one-off non-returnable fee of £25 per Full Allotment, or £12.50 per Half Allotment, and is expected to leave such allotment clear at the end of such hire.

Where the Tenant has already paid the requisite deposit value to Council for the said Allotment(s) under their existing Tenancy Agreement, then no further fee is required. The Tenancy is subject to the Allotment Acts 1908 to 1980 and the condition can be viewed on the village website from 3rd October 2024. Allotment holders who wish to carry on working their allotment will need to sign the new agreement, which can be done in person at this month's Council Surgery.

Furlands Allotment Gardens

Furlands allotment gardens have been struggling with a lack of allotment holders and an overgrowth of weeds on the unused gardens. The Parish Council are looking to get these unused gardens ready for growing hopefully by November this year, we have a couple of gardeners on the waiting list but if you want to join the Furlands Allotment community please email: clerk@stoke-sub-hamdon-pc.gov.uk.

Parish Council Surgery will be held in the Parish Council office on 17th October at 10am-12 noon and also 6pm-8pm. This is your opportunity to let us know if there are any Council/Allotment problems we can help with.

Defibrillators

In addition to the two defibrillators situated at the pavilion in the West Street Recreation Ground and at Castle School, Hamdon First Aid has very kindly recently taken over the care of the two other defibrillators in the village, one located outside the Memorial Hall in West Street and the other by the Prince of Wales pub on Ham Hill. All defibrillators are checked regularly to ensure that they are in good working order, with all relevant information logged. The Parish Council are extremely grateful to Hamdon First Aid, situated within the North Street workshops, for volunteering to undertake this role.

Village Newsletter

We would like to thank volunteers for coming forward and offering to help deliver this newsletter, and are pleased to say that we currently have all areas covered.

For more information on any PC matters, please contact the clerk at clerk@stokesubhamdoncouncil-pc.gov.uk or visit the Council's website: www.stokesubhamdoncouncil.com

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

OCTOBER

- 1st Longer Health Walk**
from Lighthouse café (5-6 miles, option of pub lunch).
Meet 09:50 for 10:00 start
- 9th Afternoon Tea Club** at the Memorial Hall 14:15 – 16:15
- 10th Stoke Band AGM**
- 12th Village Artists Group**
Annual Exhibition and Sale at the Memorial Hall 11:00 – 16:00
- 14th Make Every Step Count Walk** (40 minutes) from Lighthouse café. Meet 09:30
- 14th Medium Health Walk**
from Lighthouse café.
Meet 09:50 for 10:00 start
- 17th Parish Councillor Surgeries**
at 7, North Street
10:00 – 12:00 & 18:00 – 20:00
- 19th Film Night** at The Memorial Hall from 18:00
- 23rd Afternoon Tea Club** at the Lighthouse café 14:15 – 16:15
- 23rd Gardening Club**
at the Memorial Hall 19:15
- 28th Medium Health Walk**
from Lighthouse café.
Meet 09:50 for 10:00 start
- 28th Make Every Step Count Walk** (40 minutes) from Lighthouse café. Meet 09:30
- 29th/30th Autumn Adventure Camp**
at Hamdon Family & Youth Centre

NOVEMBER

- 6th Afternoon Tea Club** at the Lighthouse café 14:15 – 16:15
- 9th Village Artists Group** – Pastel Techniques Workshop at the Memorial Hall 10:00 – 15:00

STOKE COMMUNITY SHOP: YOUR VILLAGE – YOUR SHOP

Stoke Community Shop Committee would like to thank all the members of the community who responded to our call for help and support. We've now engaged the services of Trudy Cronin, our new bookkeeper, who has worked miracles with our accounts. She has taken a look at the areas that we had concerns about and rectified them. Moving forward we feel much happier with our accounts.

Unfortunately, she has also identified that we are running at about a £3,000 operating loss, year to date. One of the main reasons for this is a significant drop in the number of people using the shop over the past six months. For example, we're currently recording up to 160 fewer transactions a week compared with this time last year.

We've identified improvements we can make to the shop and how we operate, which we'll be carrying out over the next few months. These include introducing new products every week and advertising more on Facebook.

But, ultimately, if we don't get the custom then we'll need to have a serious rethink about the future of Stoke Community Shop and the Post Office. So this is another call for you to come into the shop and help us to keep it profitable.

It really is a case of use it, or lose it!

For more information about the shop and volunteer opportunities, visit stokeshop.co.uk or www.facebook.com/stokecommunityshop

MEMORIAL HALL NEWS

We are pleased to announce that we are able to proceed with our proposed kitchen refurbishment scheduled for late October/Early November. A huge thank you to the Charity Shop for their generous grant to cover the cost of a new oven. We are extremely appreciative.

The Millenium Quilt has been rehung centre stage and looks fabulous. Diary date to come and have a close look and discover the history of it with a cup of coffee!

We are still looking for a volunteer to help organise the hall bookings which involves dealing with enquiries, meeting clients and working closely with the Treasurer. There are no set hours, but it would take up about 2 hours a week. If you are interested please contact Jill 0789 629 9340.

STOKE PERFORMING ARTS GROUP

During October SPAG will be preparing for two Murder Mystery Evenings on 15th and 16th November. ***"The Ham Acting Group (HAG) invite you to join them for their After Show evening meal, following their most recent production of 'The Pirates of Penzance'. Get to know 'who's who' over dinner, meet the cast and find out what really went on behind the scenes, plus catch upon all local village news and gossip . Who knows there may even be a murder to solve!!"*** Contact Jeannie on 07967 184952 if you'd like to get involved with the performance, the catering or anything else. And look out for more information on Facebook and posters around the village soon.

STOKE BAND NEWS

Stoke Band's AGM is on 10th October at Castle School at 8:00pm. Everyone is welcome.

The band would like to thank everyone who came to the concert at the Prince of Wales on 31st August. A little over £600 was raised for the Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance. Thank you for your generosity.

Contact Jane Herbert for information about joining the band. 01460 351123

STOKE SUB HAMDON GARDENING CLUB

"Lift the Latch on Forton" – the Creation of a Garden

Our guest speakers on 23rd October are David and Pauline Wright, who gardened at Forton for many years and opened regularly for the National Open Garden Scheme. Downsizing to Yeovil, they couldn't give up gardening! They are looking forward to sharing the highs and lows of their new creation with both regular Gardening Club members and visitors.

Free refreshments; plant sales; raffle. Visitors very welcome - £3. Venue: The Memorial Hall, Stoke-sub-Hamdon. 7.15 for 7.30 p.m.

VILLAGE ARTISTS GROUP

Our annual ART EXHIBITION & SALE is on Saturday 12th October at Stoke Memorial Hall from 11am until 4pm with the Brownies serving refreshments and cake. Don't miss it!!!

The very talented artist RICHARD TURNER will be showing us pastel technique at our next WORKSHOP at the Memorial Hall on Saturday the 9th November 10am until 3pm. Do come along for a very enjoyable day!!

We are a very friendly group of amateurs who meet at the Stoke Memorial Hall on Tuesday evenings 7.30 to 9:30pm and Friday mornings 10am to 12.00 noon during school term time. First visit FREE! Please contact Andrew on (01935) 823691 SSHTheVillageArtistsGroup@gmail.com Facebook: Stoke Sub Hamdon The Village Artists Group

CHRISTMAS MEAL

Here we are in October again when I try to gauge community interest in a Christmas meal at the Lighthouse Café. As usual, please let me know if you are interested – either as a participant or as part of the volunteer team.

Contact me on 07714005265 and I will co-ordinate. Lyn Foley

STOKE WALKING GROUP

Would you like to join a health walk to meet more people and to get fitter? There are three levels of health walks in Stoke, all with trained leaders. All walks start from Lighthouse Café. Dress for the weather, with stout footwear. Well-behaved dogs on leads welcome. Refreshments are available in the Lighthouse café after Monday walks.

Make Every Step Count

(40 mins on pavements)

Contact Penny 822208 for more information

Medium walks

(3-4 miles on footpaths / pavements)

Contact Sue 07792311736

Longer walks

(5-6 miles, option of a pub lunch).

Contact Sue 07792311736.

Full details of times / dates in the Dates for your Diary section on page one.

TEA CLUB

The regular Tea Club dates are included in the Dates for your Diary section on page one, but please note that Tea Club on 9th October will be held in the Memorial Hall, not in the Lighthouse Café.

HAMDON YOUTH & FAMILY CENTRE

Exciting Changes at Hamdon Youth and Family Centre!

We are thrilled to announce the appointment of our new Chair, Paul Goulder, and our new Secretary, Alice Omell, who were appointed at the beginning of September. Both Paul and Alice bring tremendous passion and experience, and we are excited for the future of the centre under their leadership.

As we move into the final months of 2024, we encourage you to book your upcoming events with us—whether it's birthday parties, children's events or activities. Let's make the rest of 2024 a memorable time at Hamdon Youth and Family Centre!

Autumn Adventure Camp – Half-Term Fun!

Looking for an exciting way to keep the kids active and engaged this autumn? Join us at the centre for an Autumn Adventure Camp for children aged 4-11, hosted by Star Dance Company during the half-term break! Tuesday 29th & Wednesday 30th October will be 2-fun-filled days of exciting indoor and outdoor activities, creative workshops, adventure challenges and movement games designed to spark imagination, creativity and promote teamwork. And what's even better is there's discounts available for siblings!

For Bookings contact Alice at hamdonyouthcentre@gmail.com / 07498 297440

FILM NIGHT AT THE MEMORIAL HALL

On 19th October our film will be Back to Black (age rating 15)

The extraordinary story of Amy Winehouse's early rise to fame from her early days in Camden through the making of her groundbreaking album, Back to Black that catapulted Winehouse to global fame. Told through Amy's eyes and inspired by her deeply personal lyrics, the film explores and embraces the many layers of the iconic artist and the tumultuous love story at the centre of one of the most legendary albums of all time.

Doors open at 6pm. for a 6:30pm start. Cash or cards £5. Refreshments available. Look forward to seeing you!



SPEED WATCH FOR STOKE-SUB-HAMDON

We now have eleven volunteers who are prepared to work on the group, six of whom will be trained to watch by the roadside by the end of September. The remaining five are waiting for their police checks.

This means we will be out collecting data from the beginning of October. The Speed Indicator Device will once again go up in various parts of the village to help with data collection. Our hope is to report at least bi-monthly in this newsletter to give you our findings. We are obliged to send our roadside data to the police after every speed watch session. There will be posters going up around the community to raise awareness of the speed watch scheme.

If you are interested in helping or being part of the Speed Watch Team then please contact either Lyn Foley 07714005265 or Anita Moores 07771866478

WINTER FUEL ALLOWANCE

The community shop is working with Age UK Somerset to help highlight the issues faced by many over the coming bad weather. We are able to signpost you to Age UK, who have information and advisors that can answer any questions you may have about winter fuel payments. They also have information to help with other matters, such as attendance allowance, blue badges, and cost efficiencies that can be made in your home around heating and expenses.

Their service is free and confidential, they can send a volunteer to help you complete any forms. For more information please contact infoandadvice@ageuksomerset.org.uk 01823 345613. Or alternatively you can ring the Community Shop on 01935 509100 to leave a message for me to contact you. Lyn Foley 07714005265

CHARITY SHOP

Sales amounted to £3,212.52 in August, so another great month for the shop! After a very successful summer sale, customers will have noticed that the shop has now been restocked with a selection of lovely clothes for autumn and winter. Please do come in and take a look as we are sure that there will be something to suit everyone. We always have useful and attractive items for the home as well as plenty of books and DVDs to keep you entertained during the darker evenings that are heading in our direction! Also look out for Halloween this month - there are sure to be some great spooky items on offer.



Don't forget to check out our Facebook page where we advertise some of our latest items and also some great bargains that come into the shop.

Finally, we would like to pay our respects to Louise Mortimer, one of our volunteers who sadly passed away recently. Louise had been with us for many years and was a valued and knowledgeable colleague who will be greatly missed.



The Parish Council Office

Unit 7, North Street Workshops, Stoke sub Hamdon

PARISH SURGERY

held on the 3rd Thursday monthly

10am until 12 noon
6pm until 8pm

A parish surgery for parishioners to raise and or highlight issues concerning them within the village. Councillors will report issues, within the remit of the council, for discussion by councillors and if required bring before full council.

EVERYONE WELCOME

CONTACTS

Church of England at St Mary's, Church Services:

1st Sunday	11am	Cafe church in All Saints Hall
2nd Sunday	11am	CW Holy Communion
3rd Sunday	11am	Morning Praise
4th Sunday	11am	CW Holy Communion
1st and 3rd Wednesday	9am	BCP Holy Communion

Rev. Nick Clarke. Tel 07842 192402,
revnickclarke@gmail.com
The Vicarage, 1 Castle Street TA14 6RE
www.hamhillchurches.org

ALL SAINTS HALL BOOKING SECRETARY

Ann Davison 07709 609488

BOYS BRIGADE

Meets weekly at Martock Christian Fellowship on Thursdays:
Juniors 6pm - 7:30pm. Older members 7:30-9pm.
Ian Rumbelow 07851817927

BRIDGE CLUB

Weekly - Monday, 8.30pm (Working Mens Club)

BROWNIES - Weekly - Every Tuesday during term time
(Hamdon Youth & Family Centre)

Sarah Redington - 07412 084014.

Email stokesubhamdonbrownies@gmail.com

FLEXERCISE FOR FUN

At Oak Tree House every Monday at 2.30pm.

Di Ramsay 0845 6434702

FOOTBALL

SENIOR TEAMS - Training Tuesday evenings 6.30pm.

Matches weekend. Steve Deane 07881 464280

email: stevekatharine@hotmail.co.uk

FOOTBALL - YOUTH TEAMS - Training weekday evenings.

Matches Saturdays & Sundays Contact Tim Brooks (Chair)

stokefcchair@gmail.com 07788 654231

or Tammy Cooney - Secretarystokeyouthfc@gmail.com

FOOTPATHS

Problems and issues contact:

cllr.hulett@stoke-sub-hamdon-pc.gov.uk

GARDENING CLUB

Monthly - Fourth Wednesday 7.30pm (Memorial Hall)

Secretary: sec.sshgardeningclub@gmail.com. Tel : 01935 823691

GYMNASTICS CLASS

Ages 5-10. Wednesdays 17:00 – 18:00 at the Hamdon Youth &

Family Centre. Georgia Holder 07790189809

email dragonsgymnastics472@gmail.com

HAM HILL COUNTRY PARK - VOLUNTEER RANGERS

Weekly Weds 9.50am-3.30pm (Ranger's Office),

Paul McNeill 07973 887129

HAMDON MEDICAL CENTRE - 01935 822236

HAMDON YOUTH & FAMILY CENTRE

West Street Contact: www.hamdonyouthcentre.co.uk

email: hamdonyouthcentre@gmail.com

Jackie Poole, poolemikeandjackie@gmail.com

HAMDON YOUTH GROUP

Young people aged 10 -18 welcome on

Wednesdays 6.30 - 8.30. £1 a session.

Third Wednesday of each month at

Hamdon Youth & Family Centre, West St

& remaining Wednesdays at Norton Village Hall

Contact Janet Goad at janet@cyp.me.uk

HISTORY GROUP - Carol Parker 825393

MEDITATION GROUP - Tuesdays at 7.30pm at Priory Coffee

Emma Herrod 01935 829443

MEMORIAL HALL BOOKING SECRETARY

Jill Uhlhorn: 01935 829513

PARISH COUNCIL

Monthly First Wednesday 7.00pm,

Council Office, North Street Workshops

Chair Paul Gould clr.gould@stoke-sub-hamdon-pc.gov.uk

Terry Heath, Clerk clerk@stoke-sub-hamdon-pc.gov.uk

www: stokesubhamdoncouncil.com

POST OFFICE COUNTER

(INSIDE STOKE COMMUNITY SHOP)

OPENING TIMES - Monday & Friday 9.00am to 12 noon,

Thursday 1.00pm to 4.00pm (excluding Bank Holidays)

STOKE AND DISTRICT ANGLING ASSOCIATION

Derek Goad 01935 824337 email: goadfish02@gmail.com

STOKE BABY & TODDLER GROUP

Memorial Hall. Thurs. 9.30am to 11.30am, term time

carolyn_lefley@hotmail.com, Facebook:

@StokeBabyAndToddlerGroup

STOKE COMMUNITY SHOP OPENING HOURS

Monday to Friday 8am - 4.30pm; Saturday 8am - 4pm;

Sunday 8.30am - 12.30pm, 01935 509100

STOKE AFTERNOON TEA CLUB FOR OLDER PEOPLE

Lighthouse Café, every other Wednesday at 2.15pm

Lisa Wenborn 07515 489587 or Kay Clamp: 07717 453523

STOKE SUB HAMDON BAND

Thursdays 20:00 – 22:00 at Castle School –

Gill Robins 07814 115763

STOKE SUB HAMDON BAND TRAINING SECTION

Thursdays 19:00 – 19:45 at Castle School

Jane Herbert 01460 351123

STOKE SUB HAMDON SPORTS & RECREATION TRUST

Chairman - John Allen, email info@stoke-rec-trust.co.uk,

Secretary - Peter Hulett 01935 824784,

Fundraising Co-Ordinator - Denise Burton 01935 827793

www.stoke-rec-trust.co.uk

STOKE PERFORMING ARTS GROUP

Contact Jeannie 07967 184952 or

info@stokeperformingartsgroup.co.uk

STOKE WALKING GROUP

Every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month

Penny on 822208 or Mark 07496 148756

TINY TURRETS (Castle Primary School)

Foundation Stage Unit for children aged 2 - 4 years.

Castle Primary School Office 01935 822342. Two daily

sessions 9.00am - 12 noon and 12 noon - 3pm. Extended

provision available from 7.45am - 5.30pm ages 3+

TRIANGLE TRUST - Raising funds for Hamdon Medical Centre

Jennie Harris 01935 881718

VILLAGE ARTISTS GROUP - Andrew Toosey (chair)

SSHthevillageartistsgroup@gmail.com 07484 142880

(Tuesdays 19.30- 21.30 & Friday 10.00am – 12 Noon

(Memorial Hall) during school term times only)

WORKING MENS CLUB - Daily - Lunch times & evenings

secretary@stoke.club and www.facebook.com/

stokeworkingmensclub, Mark Greaves 01935 823297

Please send information for the Village Newsletter to helenfrances.one@gmail.com by 16th of the month before publication.
If you would like a larger print copy of this newsletter please contact helenfrances.one@gmail.com with your name and address.
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