

Council news round-up

Your weekly guide to the latest news

Issue 69

25 May 2018



This week's news from around the Council.

- **District awarded dementia friendly status**

There was good news for the Council during Dementia Awareness Week when it was revealed the district has been awarded dementia friendly status. All organisations that have signed up to the Dementia Action Alliance in South Staffordshire will have stickers to advertise their Dementia Friendly status. Click [here](#) for more information.

- **Telephone payment system changes**

Towards the end of this year, the Council will be moving to a new Capita Pay360 payments platform and work is well underway configuring the layout of the new system. The new system goes online in November and interim arrangements are now in place for payments.

The reason the Council has made these changes is because 66% of card fraud is through non-present card payments and, as well as potential reputational and financial risks, under the present payment system (Northgate PARIS), we cannot accept payments over the telephone without a unique reference number.

Most payments have a unique reference number, which means they can still be taken over the phone through an automated route, but it will affect the payments for some Council services. As a result of some really good cross-team working, we have identified these services and made arrangements for other methods of payment.

- **Brewood Music Festival - Thursday 12 to Sunday 15 July 2018**

Well done to Mike Pearce from the Council's licensing team whose help and expert advice has been publicly acknowledged by the organising committee for this year's Brewood Music Festival. Held on a bi-annual basis since 2004, the festival is a showcase for performers using venues within the village of Brewood. Admission to all events is free of charge apart from the main Saturday evening event, which features the legendary Osmonds this time. For more information and to book tickets visit: www.brewoodmusicfestival.com

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- **Thank you to the Fairer Charging Assessment and Welfare Benefit staff**

On Thursday 7 June 2018, the contract for processing Fairer Charging Assessments and Welfare Benefit checks on behalf of Staffordshire County Council is coming to an end. This has been in place since December 2014 and a big thank you to Clare Evans, Kulwant Bahia-Dhesi, Stacey Mansell, Michelle Waters and Julie Woollaston, who will now be transferring back to the County Council. All your hard work has been much appreciated and you will be missed.

- **Community Lottery - June bonanza super draw**

The South Staffordshire Community Lottery will be having a DOUBLE super draw during June with two fantastic prizes to give away on Saturday 30 June 2018, thanks to Weston Park and Wolverhampton Speedway. You could win a family ticket to a Wolverhampton Speedway Meet or a family annual pass to Weston Park. Sign up to the lottery to be in with a chance of winning and play today for as little as £1 a week. Click [here](#) to buy a ticket or telephone **01902 213777**.

- **Do you need assistance with your digital skills?**

The next 'Tea & teach' session will be held on Thursday 31 May 2018 from 2pm to 4pm at the Council Offices in Codsall. Book your place today and pop along to get assistance with your digital devices. Click [here](#) for more information.

- **Only one week to go!**

Following last Saturday's royal wedding, here at the South Staffordshire Council weddings are still taking centre stage with the Council's very first Wedding Fayre taking place on Sunday 3 June 2018 from 11am to 3pm. It's free to attend so why not come along and meet local exhibitors and pick up your free goody bag. You'll also be able to see the new Ceremonial Suite at the Council Offices dressed for a wedding too. To find out more, click [here](#) or call Lisa from Tied with a Bow on 07533 296604 or email lisa@tiedwithabowweddingfayres.co.uk

- **#LoveSwimming**

Swimming is great and an activity that everyone can enjoy, no matter how old or young they are. Come along and find out for yourself at our swimming pools at the Cheslyn Hay, Codsall, Penkridge and Wombourne Leisure Centres. Click [here](#) to see the school holiday swim times (29 May to 1 June 2018).

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- **Business support at the South Staffordshire Business Hub**

Ever wanted to be your own boss? Come along to this free workshop run in partnership with Staffordshire Chambers of Commerce on Wednesday 27 June 2018 from 9.30am to 4pm at the Council Offices in Codsall. This is the first of a five-stage programme designed to offer everything you need to know for starting a successful business. Click [here](#) to find out more.

- **5 Rating**

The following companies have achieved a 5 Rating following their food inspection this week - Himley Mill in Himley and the Tea Room and Restaurant at Halfpenny Green Vineyards near Bobbington.

Regular information

- **Committee/Panel meetings**

The following public meetings taking place next week:

- Audit and Risk Committee - Tuesday 29 May 2018 at 4pm - Bill Brownhill Room - see papers [here](#)
- Licensing and Regulatory Committee - Thursday 31 May 2018 at 2.30pm - Bill Brownhill Room - see papers [here](#)

Everyone is encouraged to submit news items, please email: comms@sstaffs.gov.uk