

Council news round-up

Your weekly guide to the latest news

Issue 91

26 October 2018



This week's news from around the Council.

- **Good Life Energy bill surgery success**

The first energy bill surgery held at the Council Offices this week was a resounding success with the Good Life Energy team answering questions and helping over 20 people save money on their energy bills. Some were able to switch on the day and feedback to the surgery was extremely positive with many saying they had been very worried about the whole energy topic and had been frightened to switch on their own. Good Life Energy can also help businesses as well. Call Freephone **03333 058671** Email info@cebltd.com The next Good Life Energy Bill Surgery will be taking place in January 2019.

- **Four Ashes Enterprise Park**

Last week, the Council's Planning Committee approved plans for an extension to its existing Enterprise Park at Four Ashes. The new development will accommodate up to 17 new small business units and will build on the already popular small units that we own on the same site. The new units will support the Council Plan priority of 'A Skilled and Prosperous District' as well as supporting the E&I Plan's ambition by contributing to the future financial stability of our Council as well as helping support future service delivery for residents and businesses.

- **'Bin it your way'**

The Council is supporting a national campaign encouraging people to dispose of their chewing gum responsibly. Outdoor advertising banners provided free of charge by the national Chewing Gum Action Group will be sited around the 3G sports pitches of the Council's Leisure Centres as a reminder of the 'Bin it your way' message that the Council will be spreading round the district. Click [here](#) to read more.

- **Positive feedback following business breakfast**

The Business Hub was proud to organise the recent Business Breakfast event on Friday 12 October 2018 where around 70 businesses owners and directors attended along with guest speakers, which included the Rt Hon. Gavin Williamson CBE MP. The event discussed and gathered information from local businesses about how the Council can help them around Brexit and the next five years. Feedback from attendees has been very positive and the Business Hub is now putting plans together to be able to provide support over the coming months. Click [here](#) to see some pics taken on the day.

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- **Presentation at LARAC Conference**

Well done to Dan Roberts in Community Services who gave a presentation to 400 delegates at this year's LARAC Conference about the Council's award-winning waste and recycling festive communications campaign. His presentation was well-received and featured the festive bin men, how to deal with positive and negative communications and coping with service change in poor weather. Click [here](#) to see more.

- **Become a Dementia Friend**

The Council is holding a Dementia Friends session starting at 11.30am on Friday 23 November 2018 at the Council Offices in Codsall. Learn more about how dementia affects a person and what you can do to make a difference. To book a place, email policyadmin@sstaffs.gov.uk or call **01902 696530**.

- **Home alone at Christmas**

The annual Christmas lunch for retired residents of the district takes place on Friday 21 December 2018 from midday to 2.30pm in the Academy Restaurant at the Council Offices in Codsall. The lunch is free for pensioners over the age of 60 who don't have friends or family visiting them on Christmas Day. Numbers are limited to 50 people so early application is recommended. Click [here](#) for more information.

- **Community Lottery - October Super Draw**

Food lovers - it's time to eat, drink and be merry! October's monthly super draw is giving away two tickets to the Winter BBC Good Food Show at the NEC in Birmingham, which takes place from 29 November to 2 December 2018. To be in with the chance of winning this fantastic prize, buy your lottery tickets before Saturday 27 October 2018.

- **EnviroGrant scheme now open**

This year's Staffordshire Envirogrant scheme is now open. The grant scheme has been set up by Veolia in partnership with Staffordshire County Council and it is a community fund that not-for-profit community groups based in Staffordshire, including South Staffordshire, can apply for grants of up to £1,000 for projects that aim to improve their local environment or the quality of life for their local communities. The closing date for application is 29 October 2018 and grants will be awarded in early December 2018.

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Click [here](#) to read more about the scheme and click [here](#) for a funding application form.
<https://www.veolia.co.uk/staffordshire/>

- **Call out for volunteers**

The South Staffordshire Walking Programme needs volunteers to help lead or assist with walks on its local 'Rambles Walking for Health' scheme as well as develop news routes and provide office support. Full training and support is given. Click [here](#) for more information.

- **SPACE scheme is back**

The SPACE scheme is back again this October half term thanks to funding from the Police and Crime Commissioner. SPACE provides young people aged 10-19 years access to hugely discounted leisure activities. Throughout the school holiday, young people aged 10-19 have the opportunity to purchase a weekly swim pass for just £1 and young people aged 16-19 years can purchase a membership pass giving them access to the gym, classes and swimming for just £2.

To purchase SPACE passes pop into your nearest South Staffordshire Council Leisure Centre in Cheslyn Hay, Codsall, Penkridge and Wombourne.

Regular information

- **Committee/Panel meetings**

There are no scheduled public meetings taking place next week.

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