

Council news round-up

Your weekly guide to the latest news

Issue 106

22 February 2019



This week's news from around the Council.

- **SRFI - West Midlands Interchange**

The preliminary hearing on the proposed West Midlands Strategic Rail Freight Interchange at Gailey takes place on Wednesday 27 February at 10am at the Hayward suite, Molineux - details can be seen [here](#). The meeting will set the timetable for the examination process between now and August 2019.

We anticipate that the Council's representations (including its Local Impact Report) will need to be submitted to the Examining Authority by Friday 5 April 2019. The proposed response will be the subject of a standalone Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting in March.

- **Successful Landlord Forum**

On Wednesday 30 January 2019, the Council hosted a Landlord Forum. This twice yearly event provides an effective arena for landlords to exchange news, views and experiences with other landlords and also allows the Council to update landlords and agents on current changes in legislation. The event was very successful and included talks about Universal Credit, the top 10 challenges facing landlords, changes to the HMO licencing regulations and the Landlord National Purchasing Group. The next Landlord Forum is due to be held on Wednesday 2 October 2019. For more information, please contact Nicola Deacon (n.deacon@sstaffs.gov.uk).

- **South Staffordshire Connect service now available**

The South Staffordshire Connect dial-a-ride bus service is now available. This local, bookable bus service is once again helping many people who struggle to get out and about and it is aimed at residents who live away from regular bus routes or who find it difficult to use a standard bus. The new Connect service operates between 10am and 3pm to three zones. For more information, please click on the following for more information - [Zone 1](#), [Zone 2](#) and [Zone 3](#).



- **Brexit bulletin**

For recent developments and a look ahead at key parliamentary activity and upcoming events across the country, please click [here](#) to read the Local Government Weekly Brexit Bulletin (Monday 18 February 2019).

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- **Candidates and agents' briefing session**

The first candidates and agents briefing session will take place on Wednesday 27 February 2019 at 5pm to 6.30pm at the Council Offices in Codsall. The session will be an opportunity for potential candidates and their agents to collect their nomination packs. For more information, please click [here](#).

- **Save the date**

The next Let's work together free training session will take place on Monday 25 February 2019 in the Council Chamber. The theme will be community support and the session will include presentations from Healthwatch, Compton Care, Supported Futures and Staffordshire Fire and Rescue. For more information and to book a place, please call **01902 696238** or email policyandpartnershipevents@sstafs.gov.uk

- **Coming soon to Wombourne**

A new CASS carers' café in the Civic Centre in Wombourne will be opening its doors on Wednesday 13 March 2019, from 10.30am to 12.30pm. Click [here](#) for more information about the carers' café and CASS The Carers Association.

www.carersinformation.org.uk

- **Switch and save**

If you'd like help switching your energy supplier, the Good Life Energy team will be visiting the Council Offices every Thursday between 9.30am and 1pm. Remember to bring along a recent energy bill.

Freephone: **03333 058671**

Email: info@cebltd.com

www.sstaffs.gov.uk/energy

- **New dementia singing friends group**

Earlier this month, a new dementia singing friends group was launched in Wombourne. Taking place every Wednesday from 1pm to 3pm in the Community Room in Wombourne Library, the sessions are relaxed and informal where people affected by dementia and their carers can get together, have a good chat and a laugh while also singing favourite songs or even having a dance. Click [here](#) for more information.

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- **Calling all photographers!**

Staffordshire Police is in the process of implementing a new website and needs your help concerning the 'localities page'. They're in search of photographs that represent your local area - scenery, monuments or a recognisable place. Please send your photos to nw@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk and include your location.

- **Follow us on Facebook**

Remember to follow Baggeridge Country Park on Facebook to find out the latest news, wildlife updates and activities going on in this popular park. Our volunteers are busy helping out with the scrub clearance (thank you!), we're preparing an area for wildflower seed and we've even welcomed the first Red Admiral of the year.

Regular information

- **Committee/Panel meetings**

Next week, the following public meetings are scheduled:

- **Licensing Sub Committee** - Tuesday 26 February 2019 - 6.15pm - Committee Room 2.
- **Full Council** - Tuesday 26 February 2019 - 7pm - Council Chamber

- **5 Rating**

The following organisations have achieved a 5 Rating following their food inspection this week - Stourbridge Rugby Football Club, Holly Lane Nursery in Great Wyrley, and Moat Hill Primary School in Great Wyrley.

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