

# Council news round-up

Your weekly guide to the latest news

Issue 126

12 July 2019



## This week's news from around the Council.

- **Review Magazine - issue 73**

The summer issue of the South Staffordshire Review Magazine has now been printed and will be distributed to all households in the district by the end of July 2019. Click [here](#) to read the latest issue.

- **Wombourne Carnival**

Staff from the Council helped celebrate books at this year's Wombourne Carnival, which took place last Sunday. The theme for this year was 'bringing books to life' and staff, class instructors, Leisure Centre members and children all took part in the much-loved Carnival Parade and were part of Wombourne Leisure Centre's float, which represented the tortoise and the hare story. Click [here](#) to see more.

- **Surveying for insects**

This week, Baggeridge Country Park has been surveying for specialist insects of the tufa springs with the help of Staffordshire Wildlife Trust and Conops Entomology. Click [here](#) to see more and like/follow Baggeridge on Facebook for all the latest wildlife news.

- **IT Buddies**

Do you need assistance with digital skills? Come and have a chat with an IT buddy at Perton, Penkridge and Codsall Libraries. Click [here](#) for more information.

- **Council Tax empty property discounts**

The Council is keen to hear your views about its proposed changes to the level of discounts and premiums awarded to empty properties. Click [here](#) to complete the survey and have your say.

- **Open Space Survey**

Do you or your family use your local park or play area? Do you have an allotment? Maybe you visit Baggeridge Country Park, take a walk along the Railway Walk, or use local public footpaths? We are asking for views on our open spaces, small and large, so that we can see if more are needed, or if the quality could be improved. You can help us by completing our Open Space Survey online. Please take 5 minutes of your time to let us have your views. Closing date is Friday 16 August 2019.

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Click [here](#) to take part. If you would like any further information about the survey, please contact a member of the Local Plans Team on **01902 696000** or email [localplans@sstaffs.gov.uk](mailto:localplans@sstaffs.gov.uk)

- **The SPACE scheme is back**

Throughout the summer holidays, discounted weekly membership and swim passes for 8-18 year olds will be available at all the Council's Leisure Centres thanks to funding from the Police and Crime Commissioner Staffordshire and the SPACE scheme. To get your weekly SPACE passes, simply pop into your nearest South Staffordshire Leisure Centre.

[www.sstaffs.gov.uk/space](http://www.sstaffs.gov.uk/space)

- **Together We're Better - public and patient survey**

A series of roadshows has been planned to encourage public conversations across Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent, to discuss how we can all think differently, be innovative, and work together to change health and care services so that Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent can become the healthiest places to live and work. Click [here](#) and [here](#) to find out more, get involved and find a list of roadshows including one at Wombourne Civic Centre on Wednesday 17 July 2019.

- **Community Lottery super draw - win a mystery weekend away!**

Thanks to Parry's International, a mystery weekend away is up for grabs. This fabulous prize includes a one-night hotel stay, dinner, breakfast and two mystery day trips. Buy your lucky lottery ticket before Saturday 27 July 2019 to be in with the chance of winning this prize.

Coming up in August - win two tickets to see Madness and two tickets to see Jess Glynne following an evening of racing at Wolverhampton Race Course.

To buy a Community Lottery ticket, simply register on the website [www.southstaffslottery.co.uk](http://www.southstaffslottery.co.uk) or telephone **01902 213777**. Good luck!

- **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



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more information - [Zone 1](#), [Zone 2](#) and [Zone 3](#).

- **Having a clear out?**

The Council can help you get rid of your bulky waste items including sofas, beds, wardrobes and white goods such as fridges, freezers and washing machines. Click [here](#) to book online 24/7.

Unwanted household items can also be re-used or donated via a series of charities and forums including the British Heart Foundation, Acorns Children's Hospice, the Furniture Re-use Network and others. Click [here](#) for more information.

## Regular information

- **Committee/Panel meetings**

Next week, the following public meetings are scheduled:

- **Planning Committee** - Tuesday 16 July 2019 - 6.30pm - Council Chamber.
- **Standards and Resources Committee** - Thursday 18 July 2019 - 2.30pm - Bill Brownhill Room.

Everyone is encouraged to submit news items, please email: [comms@sstaffs.gov.uk](mailto:comms@sstaffs.gov.uk)