

Council news round-up

Your weekly guide to the latest news

Issue 141

25 October 2019



This week's news from around the Council.

- **Local Plan Review - consultation underway**

The Council is now consulting on the second stage of its Local Plan, which is focused on broad locations for housing growth and the infrastructure required to deliver the growth. This consultation is not site specific but looks at seven different options to deliver housing to meet South Staffordshire own housing needs and a contribution towards unmet housing need in the wider region. Click [here](#) for more information and to find out how you can participate in the consultation, which runs until 5pm on Thursday 12 December 2019.

- **Two year milestone for South Staffordshire Community Lottery**

Thursday 24 October 2019 marked the second anniversary of the South Staffordshire Community Lottery when lottery tickets first began to be sold online. The Community Lottery was set up to help local good causes and community groups raise additional funding to support the work they do within our communities and over the last two years it has raised £47,898 for local good causes through the sale of 79,187 tickets. To buy a lottery ticket for the weekly lottery draw, register on the website www.southstaffslottery.co.uk or telephone **01902 213777**.

- **South Staffordshire Community Innovation Fund**

Community and voluntary sector organisations in South Staffordshire, including those registered to the South Staffordshire Community Lottery, can now apply for grants worth up to £1,000 from the South Staffordshire Community Innovation Fund. Applicants have until 5pm on Friday 1 November 2019 to submit a completed application. Click [here](#) for an application form and click [here](#) for guidance notes. For more information please contact Maggie Quinn (m.quinn@sstaffs.gov.uk).

- **Get ready for Brexit**

The Government has launched a public information campaign 'Get ready for Brexit', which sets out what all members of the public and business owners need to know. Visit the Council website (click [here](#)) and find out more at www.gov.uk/brexit.

- **Bulb planting events**

Come along and help plant some spring flowering bulbs at Strawberry Lane Cemetery in Great Wyrley and Sytch Lane Cemetery in Wombourne.

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- Sytch Lane Cemetery - Monday 18 November 2019 between 1.30pm and 3.30pm.
- Strawberry Lane Cemetery - Friday 22 November 2019 between 1.30pm and 3.30pm.
Click [here](#) and [here](#) for more information or contact our Bereavement Services team for more information on **01902 696111**.

- **Come and have a chat with an IT Buddy**

IT buddies are volunteers who offer their time in libraries to offer support to residents and help them get to grips with technology. Help is available for residents of any age and IT Buddies can be found in the libraries at Perton, Penkridge, Codsall and Wombourne. Click [here](#) to find out more or contact Maggie Quinn m.quinn@sstaffs.gov.uk.

- **Community safety - smartphone security tips**

Smartphones and mobile devices can be vulnerable. Click [here](#) for some security tips.

- **Weddings success**

Last Saturday, the Council held its final wedding for 2019 at the Council Offices in Codsall. Once again the team was praised for the wonderful venue and amazing support. During 2019, we held 13 weddings in total and the feedback from all wedding parties has been very positive with all of the couples expressing their thanks for how we managed their special day. So far, there have been three wedding bookings for 2020.

- **Penkridge swimming pool - now open**

The swimming pool at Penkridge Leisure Centre is now open following essential maintenance work. Thank you for your patience. For more information about swimming and the Leisure Centres in Cheslyn Hay, Codsall, Penkridge and Wombourne, visit: www.sstaffs.gov.uk/leisure.



- **STA long-service awards for Ruth and Diana**

Congratulations to Ruth Field and Diana Simkiss, swim Instructors at Wombourne Leisure Centre, who were presented with their long-service awards at the STA Conference on Saturday 12 October 2019. Between them, Ruth and Diana have clocked up an impressive total of 45 years membership of the Swimming Teachers Association (STA). Click [here](#) to see a pic.

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- **Charity spin**

Travel through the 80s, 90s and 00s in a three-hour marathon charity spin at Wombourne Leisure Centre on Sunday 27 October 2019 from 10.30am to 1.30pm. Click [here](#) for more information about how to take part.

- **Energy switch surgery every Thursday**

If you'd like help switching your energy supplier, the Good Life Energy team will be visiting the Council Offices every Thursday between 10am and 1pm. You can book an appointment with the team on Freephone **03333 058671** or turn up with a recent energy bill on the day. For more information, visit www.sstaffs.gov.uk/energy.

- **Other events coming up**

- **Bilbrook Remembrance Sunday** - Sunday 10 November 2019 from 9.50am. Click [here](#) for more information.
- **Christmas Fair** - Codsall Village Centre - Friday 6 December 2019, 4pm to 8pm. Click [here](#) for more information.
- **Wombourne Parish Council - Robin Hood The Pantomime** - Saturday 7 December 2019, 6.15pm. Click [here](#) for details.

- **Need to report a pothole?**

Staffordshire County Council is responsible for highways maintenance and repairing potholes in South Staffordshire. Click [here](#) to report pothole damage and find out which roads are being worked on and which ones are scheduled for repair. Or report via the My Staffs App [here](#).

- **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](#).



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- **Job vacancies at the Council**

- **Clerical Assistant (Elections)** - click [here](#) for more information.
Closing date - Tuesday 29 October 2019 (5pm).
- **Relief Badminton Instructor, Codsall Leisure Centre** - click [here](#) for more information.
Closing date - Friday 1 November (5pm).
- **Relief Leisure Assistant, Wombourne Leisure Centre** - click [here](#) for more information.
Closing date - Monday 11 November 2019 (5pm).
- **Relief Swimming Instructor, Wombourne Leisure Centre** - click [here](#) for more information.
Closing date - Sunday 17 November 2019 (5pm).

- **5 Rating**

The following organisations have achieved a 5 Rating following their food inspection this week - Pub GB Hospitality Solutions at Enville Golf Club, the Spar in Wombourne, Mr Smiths Fish Bar in Swindon and Aramark at the Argos Distribution Centre in Acton Gate, Compass Group at JLR.

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