



Oyez

Edition 61 March 2023

Village Website: www.west-stafford.com



Introduction: A packed Oyez once again, so all I've got to say is welcome to March's newsletter!

Recent events:

Knightsford Parish Council: KPC met in West Knighton on the 8th February and the following was discussed:

- The neighbourhood plan is progressing with business surveys received and finalised. Funding has been approved to cover consultancy costs
- Concerns were raised by Cllr Meader over the Silverlakes development which may have an impact on West Stafford. (Editor's note: I have asked for more detail so I can report this in April's newsletter)
- West Stafford have secured volunteers for the Community Speed Watch Scheme
- It was also noted that tree planting was proposed in the area
- Cllr Cooke reported that quotes had been received for repairs to the steps leading from Glebeland Close to the Village Green.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 8th March 2023 at Tincton Village Hall.

A reminder that our Councillors are: Cllr Sandy Tubby (Tel: 07703 731008), Cllr Dr Paul Thompson (Tel: 261304), Cllr Gordon Shaw (Tel: 261771) and Cllr Hannah Cooke (Tel: 07979 061197).

Future Events:

Friday, 3rd March – Artsreach, A Bard in the Yard, 8:00pm: Shakespeare is stuck - like really stuck. He is trying to write a new masterpiece and has the weight on his shoulders of his company eager to return to the stage. Tickets available from Jacquie jacquie@jacqw.plus.com/ 07968 633834; adults £10, U18s £6 (not recommended for U10s).

Saturday, 18th March – Village Easter Market: In the Village Hall, between 10:00am and 13:00pm. There will be artisan stalls, lots of chocolate and savoury treats, an Easter raffle, tombola and Easter egg hunt for the children. However, we do need some help to make this happen, particularly to help set up, take down, run the village stalls or serve teas. We would also welcome Easter donations for the raffle, tombola, cakes, savoury treats, jams, chutney, and any spare plants you may have. Donations can be given to Jacquie Walton at 2 Stafford Gardens (email: jacquie@jacqw.plus.com) the week leading up to the event or dropped at the village hall on the Friday evening or Saturday morning, before 9:45am.

Saturday, 25th March - Bockhampton & District Horticultural Association (BDHA) Spring Show: the show will be held from 2:00 – 3:30pm in the Village Hall and all are welcome to admire the entries, enjoy tea & home-made cake, and to celebrate the presentation of trophies to the winners. Entry to classes in the Show is restricted to paid-up members only. However, the BDHA will accept membership fees with Show entries, so contact Linda Kemp (tel: 753639) if you wish to join or re-join.

Entry Forms and Show Schedules can be obtained from Linda or Jeanne Mousley on 07887 489116 (jeennemousley@aol.com). Entry Forms must be returned no later than the evening of Wednesday, 22nd March. Staging of entries will be from 9.30 - 10.30am on Saturday morning and competitors must leave the hall when the judges arrive. There will be classes for novices and for children, and it's all very informal. But if your daffodils are over, your hellebores are exhausted and you have eaten all your stored vegetables, perhaps you might enter a cookery or photography class. We hope to see you there.

Other news:

Village Hall Management Committee: The Village Hall Committee are still looking for new Committee members, including a Chairperson and a Deputy Chair. The Committee meets approx. every 6 weeks and manages social events and Fayres, oversees the management of the Village Hall and surrounding areas within the village. If you are interested in joining the Committee then please contact any of the existing Committee (see the notice board by the Village Hall for contacts).

Village Hall Refurbishments: These are now almost finished with just the shutters and curtains to be put up. If you've seen the changes made, we're sure that you'll agree that the hall looks bright, fresh whilst being respectful of the hall's history and tradition. A huge "thank you" to those villagers who helped with the redecoration. More improvements are planned though, so watch this space!

Parish Meeting Clerk Vacancy: Would you like to help your fellow villagers by organising the bi-annual West Stafford Parish meetings? Paul Thompson, the current clerk, will be retiring after this April's meeting. There's no experience required and Paul will be on hand to help and advise. Please contact Paul for more information at paulwarrenthompson@gmail.com, tel: 01305 261304 or mobile 07973627413.

CIL funds for Village projects: A payment of £11,370.74 was received last year from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) at Dorset Council to support village developments. As mentioned in last month's newsletter, funding is still available and the KPC Councillors are calling for new and updated proposals that will be discussed and voted on at the Parish Meeting on 21st April. Please send suggestions and questions to Paul Thompson, as per the contact details above.

West Stafford Short Mat Bowls Club: the Bowls Club are a small, friendly group meeting weekly on Tuesdays at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. At present they have 13 members but would like to encourage new joiners. The club has existed for nearly 30 years and have recently acquired a grant to buy an electric mat-winder, a real help in setting up. This is very much a social club with a wide range of bowling skills! No previous experience is needed. The club picks 2 teams each week to play against each other....not against other outside teams. They play from September until May and have a couple of "party evenings" and a BBQ during the season. If you are new to the village, this would be a great way to meet people. If you are interested and would like more information, please contact Sylvia Kimbrey on 01305 260805 or email sylvia.kimbrey49@gmail.com.

Garage Bric-a-Brac sale: Paul Thompson, who lives in Floyers Field, will be holding a bric-a-brac sale on **Saturday 4th March**, starting at noon. Paul will be offering quality items at rock bottom prices with all proceeds going to charity. Sign-posting will be available on the day with parking available at the top of Glebeland Close. Please contact Paul for further details (tel: 01305 261304).

Handyman available: please see the following from Clive Parsons in Floyers Fields: Recently retired AUWE apprenticed engineer. Available for small household repair, maintenance or flatpack build tasks, inside or out. Including grass cutting, fence repairs, shelves, draws and cupboards etc. Forty years DIY experience. Driven by the desire to do the best job I possibly can. No job too small.

Please phone or text Clive on 07795 833587 for a no obligation quotation.

St Andrew's Church news:

Easter Market, 18th March: The Church will be having a table - "Guess the weight of the Simnel Cake" and you could win it! There will also be a seasonal raffle (chocolate!!) for children.

Mothering Sunday Service: 19th March at 11:15. All welcome to attend this Family Service to celebrate the inclusive role of "mothering" and receive a Posy.

March's Services:

Coffee will be from 10:45, with services starting 11:15.

- Sunday, 5th March – Matins
- Sunday, 12th March – Holy Communion
- Sunday, 19th March – Mothering Sunday Service
- Sunday, 26th March – Holy Communion

Coffee and Chat: on **Saturday 11th March** from 10:00am with the AGM starting at 11:30. All welcome.

Home Communion: If you are unable to go to church and would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please contact Rev. Cora Yarrien on 262421 or email revd.cora.yarrien@gmail.com

Morning Prayer: is on Tuesdays at 9:30am. All are welcome.

Private Prayer & Reflection: the church is open every day from 10:00am – 4:00pm.

Church Contacts: Team Vicar - Rev. Cora Yarrien (Tel: 262421), Secretary – Janet Ranger (Tel: 849259)

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