

Council news round-up

Your weekly guide to the latest news



Issue 93

9 November 2018



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This week's news from around the Council.

- **National recognition for the Council's entrepreneurship**

On Thursday, the Council was awarded a Certificate of Excellence from iESE and we have just received the exciting news that we have been shortlisted for the 2019 Local Government Chronicle (LGC) Awards for the Entrepreneurial Council category. The next stage will be a presentation with successful nominees progressing to the finals - fingers crossed!

- **Public house prosecuted after food safety breaches**

Food business operators of a public house in Enville in South Staffordshire have been ordered to pay £17,475 including courts costs after pleading guilty to 12 breaches of food safety and hygiene regulations. Click [here](#) to read the full story.

- **Local Plan drop-in sessions start**

Despite the heavy rain showers, the first drop-in session for the Local Plan review went ahead on Wednesday at Wombourne Civic Centre. The session was well attended, with welcome support from local district and parish councillors. The next drop-in session will take place in the Council Chamber from 10am to 7pm at the Council offices on Wednesday 14 November 2018. Click [here](#) to find out more.

- **Brides visit the Council**

More than 40 potential brides visited the Council's Wedding fayre last Sunday, which was co-organised with event partner Tied with a Bow. The next wedding in the Ceremonial Suite will take place on Friday 16 November 2018.

- **Volunteers needed - annual bulb planting at the cemeteries**

Come and help plant some spring flowering bulbs at the Council's two cemeteries at Sytch Lane in Wombourne and Strawberry Lane in Great Wyrley. Staff from the Council, Co-operative Funeralcare in Wombourne and Wombourne Funeral Services will be taking part and everyone is welcome. All bulbs will be provided as well as gardening equipment. Please wear sensible footwear and warm clothing. There will be two planting sessions.

- Sytch Lane Cemetery, Wombourne - Wednesday 21 November (1.30pm to 3.30pm).
- Strawberry Lane Cemetery, Great Wyrley - Monday 26 November (1.30pm to 3.30pm).

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- **5 Rating**

The following organisations have achieved a 5 Rating following their food inspection this week - R J's Café in Wombourne and Age UK Staffordshire in Penkridge.

- **2018 - A time to remember the end of World War 1**

Free exhibition at Wombourne Council Chamber - Saturday 10 November 2018, 10am to 4pm

Come along to Wombourne Parish Council's Council Chamber (rear left of the Civic Centre, Gravel Hill, Wombourne) for a free exhibition marking 100 years since the end of World War 1. The exhibition is being put on by Wombourne Parish Council in collaboration with Wombourne History Group and will showcase local memorabilia. Members of the History Group will be on hand to answer any questions, and there will be an interactive talk at 11am, 1pm and 3pm for approximately 15 minutes. Refreshments will be available along with ample, free parking.

Don't miss this chance to find out what villages in South Staffordshire were like at the end of World War 1 or whether South Staffordshire's horses went to war. For queries and more information, please contact the Parish Council Office on **01902 896300** or visit: www.wombourneparishcouncil.org.uk

- **Winter Warmer offer now on**

Only a few days left! If you're thinking of getting fit then today is the day to join the Council's Leisure Centres in Cheslyn Hay, Codsall, Penkridge and Wombourne. Join before Wednesday 14 November 2018 and pay only £10, then nothing more until January 2019. To join, visit your nearest Council Leisure Centre.

- **Trustees required**

South Staffs Work Clubs (SSWC) is a registered charity that operates seven work clubs across the district. The charity is looking for new Trustees to join their Board of Trustees - click [here](#) for more information about how to apply.

- **Public showcase for new community room**

Come along and take a look at the new community room at Baggeridge Country Park on Saturday 10 November 2018 between 2pm and 4pm. Called the Lydiate Room, this spacious room measuring 10 by 10 metres with its own self-catering kitchen is a welcome addition to the park's facilities and is perfect for children's parties, functions, corporate meetings and events. Click [here](#) to find out more.

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- **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.

- **What's on**

- Friday 7 December 2018 - Codsall Christmas Fair from 2pm to 9.30pm - live music, carols around the tree, Santa's Grotto, hot food, entertainment, fairground rides, stalls and much more.

www.codsallchristmasfair.co.uk

- **Community safety - secure your vehicle**

Despite advances in technology, car crime is still a problem so here are a few security tips to help make sure you're not a victim of car crime.

- Ensure your vehicle is locked and secure whenever you leave it. Always check your doors - don't rely on remote locking fobs.
- Remove all valuables and possessions when the vehicle is unattended.
- Park your vehicle in a garage or on the driveway; whenever possible park in well-lit areas.
- Consider installing a tracker device so in the event your vehicle is stolen, it can be located quickly.
- Consider blocking high value vehicles in with a second vehicle... simple but it works!
- Store keyless entry car fobs in a Faraday pouch to block signal from devices used by offenders to steal your car.
- Store all vehicle keys out of view of windows and doors - thieves will often break into your home to locate keys to steal your vehicle.

Click [here](#) to find out more about vehicle crime.

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- **Community safety - darker nights crime prevention advice**

Burglaries often increase at this time of year due to burglars taking advantage of the longer hours of darkness. Here are some simple crime prevention measures that you can take to make your home look occupied and reduce the chances of being a victim.

- Always keep doors and windows locked, even when you're in. Remove the keys from the lock and keep them out of view or reach.
- Use timer switches to turn lights on when you are out. Alternate the times and lights that you use.
- Make sure your alarm and any outside lights are in working order. Always activate your alarm when you leave the house and go to bed.
- Don't leave items of value on show through ground floor windows (i.e. laptops, tablets, mobile phones and car keys).
- Lock your garden gates and side entrances. Keep ladders and tools securely stored away, don't leave them outside where they could be used to break into your home.
- Look out for your neighbours, especially the elderly and report any suspicious activity immediately.
- Consider joining Staffordshire Police's Smart Alert scheme when you can receive localised crime alerts and prevention advice from your local police officers (click [here](#)).

Click [here](#) for further advice and a comprehensive guide.

Regular information

- **Committee/Panel meetings**

Next week, the following public meetings are scheduled:

- **Hearings Sub Committee** - Monday 12 November 2018 - 9.30am - Committee Room 2
- **Licensing and Regulatory Committee** - Thursday 15 November 2018 - 2.30pm - F42

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