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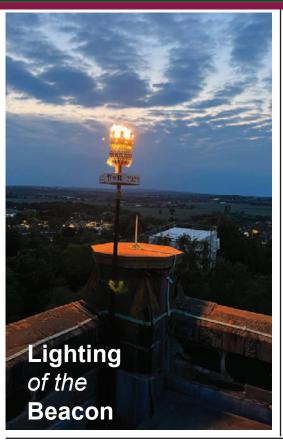
Parish Council News

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Summer Special 2022

ALL THE NEWS FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL





Celebrating the Jubilee:

A selection of photographs from the wonderful Parish wide celebrations inside.

Chairman's Report

Shenstone Parish Council were proud to support, and join in with, the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations in various ways around all 3 Wards; from Thursday evening's lighting of the Jubilee Beacon on top of St. John's Church tower, to helping to fund the many street parties and events that were held over the 4-day period.

In my capacity as Chairman of the Parish Council I took time to visit as many as I could. By Sunday evening I had called in on no fewer than 17 different events...I have to say thank you for the warm welcomes, and all the cakes were delicious! A special mention to residents of Little Hay who not only had a wonderful party but also raised £1500 for Macmillan Cancer Research.

It was truly heart-warming to witness so many people, of all ages, enjoying real community spirit, whether it was just a dozen or so neighbours of a small cul-de-sac or the estimated 300 people who met on the Glebe on Thursday right up to what seemed like every resident of Stonnall on the Playing Field for the giant screening of the spectacular Saturday night Party at the Palace.

There are too many people to name individually for the tremendous amount of work they did in organising and running all of the events but on behalf of my fellow Councillors I extend massive thanks and congratulations to every single one of them, and also, thank you to all of the participants and attendees for ensuring that everything went smoothly and without incident. David Salter; Chairman SPC.

Heating Shenstone and Stonnall Feasibility Study

Funded by a government grant the Parish Council feasibility study of renewable heating solutions for Shenstone and Stonnall is steadily progressing.

Both villages held workshops in June where attendees were informed that their existing homes, because of their age, have well above the average heating cost demands. In addition over 95% of homes in the two villages use gas boilers for heating that release carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas that drives climate change.

The Parish Council specialist consultant Bioregional informed the village workshops that there are two primary renewable heating options that they are to examine in detail.

The first is the introduction of air source heat pumps for all homes in Shenstone and Stonnall. These individual units move heat from the air outside your home and transfer it into useable heat inside

your home.

The second potential renewable heating option for Shenstone is a central energy centre extracting heat from ground source water via the existing Shenstone Pumping Station.

The hot water will then be networked around the village and into each home. The second potential renewable heating option for Stonnall is again a central energy centre extracting heat from an array of ground source water bore holes and the hot water will then be networked around the village and into each home.

The workshops gave broad support for these options to be further assessed by the consultants and for cost estimates to be completed by the end of July. The Parish Council and residents of both villages will then need to fully consider the final recommendations and then secure further central or local government financial support to turn the study into a viable, renewable heating proposal.

The Workshop PowerPoint can be found on www.heatingshenstonestonnall.co.uk

Application to build 59 homes at Shenstone Business Park, Lynn Lane

Application No: 19/00203/OUTM - Outline Application (Major)

This outline planning application was first submitted to Lichfield Council in 2019. As an outline application any detailed proposals related to the application can be reserved for later approval. With the exception of the access arrangements the applicant has reserved detailed proposals such as appearance, layout, landscaping and scale for submission at a later date.

The original outline application proposed the construction of 96 dwellings and up to 14,000 square feet of new office accommodation. The original application was accompanied by an illustrative layout showing the mix of house types, sizes and heights across the development as well as the location of office accommodation and landscaping treatments. The Parish Council and residents affected sent in detailed consultation responses at that time based on the original application content.

Sometime over the last three years the applicant has informed Lichfield Council that they are reducing the number of new homes to be built to 59. Recently with the final submission by the applicant on the only detailed element of the application, the access arrangements, the application has been sent out for further, final consultation in a letter dated 26th May 2022 which expired on the 17th June 2022.

Unfortunately the revised proposal for 59 new homes has no revised illustrative drawing or revised mix of house types, sizes and heights or revised location of office accommodation and landscaping treatments submitted. The change of numbers and change of illustrative information was not explained in the 26th May 2022 consultation letter and this has caused some confusion.

The Parish Council has written to the District Council to ask why they did not request a revised illustrative layout showing the mix of house types, sizes and heights across the development as well as the location of office accommodation and landscaping treatments at the point the change was made from 96 to 59 homes.

While a reduction in numbers on the site can be seen as a positive change we now wait for the reserved matters on several important details to be submitted and consulted on. Any applicant has up to three years following an outline approval to submit their reserved detailed proposals. Residents and the Parish Council will wait with continuing great interest until that further consultation commences.

Community Speed Watch Works

Community Speed Watch is an initiative whereby local residents can help make a difference in their community by helping to reduce the speed that motorists travel through their village or town. Once the recorded vehicle details have been validated by Staffordshire Police, a letter is sent to the Registered Keeper warning them about the use of excessive speed. If a vehicle is subsequently recorded speeding again in any Community Speed Watch scheme within the County of Staffordshire, a second, and more sternly worded warning letter is sent. On the third occasion, if the same vehicle is identified arrangements are made for a Police Officer to visit the Registered Keeper and issue a verbal warning.

Year 2021 1242.09 hours of data collected by 65 groups over 8 months - 4 months no data collected due to the pandemic.

First letter sent	9314	
Second letter sent	587	6.3% reoffended
Repeat offender Visit	73	0.8% reoffended

We are still looking for more volunteers to join CSW teams in Shenstone, Stonnall and a new group monitoring vehicles on the Birmingham Road in Shenstone Woodend. All volunteers are fully trained by Staffordshire Police and can commit as much time as they have available, even if this is only a few hours a month. If you are concerned about the speed of traffic in your community and want to join the teams, please contact PCSO 25049 Andrea Horsnall. Email:andrea.horsnall@staffordshire.police.uk mobile 07812363060.

Catalytic Converters

There has been an increase in the theft of catalytic converters across the county. The catalytic converter turns pollutants emitted from a vehicle's exhaust into less harmful gases. Most are located under the vehicle towards the exhaust which makes it easily accessible to thieves. Inside a catalytic converter there is a ceramic element coated in various precious metals like platinum, rhodium and palladium. This is what attracts thieves. In order to steal the parts, thieves need to slide under the vehicle and use a cutting tool to detach the box from the pipes around it. This means that how a vehicle is parked is important. Parking it close to fences or walls can help. Garages can be asked to weld the bolts shut. Devices can be purchased that lock around the convertor to make it difficult to remove. Staffordshire Police has a number of SmartCat forensic marking kits with stickers notifying that it has been forensically marked. Please email PCSO 25049 Andrea Horsnall if vou wish to discuss this further andrea.horsnall@staffordshire.police.uk

Friends of Shenstone Tower -St John's Old Church Tower

As work on the old tower nears completion, we are delighted to be able to announce that the official opening ceremony will take place on October 8th at 2.00pm. By this time we hope to have landscaped the site and improved access. A contractor has been recruited to restore the old path which leads from the new church, through the arch on the East side of the old tower and down towards Church Hill and, with Faculty permission achieved, we will be able to make safe the dangerous gravestones surrounding the



Picture shows new staircase taking shape

tower. For the Shenstone Festival July 2nd and 3rd, 2.00pm till 4.00pm we will have a gazebo on site with an exhibition of photographs of the build to date as well as selling items of wood from the old bell tower (circa C16) and prints of an original oil painting by well-known local artist Dennis Harper. Trustees will be on hand to give out information fliers as well as answering questions about the build and the exciting plans we have for the tower's future use. For visitors, at least some of the scaffolding will be removed and this will afford exciting glimpses of the restored stonework.

Please do visit our website: www.theoldchurchtoweratshenstone.org

The 200th Anniversary of St Peter's Church

The founding of Stonnall's Church of St Peter was begun in the year 1822, although it wasn't completed until 1823 and then, even later, in 1843, the Chancel, built of stone, was added. It had previously been a Chapel of Ease. However, taking 1822 as its founding year, it is now two hundred years old and will hopefully, continue to serve the



village of Stonnall until 2122 and onwards into the future.

To celebrate this 200th Anniversary, Stonnall had a special weekend at the Church, on Saturday and Sunday, 25th and 26th June.

The Church plays such an important role in the village, firstly for worship, but then also to celebrate births, marriages and deaths; to be a venue for those working in the churchyard and others to pause for refreshment; to host events such as Stonnall Singers' Concerts, Fundraisers, such as Music Days, and F.O.S.P functions and, through the Magazine, to circulate information to residents.

On Saturday 25th June, St Peter's was open from 10.00 until 4.00 pm and there were numerous activities, with displays from the Church, many village organisations and St Peter's School, as well as musical interludes of various kinds. There was also an opportunity to look at the history of the Church and personal memories, such as weddings. St Peter himself was specially remembered by the large fishing net full of colourful knitted fishes on display.

After the special service at 10.45 on Sunday 26th, there was a shared lunch.

Altogether, a joyous celebration and also a welcome fundraiser for the Church and other charities.

Good Luck Sandra... and thank you!



After over 40 years of serving the people of Stonnall and surrounding areas, Sandra Lawn from the Royal Oak, Main Street, Stonnall is moving to pastures new.

Sandra and her husband Dick moved from the Sir Robert Peel Pub in Bloxwich and bought the Royal Oak in 1981.

Following a refurbishment plan, they re-opened the pub in 1982 which was an instant hit with local people.

Over the years they have served a range of great quality beers, spirits and gourmet food evenings.

During their time at The Royal Oak, Sandra and Dick raised well over $\pounds 10,000$ for the Birmingham Children's Hospital which was a cause that became very dear to their hearts.

Following the sad passing away of Dick, Sandra ran the pub herself, always with her usual friendly outlook and smile, admirably steering the way through the impacts of Covid, keeping the pub open when possible.

Noticeable people using 'The Oak' during her time were many sports and TV celebrities including the likes of Steve Staunton from Aston Villa/Liverpool (and others) and Michael Elphick from the Boon TV series.

Going forward, Sandra plans to spend more time with her family, some of whom live close by and some as far afield as the USA.

On behalf of the people of Stonnall and surrounding areas, The Parish Council would like to express a much well deserved thank you to Sandra for her service to the community over the past 40 years and wish her all the very best of health and happiness going forward.

The tradition of the Royal Oak will continue in the safe hands of new landlords, Dave & Sharon, who take over in mid-July having already made many friends at The Railway in Shenstone.

Lighting of the Jubilee Beacon Thurs 2nd June

The Platinum Jubilee Beacon was lit on top of St John's Church Tower at precisely 9:45 PM on Thursday 2nd June to coincide with the thousands of other beacons across the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man, UK Overseas Territories, and in all the Capital Cities of the Commonwealth.

Shenstone's District Councillor and Chairman of the Parish Council, Cllr. David Salter donned his official Town Crier Regalia and read a specially written version of a Royal Proclamation to announce the lighting.

Approximately 300 residents assembled on the Glebe to witness the event and it was reported that the flame could be easily seen from Mere Green and Four Oaks. Those attending also enjoyed Mary Jones's specially baked individual Jubilee Beacon Tarts, made from ingredients from each of the four UK nations, Leeks from Wales, Potatoes from N Ireland, Salmon from Scotland and Cheddar Cheese from England, all washed down with a glass of Bucks-fizz or orange juice. Huge thanks to Ray Chamberlain, Gerry O'Mara & Cllr Neil Perry for their mammoth efforts in getting the gas bottles & beacon up to the roof.

The specially made commemorative beacon head is currently on display in Shenstone Library and will hopefully go on to form part of a permanent display within the renovated Norman Tower.



Greysbrooke School & Shenstone Station from very high up!



Reading of the official proclamation



The beacon could be seen for miles around

Shenstone Jubilee Library Celebration

Over 460 people turned up to enjoy delicious cakes & refreshments











Sunday 5th June Street Parties



































































Streetly Methodist Church

Streetly Methodist Church in Little Aston has just celebrated its 112th Church Anniversary and is based at the junction of Thornhill Road and Hardwick Road known locally as "Gods Roundabout".

The church does a lot for the community: including hosting a coffee morning every Saturday (10am-12.30pm), lunches on the second Monday of the month, a Memory Cafe, and a thriving multi-cultural Toddler Group, as well as Uniform Organisations meeting on the premises.

We have several rooms to let, which are currently used by a ballet group, music and singing groups, local history group, children's groups, French and Tutor Groups to name a few. The halls can be hired for birthday parties with kitchen facilities available and the largest room can easily accommodate a child's bouncy castle.

Our Annual Eco Festival is a very popular event. This year the event will be held on Saturday 24th September from 11am, with the theme being BUGS: Good, Bad and Ugly. Do come and join us. If you have an interest in boilers, do come and see how our Biomass Boiler works.

The Church also has a recreation ground on Carlton Avenue, here you can join the Bowls Club, Tennis Club or play pickle ball.

For any information about the church please do refer to our website http://www.streetlymethodistchurch.org.uk/ or email secretary@streetlymethodistchurch.org.uk or booking.secretary@streetlymethodistchurch.org.uk for any room hire enquiries.

Lammas Land

The Lammas land in Shenstone is looking very fine these days. The recent addition of the Sakhura Cherry trees, supplemented by three Parish Council trees, to create an avenue in celebration of the Queen's Jubilee has been finished off with a very fine 'Jubilee Walk' sign.

The Rainbows plantation now has a beautiful carved signpost which matches the one made for the Greysbrooke plantation.

All the saplings planted are doing well and we hope to strim around all the new additions until such time as they are big enough to look after themselves. Lichfield DC will be doing this twice a year for the next few years. The new mowing regime has created a mown swath which contrasts well with the wilder areas creating more interest for walkers.





Our wonderful festival is back over the weekend 2nd & 3rd July

There will be lots of the usual events plus some new ones. Flowers in the Churches, Pet Show at Trinity. 18 Open Gardens. Stalls, and children's events and games on the Glebe on Saturday. Classic cars & Bikes display on the Glebe on Sunday. China painters in the Cooper Room and Quilters in St John's on both days. Display of T.V. & film memorabilia in St John's Church Hall on Sunday.

You may know that we are aiming to become a "bee-friendly" village so there will be some bee-themed activities including a village-wide Bee Trail for the children.

We have lots of venues providing refreshments throughout the day so plenty of opportunities to indulge in tasty treats.

In addition, there will be musical events on Friday evening in the village hall and on Saturday evening at Trinity.

The cost of programmes (required to access the events) is unchanged at $\pounds 4$ each They are on sale at the library, the corner shop, the chemist, Russell's Butchers and Oddfellows hairdressers.



This year we have a festival raffle with some great prizes donated by local businesses, including meal vouchers at the village pubs and an **Afternoon Tea for Two at Swinfen Hall Hotel.**

Lichfield District Council Community Governance Review

A community governance review (CGR) is a legal process that provides an opportunity for District Councils to review and make changes to community governance within their areas.

A community governance review can consider one or more of the following: • Creating, merging, altering or abolishing parishes • The naming of parishes and the style of new parishes • The electoral arrangements for parishes • Grouping parishes under a common parish council or de-grouping parishes.

Between 1 February and 25 April 2022 the Council invited Shenstone Parish Council residents and interested organisations to submit their views on existing arrangements and suggest proposals for change.

The Regulatory and Licensing Committee of Lichfield District Council (LDC) on Monday 20th June approved draft officer recommendation that Shenstone Parish Council should remain unchanged. That decision will now go to the full Council on the 12th July for consideration. The resulting recommendations with then be published for further consultation. The consultation period will run until the end of September 2022 with a view to submitting final recommendations to Council in October 2022.

The final recommendations would then be formally published by December 2022.

New Roundabout at Little Aston Recreation Ground

The Little Aston Recreation Ground Association management committee and all of the users of the site are hugely grateful to Shenstone Parish Council for the grant of £8,000 to pay for the purchase and installation of an All Inclusive Roundabout.

What was so wonderful to see



was that one of the very first children on the new equipment was a young wheelchair user who, unaided, could get onto the unit and safely enjoy the thrill of the ride.

The child's parents were understandably delighted.

Full Parish Council Meetings 2022

Tues 12th July at 7.15pm at Stonnall Community Centre Tues 13th September at 7.15pm at Little Aston Village Hall Tues 11th October at 7.15pm at Shenstone Village Hall Tues 8th November at 7.15pm at Stonnall Community Centre Tuesday 13th December at 7.15pm at Little Aston Village Hall

Meeting of Finance, Legal, Health & Safety Committee 2022

Tuesday July 26th at 5.30pm Shenstone Parish Council office Tuesday Sept 27th at 5.30pm Shenstone Parish Council office Tuesday Nov 29th at 5.30pm Shenstone Parish Council office

Meeting of Neighbourhood Planning & Property Committee 2022

Wednesday July 6th at 5.30pm Shenstone Parish Council office Tuesday Oct 25th at 5.30pm Shenstone Parish Council office Tuesday Dec 20th at 5.30pm Shenstone Parish Council office

Summer at Shenstone Community Library

The Library was delighted to play a significant part in Shenstone's celebrations for the queen's jubilee by serving 469 complimentary drinks and cakes to residents. Some people who joined us for this historic event had not been aware of our existence, and we were pleased to reassure them that they would receive a similar warm welcome and delicious drinks and cakes on their return, as well as access to our fine library! Visitors were also able to admire our new jubilee tree. We are delighted that the parish council facilitated a grant to fund the drinks and cakes, and the jubilee tree. The head which was lit at the top of the church tower can be currently viewed in the library.

We expect to be busy again on the weekend of Shenstone Festival, when both the library and coffee shop will be open on Saturday 2nd July from 9.30 - 4.00, and on Sunday 3rd July from 10.00 - 4.00. The usual high-quality drinks and cakes will be available in the coffee shop, plus cream teas, the library services will also be open for all to use, and an a capella group will be serenading visitors to the library garden from 12 - 2. on the Saturday. Please do pay us a visit.

The festival weekend opens our special bee friendly month in July with its exhibition of flower paintings and bee display. Have you been able to certify your garden as bee friendly? Join those who have by coming along to the library to pick up your self - assessment sheet. Those who came to the library garden in the spring and enjoyed making seed bombs can return on 15th July to find out from visiting beekeepers about how to keep bees from visiting beekeepers. And our new bug hotel will be formally opened, and ready to take in passing guests.

Saturday 9th July is the opening date for Summer Reading Challenge, when children aged between 2 - 11 can join the popular holiday event run by the Reading Agency. Every year, we are delighted to welcome children from as many as 20 local schools to join in the fun. This summer's theme is The Gadgeteers; do come along to sign up and find out about the many activities which are available in the library as part of challenge.

This spring we have been delighted to form a partnership with the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire and host a spring series of concerts. The photograph below shows the Athena Flute and harp duo who amazed us with their skills at our June concert. These events have proved to be so popular that we are currently planning an autumn series of concerts. Please do look out for details which will be available soon.

Shenstone Parish Council Members' Contact Details

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•	Councillor Kelly Harrison
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•	Parish Clerk: Shirley O'Mara, Shenstone Parish Council, 25C Main Street, SHENSTONE WS14 OLZ
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Contact the Parish Council on 01543 481 947 or e-mail admin@shenstone-staffs.gov.uk

SHENSTONE

St John the Baptist Church.

Trinity Methodist Church Shenstone Day Care (Friday Friends) Shenstone Cares Shenstone St John's Hall Shenstone Village Hall Shenstone Wesley Hall Richard Cooper Room Scouts Group Women's Evening Institute Shenstone Baby & Toddlers Shenstone Tennis Club Shenstone Community Library Lammas Land Management Committee Shenstone Pathfinders F.C. Shenstone Playing Fields Shenstone Painting Class Friends of Shenstone Station 1884 Shenstone & Stonnall Mens Group Shenstone History Group Shenstone Reading Group Shenstone Magazine Shenstone Quilters National Women's Register Shenstone Friends & Neighbours Shenstone Tower Rainbow Guide Group **Footherley Club** Guides **Brownies** Shenstone Strollers STONNALL St Peters Church, Stonnall Village News Stonnall Village Hall Stonnall Youth & Community Centre Stonnall Gardeners Guild Stonnall Coffee Club Stonnall Brownies & Guides Stonnall Scouts/Beavers/Cubs Stonnall Playing Fields Management Committee Stonnall Women's Institute Stonnall Stitchers Stonnall Conservation Society Stonnall Reading Group

Film Club Stonnall Neighbourhood Watch SCAR (Stonnall Campaign about Roads) Stonnall Coffee Club **Diamond Jubilee Allotments** Stonnall Singers Stonnall Juniors Football Club Stonnall History Group **Buddy Bag Foundation**

LITTLE ASTON

St Peters Church, Little Aston Little Aston Recreation Ground (LARGA) Little Aston Table Tennis Club Little Aston Pre School Play Group Little Aston Community Association Little Aston Village Hall Little Aston Bowling Club Little Aston Tennis Club Little Aston Evening Women's Institute Little Aston Brownies

Rev Liz Chamberlain Rev Graham Wigley Rev Joanna Thornton Rita Hancocks Debbie Farrow Mary Wilson Tresa Rock Colin Fishwick Tresa Rock Brian Devonshire Gina Whorton Amy Bull John Branch Librarian Richard Partridge Gary Cantelo Graham Jarvis Dave Upton Jane Arnstein Jim Pole Bronwen Ross Community Library Graham Birt Joy Shorey Lynne Young Cynthia Stokes Stuart Jones Rosemary Lawrence Dave Doige Sarah Hardie Angela Hiney-Bancroft Peter Gravestock Rev Liz Chamberlain Cllr Mrs Val Neale Deb Monk Nigel Cragg Pam Ramsell Val Neale Sarah Hardie Marie Jenkins Malcolm Beilby Jacky Morrison Ann Powell Lynne Ingram Pam Osbourne Bookings Secretary Maxine Wakefield Phil Whitehouse Val Neale

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