

PARISH COUNCIL

What a wonderful day it was for the VE Day celebrations! It wasn't exactly how we would have liked it but the weather was glorious and we all seemed to have a good time with our 'Stay at Home' garden parties and some of us may have had a chance to chat up with our neighbours and friends for a chat (socially distanced of course!)

20/00991/OUT - Outline Planning Application on Land Adjacent to Mason Lane

The parish council have submitted a formal objection to SSDC on the application for a major development of 30 houses next to the link road to the A3088 in Stoke sub Hamdon which is adjacent to Mason Lane. Unfortunately, there seems to be some confusion as the application indicates that the land is in Montacute, but it is not! It is on the parish boundary in Stoke sub Hamdon.

Councillors felt that a development of this size would not only join the parishes of Montacute and Stoke sub Hamdon which is something that neither parish wants, it would increase the volume of traffic through the village on already congested roads. Also, with the speed of the traffic using the link road and the natural curve of the road it would make accessing/exiting the site extremely dangerous.

Councillors considered that for a development of this size it is undemocratic to push through an application when we are all in 'lockdown' due to the current pandemic. The parish council were unable to hold a formal public meeting for residents to view the plans so we circulated a flyer to every household asking you to give your opinions to SSDC and we thank all of you who have responded. We would also like to thank Daryl Gaylard for delivering the leaflets.

If you would like to read the comments relating to this application go to:

<https://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/services/planning/search-for-a-planning-application/>

and type in the application number 20/00991/OUT under 'Keywords'. As at time of writing there have been 50 objections.

Play Area

Good news and Bad News.

The bad news - Even though we are all allowed to go outdoors as much as we want, the play area will remain **CLOSED** until further notice.

The good news - The supply of the new equipment was delayed as the equipment companies had to close. However, we have just been notified that they are reopening with phased return to work and a couple of the new pieces of equipment will be delivered to our installation contractor very shortly. We are hopeful that these will get installed very soon and the children will have something new to play on when the play area is reopened.

Ground Maintenance

We welcome our new contractor, Evis Ground Maintenance, who will be taking care of the ground maintenance of the recreation ground and the allotment site for the next three years. They started at the beginning of May and are doing a fantastic job.

Allotments

You may have seen that our allotment site is much improved. A huge effort has been made by a couple of councillors, Ann Gihon and Kay Harper and we would like to thank them for everything they do. We are also grateful to Terry Harper and David Fox for tidying up the site and ploughing the vacant plots and to Roy Littlefield for making our allotment sign and notice board. All of this and the wonderful views of the surrounding area makes our allotments such an inviting place to be. Plots are being taken up quickly, but we do have some still available so if you are interested in growing your own fruit and vegetables please let us know. The allotment holders are a wonderful friendly group of people who are happy to give advice and help to anyone who asks.



SOMERSET WASTE PARTNERSHIP – RECYCLING CENTRES

Recycling sites reopen from Monday 11 May for essential visits only
Bridgwater, Chard, Dulverton, Frome, Highbridge, Street, Taunton, Wellington, Wells, Williton
and Yeovil. (Other sites due to reopen from Tuesday 26 May.)

All will be open six days a week: 9am-6pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays,
9am-4pm Saturdays and Sundays; all closed Thursdays.

Access is "one in, one out", a number plate system will be used:

Odd numbers only Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays.

Even numbers only Tuesdays, Fridays, and Sundays

To ensure social distancing, protect public and staff and limit numbers, there will be a range of temporary restrictions; queues and delays are likely. Government guidance states visits should only take place if waste cannot be stored safely at home without risking harm or ill-health, or harm to public health and amenity. If not an essential journey, please wait until sites are back to normal. Delays are likely.

Other restrictions include:

- Maximum two people per household
- No people with COVID-19 symptoms, or who have been asked to shield
- No large vans (3.5 tonne or heavier)
- No trailers
- Gloves to be worn outside vehicles

Only these materials will be taken:

- Refuse usually put in your rubbish bin, and bulky items, such as furniture
- Garden waste
- Large electrical items, such as cookers, fridges, TVs etc
- Hazardous chemicals, such as those from garden sheds or garages

Not taken until further notice:

- Anything involving payment, such as charged-for hardcore, soil, tyres, gas bottles or vehicle parts (compost will not be available to buy)
- Commercial waste
- Asbestos or plasterboard

Please do not take unless essential (as it will be landfilled):

- Anything usually recycled kerbside – food, cardboard, paper, cans, glass etc
- Wood, metals, small electrical items
- Plastic pots, tubs, trays, Tetra Paks



Key Contact Numbers:

Somerset Support Helpline - 0300 790 6275. Transport to medical appointments, emotional support, advice, and financial hardship.

SSDC Wellbeing Hub - 01935 462462 between 8am and 4pm seven days a week. Business grants, free food boxes advice and support.

It is so important that all of us continue to obey the social distancing rules and stay alert. It will save lives. Guidelines are changing all the time about what we can and cannot do outside, and so you can find the most up-to-date information at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do>

Keep looking out for one another. Remember to be kind and we will get through it somehow - together. Keep washing those hands and practicing social distancing!

Crime & Anti-Social Behaviour

For any advice and further/up-to-date information on incidents please go to the website: www.police.uk. If you are a witness to or the victim of a crime, then it is imperative that you report it to the police immediately whether it is during the day or at night. When reporting an incident please telephone either 101 for non-emergencies or 999 for emergencies only.

Parish Council Meetings

During this 'lockdown' period, a resolution was passed at our last meeting to follow Government guidelines and suspend all parish council meetings until further notice.

The Parish Council's day-to-day business will carry on as usual where possible. If you have any issues/questions, please contact the Parish Clerk on the contact details below.

Contact details: Sarah Moore, Parish Clerk

24 High Street, Stoke sub Hamdon TA14 6PS

Email: clerk_montacutepc@hotmail.co.uk

Telephone: 01935 822455

Website: www.montacuteparishcouncil.com