

December 2021

The Parish Council would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Christmas Tree

The Parish Council invite you to join us in lighting up the Christmas tree on Friday, 10th December at 6.30pm in the Borough. This will be followed by carol singing, mulled wine, and mince pies in the village hall. There is also a Christmas Hamper raffle and a visit from Father Christmas. Everyone is welcome

Fingerpost

We were hoping the fingerpost would be reinstated before Christmas but the foundry is inundated with work so we will just have to be patient a little while long.

A huge thank you to Dave Fox for all his hard work and to everyone who has donated towards the fingerpost. We have received a total of £1,525. What a fantastic response and wonderful community spirit!

Planning

Many residents maybe aware that amended plans have been submitted for the application to land at Mason Lane, 20/00991/OUT, to reduce the number of houses from 30 to 17. This application was discussed at the Parish Council meeting, and it was agreed that despite the reduction in the number of houses, none of the material issues raised under the original application had been addressed. Therefore, the Parish Council still objects to this application.

Potential New Development

Councillors from Montacute and Stoke sub Hamdon were invited to an informal meeting with the developers of a second potential development of 55 houses in the parish of Stoke sub Hamdon along the Link Road to the A3088. Several issues were pointed out to the developers such as a significant increase in traffic through the villages, the joining of the two villages and that the schools and surgery were already at capacity and struggling to meet the needs of the community. The overall consensus of those attending was not in favour of another development and asked the developers to reconsider. If the developers do decide to go ahead with a planning application, there will need to be full consultation with the two villages which would include public meetings so everyone will get a chance to raise questions and get feedback.

FESTIVE RECYCLING AND WASTE COLLECTIONS 2021-22

Public holidays mean collections always change over Christmas and New Year and, with the festive period usually meaning more waste to recycle and dispose of, it is important that everyone knows their days so they do not miss a collection.

The revised schedule for recycling and rubbish is below. Every Somerset resident can check their collection days, for now and the rest of the year, using the My Collection Day feature on the somersetwaste.gov.uk website.

Usual day

Thursday 24 December
Friday 25 December
Monday 28 December
Tuesday 29 December
Wednesday 30 December
Thursday 31 December
Friday 1 January
Monday 4 January
Tuesday 5 January
Wednesday 6 January

Revised collection day

NO CHANGE
Monday 28 December
Tuesday 29 December
Wednesday 30 December
Thursday 31 December
Saturday 2 January
Monday 4 January
Tuesday 5 January
Wednesday 6 January
Thursday 7 January

Thursday 7 January
Friday 8 January
Monday 11 January

Friday 8 January
Saturday 9 January
Usual collections resume

As usual, garden waste collections are suspended for two weeks after Christmas Eve to help crews cope with the extra waste that comes with the festive holidays. They restart on Saturday, 9 January – picking up collections that would usually have taken place on Friday, 8 January. Usual garden waste collections resume from Monday, 11 January.

All 16 of Somerset's recycling sites will be open at their usual winter hours throughout the festive period, except Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day. They are a good option for disposing of large amount of recycling, such as cardboard, and will have special drop-off points for paper gift wrap.

NOTE: Only paper wrapping paper – minus glitter, tape and decorations – is recyclable and can also go in recycling boxes to be collected from the kerbside. Foil, plastic or glittery wrap cannot be recycled so needs to go in the rubbish bin.

If you have space, real Christmas trees can be composted or turned into a garden wildlife corner. Garden Waste Service subscribers can leave their decoration-free tree next to their garden waste bin for collection – so long as it is no taller than 6ft and its trunk no wider than 4 inches. Please try and do this within two weeks of the collections restarting. Everyone without a Garden Waste subscription will need to take their tree, decoration-free, to a recycling site and put it in a garden waste skip. They will not be collected from the kerbside.

Somerset Coronavirus Support Helpline

A single phone number continues to be available for anyone in Somerset who needs Coronavirus-related support. 0300 790 6275, is open seven days a week from 8am to 6pm.

For more information go to <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-coronavirus-restrictions-what-you-can-and-cannot-do>

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

We do not have a Parish Council meeting in December, so the next meeting will be held on Monday, 17th January 2022 at 7pm in the village hall.

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