

Stottesdon & Sidbury Parish Council



Newsletter
February 2022

Road repairs/Closure:

Although road closures/diversions are a real nuisance to everyone, we are pleased that many of our roads are receiving significant repairs with more to follow. A list of the road closures, and those in the local area, are on our website under 'News'.

Some repairs have now being delayed/postponed due to the weather.

Please be patient and remember that not all the road closures are for Shropshire Council work but work being carried out by BT and Severn Trent.

Dog fouling:

Complaints still continue to be received regarding dog fouling. PLEASE pick up after your dogs and use the dog litter bin at Glebe Drive or the other litter bins. This is not only Stottesdon but Chorley too. Our Lengthsman has refused to cut the verges at the top of New Road, Chorley and the junction of the Harcourt road opposite the Old Miners Arms pub due to the amount of dog mess there.

Not only is this unpleasant to step into it is also dangerous. Shropshire Council are aware of the problem and have provided new signs.

Roadside trees:

Can we please ask all land/property owners to check their roadside trees as we have had several blown down over the last few weeks which has caused roads to be blocked.

Notice boards:

The Stotty Strolls noticeboards in Stottesdon, Chorley and Sidbury have now been handed over to the Parish Council. When weather permits these will be re-stained. The Stottesdon one was knocked over before Christmas and this has now been repaired/replaced.

If you put notices on the large Parish Council board can you please make sure that these are not larger than A4 size and staples are not used. All notices should be removed after the event and also those intended to be left there for a longer periods should be legible, otherwise they will be removed. Thanks.

Parking:

Parking outside the school at drop off and collection still causes problems with vehicles parked opposite the school down towards the village. PLEASE remember that vehicles coming from the village have to drive round these vehicles on a bend which is very dangerous.

We have also received complaints about vehicles parking on the grass down Glebe Drive—please do not do this as it is churning up the grassed area.

Please park sensibly in Glebe Drive, not blocking dropped kerbs and peoples gates.

The Police are well aware of the problem.

RSVP:

As a parish we have signed up to the Restoring Shropshire's Verges Project, a county wide initiative to try and enhance the bio diversity of our roadside verges. By way of making a start in the village the verge that runs from the Doctors surgery away down Station road has been seeded with a range of native wildflowers that will be left to grow all summer and then at seasons end cut down and raked off in the style of a hay meadow. How successful the seeding may be we can only wait and see. But keep an eye out for wildflowers and the No Mow signs.

It is hoped over time that if this is successful other verges maybe managed in a more wildflower friendly way around the parish. Pollinators and other insects are suffering huge declines so we can all do our bit to help them by allowing areas of wildflowers and longer grass to grow away during the summer months.

For more information feel free to call Wade on 718753

Stottesdon Open Gardens - fundraising for Cancer Charities:

After an enforced pandemic break, this popular village event is back on Sunday 17th July (noon-5pm):

Despite coronavirus, the National Gardens Scheme - which our village gardens are part of – raised over £3m for charities like Macmillan, Marie Curie and Hospices UK. With fundraising reduced for two years the plan is to beat 2021's figure so that NGS can continue to support these essential services (which many friends and neighbours have found so very helpful in times of great need).

Around ten gardens in the village, including the new School garden, are opening their gates to visitors on the day – get in touch if you'd like to think about opening yours. And please diary the date so that you can visit the amazing spaces created by local gardeners!

To help manage visitors' impact, there will be refreshments and loos for our guests at the Parish Church; off-road car parking will be in the field off Pound Lane, with grateful thanks to Mick and Eunice.

Alongside the Gardens, the Church will be celebrating its wonderful historic building and Heritage Treasures – with guided tours for visitors and residents to explore a thousand years of village history. If practical, this may include opportunities to 'look behind the scenes' in the Tower, Clock and Bells.

As always, there are lots of opportunities for volunteers to get involved – to help with car parking, ticket sales, refreshments or generally helping out! Please, please let us know if you are able to help in any way....

The contacts are Wade Muggleton 718753 and Clare Tibbits 718007

Walking in Shropshire from John Harris:

Time to get walking again!

At this time of year we start to think about the mud drying up and getting out to walk in the beautiful English Countryside again, but where to find new and interesting walks?

Walking in Shropshire <https://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/shropshire> has hundreds of walks to download and print, free, it also has books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

John Harris (the custodian of the website) said 'There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Shropshire (part of the Walking in England website) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

So home or away, check out the websites and get walking!

Salt/grit bins:

If you are aware that grit bins are empty please let the Clerk know.

Shropshire Council will only put grit in bins so if you are aware of a particular place where a bin would be helpful please let the Clerk know and a request will be made to Shropshire Council. Please remember that the salt/grit provided in these bins are for use on roads/pavements not for personal use!

News from Rev Mark Daborn:

Preparatory work continues in our bid to obtain Heritage Lottery funding for extensive work to Stottesdon Church. This is needed to refurbish much of the roof to protect this Grade I listed church building, and to upgrade the heating and lighting to make them more effective and more eco-friendly.

We are back to our normal pattern of services now in both churches, and on Sunday March 6th will be welcoming Bishop Richard Jackson to take the service at Stottesdon. There will be services in both Sidbury and Stottesdon churches on Easter morning, at the slightly earlier time of 10:15 at Stottesdon, and at 11:30 at Sidbury. Everyone is welcome to services in any of our benefice churches!

A day of quiet reflection has been called for March 23rd, the second anniversary of the beginning of the first Covid lockdown. Our churches will be open on that day to be used for quiet prayer and reflection, with candles available to be lit in memory of those who have died during the pandemic time. Prayer sheets will also be available.

Parish Council Vacancy:

We have a vacancy on the Parish Council for the Sidbury Ward. Please contact the Clerk or a Councillor for further details.

Village Hall events, Chorley

Pancake Races and Brunch on Saturday 5th March, 1pm-4pm (weather permitting)

Pancake Brunch and Registration: 1pm - 2pm at the Chorley Village Hall. Followed by Races: 2.30pm until 4pm

Pancake Races, a Flipathon, and a Lemon Shot Put – with prizes!

Categories: Under 5s, Under 10s, Under 13s, Teens & Adults. Bring your own pan if you can!

All children must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

PLEASE NOTE: The Brunch will take place whatever the weather at the Village Hall. However, the outdoor races will be taking place on turf and are weather dependent.

Coming soon

- Film Club dates: Thursday 10th March and Thursday 14th April
 - Spring Fair on Saturday 23rd April in Chorley – local crafts and stalls
 - Bluebell Walk to be arranged in May
- Queens Jubilee activities being considered.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee:

The Jubilee will be celebrated over the long weekend of Thursday 2nd to Sunday 5th June. (Both Thursday and Friday are Bank holidays.)

On Thursday 2nd at 9:00pm beacons will be lit across the country and on Sunday 5th June communities are being encouraged to celebrate by holding a Big Jubilee Lunch.

The parish council and Chorley Village Hall Committee are making plans to get involved with the celebrations – hopefully with beacons and lunches in both villages. (We felt trying to do one big event could be problematic - for example trying to plan for and provide parking.) In Stottesdon we have been discussing possible sites for the beacon and thinking about a community picnic lunch possibly held at Glebe Drive. (This would provide space for those who don't live in the village to come along and join in.)

To help us plan, it would be great to hear if you'd be interested in attending, let us know if you have somewhere you think we could build and light the beacon, and hear ideas and suggestions. What could you bring to the party? To have a chat about events in Stottesdon contact Zoe Griffin 07980 314 088 or zoemallard@yahoo.com, or for events in Chorley contact the Village Hall Committee.

From the Archives - thanks to Rosemary Abbiss
Interesting Occurrences at School:

1872

School built by members of the community money raised by levy of a local rate, organised through the church.

There had been a school previously but much smaller.

1875

The present logbooks start.

Attendance is the prime consideration.

9 children when it first opened, quickly rising to over 70.

In the first year the holidays were:

Half day holiday – Good Friday

Whit Monday

July 1st: 1 day for Church's School Anniversary

20th August – 20th September "Harvest Holiday"

Half-day holiday: Harvest Thanksgiving

December 23rd – January 7th Christmas holiday

Reasons for absence

The weather

Sickness

"such trifling excuses"

"itch" / skin diseases (1880)

A "club" walk at Burwarton

Minding the baby while mother was a work

At work in the fields

At work in the garden

Potato planting, potato picking

Cleobury May Fair, Bridgnorth Fair, Show at Bridgnorth

Haymaking

Gathering fruit

Gleaning

3rd December 1875

"The attendance was very low again this week, several being ill, others at work, several being away because their parents are too careless and indifferent to send them."

Visitors

Vicar and his wife

Correspondent of governors

Shropshire Health Authority

Her Majesties Inspector

Diocesan Inspector

January 8th 1875

George Holbeche, headmaster – 9 children present

63 pupils by the end of January

73 pupils by the end of February

Lateness and bad attendance was mentioned

14th January 1876

"Several children who have been absent for nearly six months have returned to school.

14th April 1876

"Friday being Good Friday there was no secular instruction given but school was conducted as on Sundays".

December 1876

A mumps epidemic all month

Late January or early February a Christmas tree is mentioned

There are regular examinations in school

Master, his wife and a mistress or two help with the younger children.

June 7th 1878 to June 30th A pupil teacher helps out if over 60 children.

Lots of R.E., catechism, creed, commandments and Bible stories etc.

9th May 1879

Several of the High Green children have gone to a dame's school at the chapel there.

20th June 1879

"The measles being in nearly every house". School closed 2 days.

11th March 1881

"The school bell makes the children more punctual".

22nd July 1881

Parents are afraid to send their children to school because of fever in the village.

7th August 1881

Child sent home because their mother refused to send their fees!

November / December / January 1881/82

Mumps - up to a third of the children away.

July 1882

Average attendance 81. 20th July 92 children present.

Stottesdon News Sheet

Circulating in the civil Parish of Stottesdon, including Chorley and published under the patronage of Stottesdon Youth Service Squad.

Object – to promote ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP in our rural community

Editor Rev. H.H. Pierce

Sub editors: Ruth Page and Pamela Cattermole

Manager - Dennis Jackson.

Squad - leader Mary Page

April 24th 1944

PRESCOTT FLOOD

On June 1st 1924 Mr. and Mrs. Shingleton of Prescott Mill went to bed at 10 o'clock. During the night a cloud burst at Ditton Priors and flooded the river Rea that runs by the Mill.

Please note:

Stottesdon and Sidbury Parish Council cannot accept liability for any inaccuracies or omissions in this publication. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the views of the Parish Council.

Larger print format of this newsletter is available from the Clerk

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS:**CLERK TO THE PARISH COUNCIL**

The Clerk can be contacted at all reasonable hours.

Mrs F Morris
18 Glebe Drive
Stottesdon
Kidderminster
DY14 8UF

Telephone number: 718453 (answerphone available)

Email - stottesdonpc@btinternet.com

Website: www.stottesdonpc.co.uk

PARISH COUNCILLORS:

Mrs R Abbiss	718451	Miss L Grey	07595 341816
Mr D Young	718684	Mr J Rogers	718570
Mrs S Crawford	718126	Mr M Pearce	718404
Mr S Allen	718623	Mrs Z Griffin	07980314088
Dr D Powell	718863		

Shropshire Councillors:

Gwilym Butler	07801099015	Simon Harris	07833094145
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Stottesdon School	718617
Shropshire Gateway Nursery	718769
Stottesdon/Sidbury Church	718127
Chorley Village Hall	718437 (bookings)
Doctors	712672
Philip Dunne, MP	01584 872187
Shropshire Council	0345 678 9000 (general enquiries)
Lacon Childe School	01299 270312
Bridgnorth Endowed School	762103
WI (Helena Hale)	718012
Power Loss Helpline	0800 6783 105
Mobile Library	01584 813600
Crimestoppers	0900 555111
Rural Stress Network	024 7641 2916
NHS Direct	111
Shropshire Rural Housing	01743 874848
Severn Trent Water (Emergencies)	0800 7834444
Duck Inn	718267
Fighting Cocks	718270
Shropshire Registration Service	0845 6789016
Police	101 non emergency call or 999 emergencies

Tree Wardens:

Wade Muggleton (Stottesdon)	718753
Nathan Home (Chorley)	07966365157