



JULY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING REPORT

The July Parish Council meeting included a report from the Somerset Councillor on some local matters. The damaged school railings have been inspected for replacement; the tree warden is aware of the overhanging trees in The Avenue, and they will be scheduled for pollarding, but the Lengthsman has permission meantime to cut the lower branches for pedestrians; the Duchy of Cornwall and Highways are liaising about Sea Wall and the Structures team will soon produce a report recommending remedial measures.

There were a few planning matters including the dismissal of an appeal for the development off Mason Lane. The Clerk had written to correct the location given as Montacute as the land where the development will be is in Stoke sub Hamdon and therefore the proportion of the levy that the developer will have to pay will be due to the village.

The Chairman of the Sports and Recreation Trust gave a presentation to ensure that the Parish Council is aware of its responsibilities and also provided an update on the CCTV installation which will be finished by the end of July. Members acknowledged the significant financial and practical contribution made by the Sports and Recreation Trust and thanked them for all their hard work.

The Castle School 150th anniversary celebrations were a great success with former pupils coming from far and wide to join in. The Parish Council helped to arrange the road closure and paid for the boards, produced by the History Group – a great team effort which made for a worthy event to mark such a historic occasion!

On Sunday 12th July, our local PCSO held a drop-in session at the Parish Office from 10am- 12pm. Several members of the public came to talk about e-scooters, speeding and parking issues and the plan is to hold a session monthly. The next one will be on Sunday 9th August, at the same time and place.

To ensure smooth-running over the summer, the Parish Council will be meeting in August on Wednesday 5th August at 7pm in the Parish Office. For more information on Parish Council matters, please contact our clerk, Gilly, at clerk@stoke-sub-hamdon-pc.gov.uk

*Suzanne,
Cllr Suzanne Nelms, Chair of Stoke-sub-Hamdon Parish Council*

VACANCY NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Helen Frances, the current volunteer editor of the newsletter, is stepping down after three years of curating and steering our brilliant newsletter into the informative item that it is today. Thank you, Helen, for all your hard work – it is really appreciated by one and all!

However, we are now looking for someone who can take over from Helen. Ideally, the role would suit someone who knows the village, what goes on and who to contact about the latest information. The various clubs and groups send regular contributions, and the role is time-sensitive, but not especially onerous. You would need to have an eye for detail, an ability to proof-read and double-check information provided. The new editor needs to be able to use Microsoft Word or similar, but design and layout skills are not required.

If you think you'd like to get involved with getting the latest information out to residents in our brilliant village, please contact the clerk, by email on clerk@stoke-sub-hamdon-pc.gov.uk

STOKE HEALTH WALKS

Make new friends while walking and talking too. Feel fitter for being out in the fresh air. Walk with trained leaders, start from outside the Lighthouse Café. Dress for the weather, stout footwear recommended. Well-behaved dogs on short leads are welcome.

Monday walks finish in the Lighthouse café to chat over a hot drink and maybe a cake. Tuesday walks have the option of a pub lunch. Dates are on page 4 in the diary section.

*For more information contact Sue
07792311736*



GARDENING CLUB (RHS AFFILIATED SOCIETY)

August 26th sees our annual Summer Party for Gardening Club Members and their guests. We have a "bring and share" supper with delicious savouries and scrumptious desserts!

Last year's light-hearted competition entitled "From My Garden" seemed popular so it's back again this year.

Doors open 7.15 for 7.30p.m. start. Venue: The Memorial Hall, Stoke-sub-Hamdon, TA14 6PZ.

Watch this space for details of our September talk, open to all.

Sounds tempting? For details of how to join the Club please contact Tricia at secsshgardeningclub@gmail.com.

VILLAGE ARTISTS GROUP

Our very successful Summer term has now ended, with the Autumn term commencing on and from Friday 4th September. We will be having a 'Painting Out Day' during the Summer holidays. So, whatever your preferred medium and skill level do come and join us!

We meet at Stoke-sub-Hamdon Memorial Hall on Tuesday evenings 7.30 to 9:30 pm and Friday mornings 10.00 to 12.30am during school term time. First visit FREE!

*Please contact Andrew on (01935) 823691, SSHTheVillageArtistsGroup@gmail.com
Facebook: Stoke Sub Hamdon The Village Artists Group.*

WEDNESDAY SOCIAL

The Social Group which meets at the Lighthouse on Wednesday afternoons twice a month is taking a summer break. The next date for your diary is 16th September. Thank you to everyone who has attended the group and wishing you a wonderful summer.

Lyn Foley

STOKE BAND

Advance notice: Our AGM Will be held at Castle School at 20:00 on 24th September. Please save the date!

ST MARY'S CHURCH

Summer Concert Update

A huge thank you to every who came to the Charity Concert at Mary's Concert on 20th June. The music was excellent with very unusual instruments being played including a zither, a hurdy-gurdy and psalteries. Many thanks go to Molly who organised the event, and everyone who played or sang so beautifully. Thank you also to everyone for their generous donations.

I am pleased to report that £678.00 was raised and this has been shared between UNICEF and the Ham Hill Benefice.

Prayer Requests

If you have any prayer requests for those you love or are concerned about, please feel free to visit St. Mary's Church, write your request on a label and leave it on the prayer tree in the Remembrance corner on the right. Alternatively, you can leave your request in a box in the porch as you enter the church. Any prayer requests are regularly picked up by members of the PCC and we included in church prayers.

A final thanks to everyone who responded to the last month's newsletter and volunteered to open the church. We are very grateful.

*Elaine Faull – Lay Chair PCCelfaull@mac.com
Elaine Faull – Lay-Chair, St Mary's PCC.*

COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH

Thank you to all of our dedicated volunteers who give up their time to monitor the speed and volume of traffic travelling through our community. The safety of our residents is at the core of why we do this work. If you would like to join our team, please don't hesitate to contact me for more information. *Lyn Foley - 07714005265*

AFTERNOON TEA CLUB

Stoke-sub-Hamdon's Afternoon Tea Club opens its doors fortnightly on a Wednesday afternoon at The Lighthouse, 2pm - 4pm, with the next date being 12th August, also See Dates for your Diary on the back page.

Why not come and join this lovely social group for tea/coffee, sandwiches, cake and a chat? Minimum donation £4.

For further info contact Lisa on 07515 489587.

CHARITY SHOP

Our charity shop continues to do incredibly well thanks to all your continuing support and also because we have such a great group of volunteers.

Just to let you know that we will be putting out items of school uniform for sale at bargain prices from the beginning of August, so do please pay us a visit to see what we have on offer.

We will be holding our AGM on Monday, 7th September at 6:30 pm in The Lighthouse where we will be electing our new Committee. Please do come along if you are interested in hearing more about the shop or would like to put your name forward to join the Committee. We are also always looking for volunteers to join our fabulous team, so even if you are only able to spare a few hours here and there and feel this may be something that you might enjoy, we would love to see you - you will be sure to receive a warm welcome. Alternatively, please feel free to pop into the shop to have a chat with one of our Committee members.

Finally, don't forget to follow our Facebook page where we regularly post details of some of the incredible bargains that we have on offer.

MEMORIAL HALL

Unfortunately, due to other commitments, Lee Churchill has made the hard decision to resign from our committee. The good news is he is still willing to continue with the quiz nights! Huge thanks for all your hard work and commitment Lee, you will be missed.

During July we had problems with our website that have now been resolved. Our new domain is www.stokememorialhall.org - same website, just no longer .co.uk. If you had it saved as a favourite, you will need to refresh it.

If you are interested in joining our team, please get in touch - r27merrick@outlook.com. IT skills would be a bonus!

And don't forget our ever-popular quiz – this month on 27th August. We start at 19:30 at the Fleur!

HAMDON YOUTH AND FAMILY CENTRE

As we are now mid holiday season, the Hamdon Youth & Family Centre is enjoying a quiet period where we can catch up on all the jobs that were

delayed due to the excessive heat of the last couple of months! (Hopefully it's cooled down a bit by the time you are reading this) The back hall is now re-plastered and (hopefully) redecorated ready for groups to use it again when the new term starts. Again, a big thank you to everyone that has helped to make this happen and also thanks to everyone affected by the building work for their patience and understanding during a job that has taken longer than anticipated.

We hope you are enjoying your summer holidays. Have fun!

FRIENDS OF HAM HILL

The Friends of Ham Hill calendar competition is back, and your photo could be the star of the 2027 calendar!!

So, seek out your best photos of Ham Hill or take some new ones. They can be landscape, close-up, seasonal, quirky or anything you like, though no pets, identifiable pictures of people or AI-tinkered entries please. Entry is completely free. There's no prize as such, other than massive kudos of having your picture in the calendar.

*Send your entries in to calendar@friendsofhamhill.org, which is also the same email if you want a copy of the full entry rules. **Good luck!!***

the Friends of Ham Hill

2027 CALENDAR PHOTO COMPETITION

Share your best photo for a chance to be featured in the 2027 Ham Hill calendar.

- Free entry: email your photos to calendar@friendsofhamhill.org
- Submit up to four colour photos from Ham Hill.
- Must be landscape JPGs, minimum 300 dpi.
- No pets, identifiable people, professional, or digitally altered images allowed.
- Use of Drones are **not** permitted.

Calendar sales go towards the 2027 Wildwood Play Zone improvements.

Deadline: 31 August 2026.

For full rules, email calendar@friendsofhamhill.org

info@friendsofhamhill.org f Ham Hill Country Park

CONTACTS

ALL SAINTS HALL Bookings – Ann Bartlett: 07709 609488
BROWNIES at HY&FC – Sarah Redington 07412 084014 stokesubhamdonbrownies@gmail.com
CASTLE KIDS PATCH - Dusk Eastment: dusk@castlekidspatch.com 07540341909
CHARITY SHOP Chair, Denise Burton: 07788900672.
COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH – Lyn Foley: 07714005265 email lafoley@live.co.uk
FLEXERCISE FOR FUN at Oak Tree House Di Ramsay: 0845 6434702
FOOTBALL – Senior Teams Steve Deane 07881 464280 stevekatharine@hotmail.co.uk
FOOTBALL – Youth Teams Kim Campbell Welfarestokefc@gmail.com
GARDENING CLUB at Memorial Hall Tricia Toosey 01935 823691 sec.sshgardeningclub@gmail.com
HAM HILL VOLUNTEER RANGERS Paul McNeill 07973 887129
HAMDON YOUTH & FAMILY CENTRE: hamdonyouthcentre.co.uk email Hamdonyouthcentre@gmail.com
HISTORY GROUP stokesubhamdonhistory@gmail.com
KNIT, CRAFT & NATTER GROUP Rosemary 07779 09372
MEDITATION & SHAMANIC CIRCLE Rosemary Stibbon 07779 093723
MEMORIAL HALL Geoffery Unkovich Bookings Secretary: bookings.stokememorialhall@gmail.com
PARISH COUNCIL Clerk: clerk@stoke-sub-hamdon-pc.gov.uk
QUIRKY QUILTERS - suebrandt@googlemail.com
STOKE AFTERNOON TEA CLUB FOR OLDER PEOPLE at Lighthouse Café Lisa Wenborn 07515 489587 or Kay Clamp 07717 453523
STOKE & DISTRICT ANGLING ASSOCIATION Derek Goad 01935 824337 goadfish02@gmail.com
STOKE COMMUNITY SHOP & POST OFFICE COUNTER 01935 509100
STOKE SUB HAMDON BAND at Castle School Gill Robins 07814 115763
STOKE SUB HAMDON BAND TRAINING SECTION Jane Herbert 01460 351123
POLICE CONTACT POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT Ian Cromey-Hawke: ian.cromey-hawke@avonandsomerset.police.uk 07710026180
STOKE PERFORMING ARTS GROUP Jeanie 07967 184952 info@stokeperformingartsgroup.co.uk
STOKE SUB HAMDON SPORTS & RECREATION TRUST www.stoke-rec-trust.co.uk Chair – John Allan info@stoke-rec-trust.co.uk Secretary - Peter Hulett 01935 824784
STOKE WALKING GROUP Penny 01935 822208 or Sue 07792 311736
TINY TURRETS at Castle Primary School Foundation Stage Unit for 2 - 4 year olds. 01935 826739.
TRIANGLE TRUST (Raising funds for Hamdon Medical Centre). Secretary Janet Littlefield janet.littlefield@btinternet.com web: www.thetriangletrust.org
THE VILLAGE ARTISTS GROUP Chair - Andrew Toosey 07484 142880 SSHthevillageartistsgroup@gmail.com
ST MARY’S (Church of England) - www.hamhillchurches.org

Please send information for the Village Newsletter to
helenfrances.one@gmail.com by 16th of the month before publication.
If you would like a larger print copy of this newsletter please contact
helenfrances.one@gmail.com with your name and address.
The Village Newsletter is produced with grateful thanks to
Stoke-sub-Hamdon Parish Council for funding and support.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

AUGUST

4th	Longest Health Walk (5-6 miles, option of pub lunch). From Lighthouse café. Meet 09:50
4th	Football Senior Team training - every Tuesday 18:30
5th	Knit, Craft & Natter at Frank’s Corner Café every Wednesday from 10:30 – 12:00
5th	Parish Council meeting at North Street Workshops 19:00
6th	Stoke Band Training Section every Thursday at Castle School 19:00 – 19:45
6th	Stoke Band every Thursday at Castle School 20:00 – 22:00
7th	Castle Kids Patch Garden & Chat drop in for adults - every Friday 10:00-12:00 at North Street Allotments
7th	Charity Shop AGM at The Lighthouse at 18:30
9th	Police Community Support drop-in at Parish Offices 10:00 – 12:00
10th	Make Every Step Count Walk (40 minutes) from Lighthouse café. Meet 09:30
10th	Medium Health Walk (3-4 miles) from Lighthouse café. Meet 09:50
11th	Meditation & Shamanic Circle 2nd Tuesday of the month at 21, West Street.19:00
12th	Afternoon Tea Club at the Lighthouse Café 14:15 – 16:15
20th	Parish Councillor Surgeries at 7, North Street, 3rd Thursday 10:00 – 12:00 & 18:00 – 20:00
23rd	Meditation & Shamanic Circle 4th Tuesday of the month 19:00 at 21, West Street
24th	Medium Health Walk (3-4 miles) from Lighthouse café. Meet 09:50
24th	Make Every Step Count Walk (40 minutes) from Lighthouse café. Meet 09:30
26th	Afternoon Tea Club at the Lighthouse Café 14:15 – 16:15
26th	Gardening Club Summer Party - Memorial Hall 19:15 for 19:30
27th	Memorial Hall fundraising quiz at the Fleur de Lys 19:30

SEPTEMBER

9th	Afternoon Tea Club at the Lighthouse Café 14:15 – 16:15
-----	---