

# Council news round-up

Your weekly guide to the latest news

Issue 130

9 August 2019



## This week's news from around the Council.

- **Unauthorised encampment**

On Thursday 8 August 2019, a number of vehicles and caravans occupied recreational land owned by Great Wyrley Parish Council at Jones Lane. As a result of swift action on the evening of 8 August and Friday 9 August 2019 by planning enforcement officers and the Police, the vehicles were removed from the site using the Police's powers. The site has now been secured.

- **Fixed penalty notice for fly-tipper**

Thank you to the member of the public who spotted someone fly-tipping foam mattresses, a duvet and pillows on a car park at Four Ashes Industrial Estate on Monday 24 June 2019 and reported the incident to the Council. The offender was traced via his car registration number and he was issued a £200 fixed penalty for the offence, which he paid rather than being prosecuted at court. You can report fly-tipping on the Council's website at [www.sstaffs.gov.uk](http://www.sstaffs.gov.uk) or by signing up to the My Staffs App (click [here](#)), which is free to download on Android and Apple devices.

- **Annual Canvass 2019**

It's Annual Canvass time and every household in the district has been sent a Household Enquiry Form (HEF). Every year, we are required to write to every household in the district to confirm that the details we have on the electoral register are correct. It is a legal requirement to respond to this letter and it's quick and easy to reply - you can do this online or by telephoning, texting or signing the form and sending it back. Click [here](#) for more information.

All details must be updated and returned by Monday 19 August 2019. You can do this online – click [here](#) to access the household update service - all you need are the security codes printed on the form sent to you by post.

- **Funding now available to help you heat your home**

For a limited time, householders and tenants in South Staffordshire can benefit from being connected to mains gas along with a new gas-fired central heating system all installed free of charge (subject to eligibility). The scheme is funded using the Warm Homes Fund, established by National Grid to support local authorities, registered social landlords and other organisations working in partnership with them, to address some of the issues affecting fuel poor households.

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South Staffordshire Council is working with Staffordshire County Council, E.On and Affordable Warmth Solutions to help fund and successful deliver this scheme locally and ensure households can afford to heat their homes.

Click [here](#) to view our first installation case study in Perton. For more information, call freephone **0800 193 1902** or email [advice@mea.org.uk](mailto:advice@mea.org.uk).  
[www.staffordshirewarmerhomes.co.uk](http://www.staffordshirewarmerhomes.co.uk)

- **Did you know?**

Click [here](#) to see what happens to your recyclable plastics once they've been emptied from your blue bin. There's lots of things you can do to reduce your plastic footprint and help prevent plastic pollution. Take action now on plastics in the home and remember to recycle in your blue bin.

- **South Staffordshire Connect service now available**

The South Staffordshire Connect dial-a-ride bus service is now available. This local, bookable bus service is once again helping many people who struggle to get out and about and it is aimed at residents who live away from regular bus routes or who find it difficult to use a standard bus. The new Connect service operates between 10am and 3pm to three zones. For more information, please click on the following for more information - [Zone 1](#), [Zone 2](#) and [Zone 3](#).



- **Having a clear out?**

The Council can help you get rid of your bulky waste items including sofas, beds, wardrobes and white goods such as fridges, freezers and washing machines. Click [here](#) to book online 24/7. Unwanted household items can also be re-used or donated via a series of charities and forums including the British Heart Foundation, Acorns Children's Hospice, the Furniture Re-use Network and others. Click [here](#) for more information.

- **Energy switch surgery every Thursday**

If you'd like help switching your energy supplier, the Good Life Energy team will be visiting the Council Offices every Thursday between 10am and 1pm. You can book an appointment with the team on Freephone **03333 058671** or turn up with a recent energy bill on the day. For more information, visit [www.sstaffs.gov.uk/energy](http://www.sstaffs.gov.uk/energy).

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- **Celebrating our Community Lottery winners**

Congratulations to all our recent winners! During July, the South Staffordshire Community Lottery had 71 winners with two £250 winners, nine £25 winners and one supper draw winner. Another 59 winners won extra tickets. To buy a lottery ticket, simply register on the website ([www.southstaffslottery.co.uk](http://www.southstaffslottery.co.uk)) or telephone **01902 213777**.

- **Events coming up**

- **Skills and Jobs Fair** on Friday 20 September 2019 (10am to 1pm) at South Staffordshire Council Offices in Codsall. Come along and talk to employers, skills and education providers, recruitment agencies and specialised services offering support into work. Click [here](#) for more information.
- **Parish Summit** on Friday 11 October 2019 (9am to 1pm) at South Staffordshire Council Offices in Codsall.

## Regular information

- **Committee meetings**

There are no meetings scheduled for next week.

- **5 Rating**

The following organisation has achieved a 5 Rating following its food inspection this week - ABC Early Learning and Childcare Centre in Bilbrook.

Everyone is encouraged to submit news items, please email: [comms@sstaffs.gov.uk](mailto:comms@sstaffs.gov.uk)