

# Council news round-up

Your weekly guide to the latest news

Issue 134

6 September 2019



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

- **Strategic Rail Freight Interchange(SRFI) - examination process closed**

A great deal of work has been taking place in recent months in putting forwards the Council's case in the examination on the proposal for a SRFI at Gailey, the proposed West Midlands Interchange. This has led to a number of hearings and a large number of written submissions. The Council's position has been one of constructive opposition throughout, i.e. not wanting it to happen and arguing strongly against it but seeking to ensure that *if* it does happen it has the least worst impact on our community.

The examination process formally closed on Tuesday 27 August 2019 and the Examining Authority is now writing up his recommendations to the Secretary of State. He is due to send these to the Secretary of State by Wednesday 27 November 2019 with the decision of the Secretary of State awaited by the end of February 2020. The Examining Authority's website can be accessed [here](#) and the Council's latest submission can be accessed [here](#).

- **Public consultation on the Codsall Community Hub**

On Tuesday, Council will be considering a report on progressing the Codsall Community Hub. If that is approved, a pre-planning application public consultation for the Codsall Community Hub will get underway on Wednesday 11 September 2019, and will be open until Sunday 22 September 2019. Members of the public will be invited to complete an online survey and comment on the plans, which will be available to view on the Council website, in the foyer of the Council Offices and during a face-to-face event at the Council Offices on Friday 20 September 2019. A link to the online survey and further information will be placed on the Council website on Wednesday 11 September 2019 (click [here](#)).

- **Community Safety update - locality police engagement meetings**

Chief Inspector Mark Ward and Helen Marshall, the Council's Community Safety Officer, will be present at the next series of police engagement meetings, which take place in each locality twice a year. The purpose is to give an opportunity to all Parish and District Members from within the locality to meet and discuss issues relating to crime and disorder in their locality.

- Locality 1 - Wednesday 11 September 2019 5-7pm - Acton Trussell Community Centre.
- Locality 2 - Wednesday 18 September 2019 -5-7pm - Brewwood & Coven Parish Chamber.
- Locality 3 - Wednesday 9 October 2019 - 5-7pm - Chamber, Essington Community Centre.
- Locality 4 - Wednesday 23 October 2019 - 5-7pm - Codsall Parish Chambers.

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○ Locality 5 - Wednesday 30 October 2019 - 5-7pm - Swindon Community Centre.

- **September Leisure Centre membership offer**

Get **#BackToIt** with our special Leisure Centre membership offer this September. Join between Monday 9 and Monday 30 September 2019 and you could get up to three months free as part of our **#BackToIt** promotion (terms and conditions apply).

There's something for everyone in our Leisure Centres including swimming pools, fully equipped gyms, exercise class programmes and toning suites. The Council runs four Leisure Centres in Cheslyn Hay, Codsall, Penkridge and Wombourne and they offer everything you need to get fit, stay motivated and on track to a fitter and healthier you. For more information about this promotion, please contact your local Leisure Centre.



Cheslyn Hay Leisure Centre Tel: 01922 417790

Codsall Leisure Centre Tel: 01902 844032

Penkridge Leisure Centre Tel: 01785 714152

Wombourne Leisure Centre Tel: 01902 898202

Email: [leisure@sstaffs.gov.uk](mailto:leisure@sstaffs.gov.uk)

[www.sstaffs.gov.uk/leisure](http://www.sstaffs.gov.uk/leisure)

- **Annual Canvass 2019**

Thank you to residents who have responded to the Household Enquiry Form. Every year, we are required to write to households 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. We have to follow up any non-responding households so please help us save money by responding quickly.

- **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. We are working with the County Council, E.On and Affordable Warmth Solutions to help fund

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and successful deliver this scheme locally. 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)

- **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).

- **Events coming up**

- **Rainbow Dog Rescue Annual Fun Day** - Sunday 8 September 2019 - 11am - Baggeridge Country Park. Click [here](#) more information.
- **Skills and Jobs Fair** - Friday 20 September 2019 - 10am to 1pm - 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.
- **Perton Village Show** - Saturday 21 September 2019 from 2pm. A traditional village show held at Perton Civic Centre including local skills, cookery, horticulture, art and crafts, exhibits by local community groups, cream teas and a novelty dog show. Schedules are available from Perton Civic Centre and Perton Library. For more information, please contact Philip Davis (tel: **741822** email [p.davis@sstaffs.gov.uk](mailto:p.davis@sstaffs.gov.uk)).
- **Wombourne Music Festival 2019** - Saturday 21 to 28 September 2019. Tickets available now. Click [here](#) for more information.
- **Wheaton Aston Historical Festival** - Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 September 2019, 10am to 4.30pm. Click [here](#) for more information.  
[www.wheatonaston-historicalfestival.org](http://www.wheatonaston-historicalfestival.org)
- **Perton Library** is celebrating Staffordshire History Festival with a family-friendly open day - Saturday 5 October 2019. 11am to 4pm.

- **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](#).



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- **Together we win!**

Good causes in South Staffordshire need your support and one way you can help is by buying a lottery ticket in our weekly Community Lottery. As well as supporting a good cause you might even win a cash prize ranging from £25 up to a jackpot of £25,000. To buy a lottery ticket, simply register on the website ([www.southstaffslottery.co.uk](http://www.southstaffslottery.co.uk)) or telephone **01902 213777**.

## Regular information

- **Committee/Panel meetings**

Next week, the following meetings are scheduled:

- **Full Council** - Tuesday 10 September 2019 - 7pm - Council Chamber
- **Standards and Resources Committee** - Thursday 12 September 2019 - 2.30pm - Bill Brownhill Room

- **5 Rating**

The following organisation has achieved a 5 Rating following its food inspection this week - Staffordshire Knot in Featherstone.

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