

Council news round-up

Your weekly guide to the latest news

Issue 86

21 September 2018



This week's news from around the Council.

- **Council's property investment**

The Council is in the process of acquiring another property to assist in delivering the aims of its asset strategy by making a positive difference to the local economy and a return on investment to the Council. The property is on Station Drive, Four Ashes, and is adjacent to the first unit that the Council purchased through the asset strategy in 2016. The purchase of the property was well within budget and marked a first for the Council in that it was bought at a competitive open auction. Future plans for the site will be brought forward to Members and communicated in due course.

There was more good news involving Four Ashes this month with Spanish automotive supplier Gestamp officially opening its new site on Thursday 13 September 2018. Click [here](#) to read more.

- **New community room**

The Lydiate Room, the new community room at Baggeridge Country Park, was opened officially on Tuesday 18 September 2018 by Councillor Len Bates BEM, Chairman of South Staffordshire Council, and Councillor Mary Bond, Cabinet Member for Community Services. Representatives from David Wilson Homes attended the launch event along with invited guests and volunteers from the park's miniature railway. This community room is perfect for educational workshops, children's parties, functions, conferences, corporate meetings and events. Click [here](#) to see pics of the launch event and click [here](#) for more information about the community room.

- **Skills and jobs fair**

Our skills and jobs fair takes place on Wednesday 26 September 2018 (10am to 2pm) at the Council Offices in Codsall. Forty exhibitors offering hundreds of jobs, apprenticeships and volunteering opportunities will be waiting to tell you more about their exciting opportunities and there will be workshops taking place about IT skills, CV writing and interview techniques. In addition, there will be presentations from a number of businesses to tell you more about their company and what opportunities they have available.

The event is free to attend and free transport is also available from key locations in Penkridge, Huntington, Great Wyrley, Cheslyn Hay, Essington, Featherstone, Coven, Kinver, Wombourne,

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Swindon and Perton. Pre-booking of transport is recommended to secure your seat. For more information, visit: www.sstaffs.gov.uk/skillsandjobsfair

- **Tea & Teach**

Need help with your digital skills or getting online? Our next free 'Tea & Teach' session takes place next week on Thursday 27 September at the Council Offices in Codsall between 2pm and 4pm. Click [here](#) for more information and to find out how to reserve a place.

- **Closing date approaching for Community Innovation Fund applications**

Applications have until 5pm on Friday 28 September 2018 to submit an application to the South Staffordshire Community Innovation Fund. Grants of up to £1,000 are available for all community and voluntary sector organisations in South Staffordshire including those registered to the South Staffordshire Community Lottery. Please contact policyadmin@sstaffs.gov.uk for an application form and guidance notes.

- **Guilty plea for false fire alarm at Council offices**

A man has pleaded guilty to a public nuisance charge for maliciously setting off the fire alarm at the Council Offices in Codsall on Friday 31 August 2018. Jeremy Stracey Kemp appeared at Cannock Magistrates Court on Friday 14 September 2018 and was convicted and fined £40 and court costs of £165.

- **Fly-tipping post gets the thumbs up on Facebook**

The Enforcement team's post on Facebook about their recent successful fly-tipping prosecution has been shared 77 times and received more than 40 positive comments and 150+ 'likes'. This response shows that residents share our concerns about fly-tipping and appreciate the Council is working hard to prosecute anyone who fly-tips. Click [here](#) to see the post and comments.

- **Parish Summit next week**

On Friday 28 September 2018, the Council will be hosting its annual Parish Summit (Our Place - Our Challenges - Our Opportunities - 2020 and beyond) at the Council Offices in Codsall from 9am to 3pm. There's a lot to talk about with Parishes and the event includes presentations from the National Association of Local Councils, who will be talking about the work they've been doing with Parish Councils and the recent Civil Society Strategy, and the Rural Services Network, who will be outlining their work with rural parishes. The day also includes a busy programme of workshops.

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Click [here](#) to view the agenda and the list of workshops. If you would like to attend, please email policyadmin@sstaffs.gov.uk and book a place on the workshops as they are filling up fast.

- **Macmillan coffee morning in Codsall**

Last year, the World's Biggest Coffee Morning had over 200,000 people taking part in its annual fund-raising event. This year's event takes place on Friday 28 September 2018 and the Business Hub will be taking part and helping raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support. Please help us make as much money as possible for this fantastic cause either by donating or baking cakes that we can sell on the day or by coming along to the coffee morning next to the reception area of the Council Offices in Codsall during the Parish Summit breaks (11am and 1pm) and making a donation in return for a cake.

If you would like to donate a cake, please deliver to the Enterprise Office on the ground floor (G14) by lunchtime on Thursday 27 September 2018. Together we can help make a difference!

- **Vote for the People's Choice**

Please vote now for Baggeridge Country Park and the Wom Brook Walk in the UK's People's Choice Awards 2018. Voting closes on Sunday 30 September 2018 for this award which asks the nation to have its say and decide which parks and green spaces are the UK's favourites. Only parks that have won the prestigious Green Flag award qualify for the People's Choice nomination. Click [here](#) to vote for Baggeridge Country Park and click [here](#) to vote for Wom Brook Walk.

- **Cheslyn Hay fundraising day with GB tennis players**

GB tennis players are coming to Cheslyn Hay Leisure Centre this Saturday and taking part in a special fundraising day on Saturday 22 September 2018 from 1pm to 6pm. Jocelyn Rae and Danny Sapsford will be taking part in coaching clinics during the day and there will be lots on including exhibition matches, mini and touch tennis and a 'speed gun challenge' that can measure the speed of your serve. All money raised on the day will go toward improving facilities at Cheslyn Hay Leisure Centre. For more information, please click [here](#).

- **5 Rating**

The following organisation has achieved a 5 Rating following its food inspection this week - Blakeley Heath Primary School in Wombourne.

Regular information

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- **Committee/Panel meetings**

Next week, the following public meetings are scheduled:

- **Overview and Scrutiny Committee** - Tuesday 25 September 2018 - 6.30pm - Council Chamber

Everyone is encouraged to submit news items, please email: comms@sstaffs.gov.uk