

From Lapley, Stretton and Wheaton Aston PC-

The PC are working with SSC to offer residents Smart Water to help protect their property against theft. There will be a reduced charge towards this, the cost is dependent upon the number of residents who wish to purchase Smart Water and will be between £10 and £20. Anyone interested in purchasing Smart Water should email the office on office@wheatonastonparishcouncil.gov.uk before 17th March 2020

SmartWater is a traceable liquid and forensic asset marking system (taggant) that is applied to items of value to identify thieves and deter theft. The liquid leaves a long lasting and unique identifier, whose presence is invisible except under an ultraviolet black light

Smartwater comes in small container with an applicator brush. Only a small amount of clear liquid needs to be applied to an item and left to dry and then the property is marked. Each bottle of Smartwater is unique which enables the police/ Smartwater to identify the owner of property and therefore return it if stolen, link it to any associated crime and prosecute offenders

This week's news from around the Council.

- **Flooding and disruption at Hinksford Mobile Home Park**

Last Sunday, flooding affected Hinksford Mobile Home Park following the widespread disruption caused by Storm Dennis. A number of homes needed to be evacuated from the Council-managed site and the Council's emergency procedures were activated by the director on call. The Council's response team worked throughout Sunday to ensure residents were safe and an emergency rest centre was set up in the nearby village of Swindon. Many of those affected by the evacuation were elderly residents and the Council's housing team was on hand to arrange accommodation and welfare support following the incident. During the day, the Council closely monitored the situation and although electricity had to be turned off for a time due to high water levels, power was restored in the early evening.

By Monday, the majority of flood water had gone, and park warden and the Council's Street Scene and Commercial Services teams supported residents with the clean-up of the site. A big thank you to all residents, local councillors, volunteers and Council staff, many of whom were not on call but who came in to support the residents of Hinksford Mobile Home Park. Click [here](#) to see some pics.

- **Coronavirus (COVID-19) update**

Click [here](#) for the latest advice from the Public Health England blog and click [here](#) to view a video about the best way to slow the spread of almost any germs, including Coronavirus.

- **Community Safety - speed checks**

On Thursday 13 February 2020, Staffordshire Police carried out speed checks in Swindon High Street and Lower Penn (Springhill Lane and Langley Road). The locations were identified as a result of recent complaints made by concerned residents and Parish Councils. Although a little hampered by the weather, ten warning notices were given out. #OpLightning

- **Weddings**

After careful consideration of the business case, the decision has been made to stop offering a wedding service here at the Council Offices in Codsall. There are two weddings left for us to host in May and July this year but they will be our last.

- **South Staffordshire online chat**

Staffordshire Police is holding a series of online chats giving residents the opportunity to chat live with local police officers regarding any issues or concerns relating to South Staffordshire. Online chats will take place on Monday 24 February Monday 2 March, Thursday 19 March 2020 at 7pm. Click [here](#) for more information about the first online chat next week.

- **Staffordshire Day**

Creativity will be the focus of this year's Staffordshire Day when it returns for the fifth time on Friday 1 May 2020. Coordinators Enjoy Staffordshire, in conjunction with Staffordshire County Council and other local authority partners, are encouraging the people of Staffordshire to embrace their creative side and show the world why they love their county. Details of how to get involved in Staffordshire Day, alongside a full listing of Staffordshire Day events, can be found at www.enjoystaffordshire.com/staffsday

- **2020 Support Staffordshire Volunteer Star Awards**

Nominations for this year's Volunteer Star Awards are now live. These awards celebrate the contribution that volunteers make to our local community and you can find out more on the Support Staffordshire website - click [here](#) for more information. Nominations close on Friday 3 April 2020 (5pm) and the results will be announced at a ceremony at Rodbaston Hall in Penkridge on Tuesday 23 June 2020. Any queries, please contact Maggie Quinn (m.quinn@sstaffs.gov.uk)

- **South Staffordshire business survey and roundtable event**

If you're a local business, make sure you complete the south Staffordshire business survey. The Council is committed to creating the right conditions for economic

growth across the district and supporting local businesses and your thoughts and opinions are key. Click [here](#) to take part in the survey, which closes on Sunday 23 February 2020 (5pm). This piece of research will be instrumental in informing South Staffordshire Council's future strategic plans. To accompany this, Staffordshire Chambers of Commerce are hosting a series of small business roundtable events on behalf of South Staffordshire Council. Click [here](#) to find out more and to book a place at the business roundtable being held on Friday 28 February 2020 at the Council Offices in Codsall from 10am to noon.

- **Dunston Business Village drop in**

Dunston Business Village in association with Staffordshire Chambers of Commerce will be holding a free drop in session for local businesses on Wednesday 26 February 2020 from 9am to 4pm. Click [here](#) for more information.

- **Next week's Committee/Panel meetings**

- **Full Council** - Tuesday 25 February 2020 - 7pm - Council Chamber.
- **Asset Scrutiny Panel** - Thursday 27 February 2020 - 4pm - Committee Room 2.
- **Highways England Briefing - M54/M6 Link Road** - Thursday 27 February 2020 - 5.30pm - Council Chamber

- **Council job vacancies**

- **ICT Support Officer (fixed term)** - click [here](#) for more information.
Closing date - Tuesday 25 February 2020 (12 noon).
- **Solicitor** - click [here](#) for more information.
Closing date - Thursday 27 February 2020 (10am).

- **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](#).



- **5 Rating**

The following organisations have achieved a 5 Rating following their food inspection this week - Mary Herman-Smith Catering in Trysull and Farmer & Friends Coffee Shop in Wombourne.

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