



## PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

We were missing a few members for the February meeting, and as ever there was plenty of business on the agenda. Some items were deferred to the next meeting, but we discussed a couple of planning applications, the possible procurement of some new speed indicator devices, measures that can be taken to try and prevent the spate of accidents at the West St/Holy Tree junction and the disruption caused by the current state of the roads following the recent winter storms together with the Wales & West Utilities work in the village and the numerous road works.

On a more positive note, the drain clearing work arranged and paid for by the Parish Council took place on 9th, 10th and 11th February. The contractors did a superb job and uncovered some fundamental problems such as collapsed drains at East Stoke, which will now be reported to Somerset Council. This could result in further road works but will ensure that drains perform more effectively in the future. The Parish Council thanks residents for moving their vehicles and allowing the operatives to get through the required works – they even cleared a few other areas.

The Parish Council meet again next month on Wednesday 4th March at 7pm in the Parish Office. Members of the public are always welcome to attend and hopefully the rain may have stopped by then!

As always the agenda will be available to view on the website together with full minutes of previous meetings at [www.stokesubhamdoncouncil.com](http://www.stokesubhamdoncouncil.com)

For more information on Parish Council matters, please contact our clerk, Gilly, at [clerk@stoke-sub-hamdon-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@stoke-sub-hamdon-pc.gov.uk)

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



## Spring After School Gardening Club

Our After School Gardening Club returns this spring, running every Wednesday during term time at our children's allotment located in the North Street Allotments. Open to all age 4+, session donation of £8 (block booking discounts available), with free Pupil Premium places offered.

Bookings are now open at:

[www.castlekidspatch.com/book-our-clubs](http://www.castlekidspatch.com/book-our-clubs)



## Garden & Chat Mornings

Our friendly grown-up Garden & Chat mornings continue at Castle Kids' Patch. These relaxed volunteer sessions are a lovely chance to help maintain the children's allotment, learn & share new gardening skills and enjoy a cup of tea and a chat. Everyone is welcome, no experience needed.

*For details, please visit:  
[www.castlekidspatch.com](http://www.castlekidspatch.com)*

## SONG BUS

Free event for toddlers - from 09:30 on 25th March, hosted by Frank's Corner Café. Everyone is most welcome – just bring along your toddlers and have some fun!

## ST MARY'S CHURCH

**Working Party at St Mary's churchyard**  
**Saturday 28th March 10.00am – 3.00pm -**  
**Can you help?**

We value our churchyard surrounding St Mary's church and know many villagers have friends and relatives buried there. It is so lovely to welcome you to the churchyard.

Over time some of the older gravestones and walls around the churchyard have become covered in ivy; and some of paths have weeds coming through. Therefore, the PCC (Parochial Church Council) has decided to set aside a day at the end of March to do some much needed tidying up.

If you feel you can give up an hour or two to help during the day we would be most grateful. We will provide hot drinks and cakes! Please bring your own tools and gloves.



## GARDENING CLUB

Join us for our monthly talk and get together on Wednesday 25th March:

Are you baffled as to how, when, if, and/or why you should prune your shrubs? John Addison, Chelsea Flower Show Judge and a tutor at Cannington College, will shed light on this subject. By this time next year, you will be looking forward to a marvellous show of flowers!

Doors open at The Memorial Hall 7.15 for 7.30 p.m. start. Visitors are always welcome - £5 admission fee re-funded if you join the Club. There will also be a raffle, home grown plant sale and free refreshments.

For more details, contact Tricia on [secsshgardeningclub@gmail.com](mailto:secsshgardeningclub@gmail.com)

## STOKE SUB HAMDON SPORTS AND RECREATION TRUST

Our Annual General Meeting will take place on Tuesday 3rd March at 7:30pm in the lower skittle alley of the Stoke Working Men's Club. Please come and join us and hear about what we have done in 2025 and what we are planning to do in the future.

*If you would like to join us as a Trustee, please contact the Secretary through [info@sports-rec-trust.co.uk](mailto:info@sports-rec-trust.co.uk).*

*Peter Hulett, Secretary*

## 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.

*For more information contact Sue 07792311736*

## STOKE COMMUNITY SHOP – YOUR VILLAGE YOUR SHOP

Stoke Shop is doing well and holding steady financially. We continue to respond to customer requests for products so if there is anything you would like to see stocked just let us know. We are usually able to order things in at short notice as we get several deliveries a week. We would love to increase our turnover to move us onto a more stable financial footing. Any custom you can bring to the shop helps us achieve that aim.

After the success of our bird window, we are now stocking wild bird food for the spring nesting season.

Our volunteers are the backbone of the shop, if you would like to join our team you would be welcomed with open arms. There are regular shifts available as well as more ad hoc arrangements.

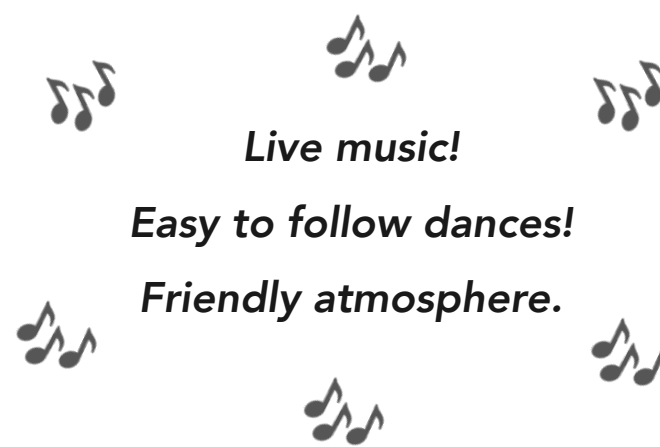
*Email [shop@stokeshop.co.uk](mailto:shop@stokeshop.co.uk) or pop in to speak to either Ann or Gary. We are still able to offer free home delivery for customers unable to come into the shop. Ring between 9am and 12 noon Monday-Friday.*



## MEMORIAL HALL NEWS

**Ceilidh Night –**  
**Saturday 14th March,**  
**7:00 PM**

Dust off your dancing shoes and join us for a lively evening of traditional music, energetic dancing, and great company! Whether you're a seasoned dancer or a complete beginner, everyone is welcome — all dances will be called, so just jump in and enjoy.



Refreshments available... Bring your friends, bring your enthusiasm, and get ready for a fantastic night of fun and folk!

Tickets/Entry: Adults £10, children £7 - on sale in Frank's Corner and the Community Shop.

## LITTER PICK

Litter pick for March will be on Sunday 8th March. Meeting outside the All Saints' Hall with stout shoes or boots and gardening gloves. Free coffee after at the coffee shop courtesy of Maria and subsidised by the community shop. Will be pleased to see you there.

*More details from Catherine at [helivet@msn.com](mailto:helivet@msn.com)*



## VILLAGE ARTISTS GROUP

Are you looking for a new challenge and have a little spare time? Come and join the very friendly self-guided Village Artists Group to develop your artistic skills. We meet at Stoke-sub-Hamdon Memorial Hall on Tuesday evenings 7.30 to 9:30 pm and Friday mornings 10.00 to 12.30 noon during school term time. FREE first visit to see how you get on!

Our Spring term workshop will be happening on Saturday, 7 March when the very talented locally based artist, Mandy McAllen will demonstrate acrylic textures and techniques. Don't miss out!

*For more information on the group contact Andrew on (01935) 823691,*

*SSHTheVillageArtistsGroup@gmail.com Facebook: Stoke Sub Hamdon The Village Artists Group*

## Acrylic workshop



Mandy McAllen, a very talented local acrylic artist, will be demonstrating textures and techniques.

***Come and have a go, no experience needed, just bags of enthusiasm.***

**At Stoke sub Hamdon Memorial Hall  
on Saturday 7th March  
from 10am until 3pm**

Refreshments and cake provided

For more information contact Andrew,  
**01935 823691**

**email [SSHTheVillageArtistsGroup@gmail.com](mailto:SSHTheVillageArtistsGroup@gmail.com)**

**Members £25. Non Members £30**

**CONTACTS**

**ALL SAINTS HALL Bookings – Ann Bartlett 07709 609488**

**BROWNIES at HY&FC – Sarah Redington 07412 084014**  
stokesubhamdonbrownies@gmail.com

**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 Carol Parker 01935 825393**

**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**

**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

**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).**  
Chair, David Warry 01935 822271 Secretary Janet  
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****MARCH**

3rd Longest Health Walk  
(5-6 miles, option of pub lunch).  
From Lighthouse café. Meet 09:50

3rd Village Artists' Group –  
every Tuesday in term time from  
19:30 – 21:30

3rd Brownies – every Tuesday at HF&YC  
during term time

3rd Football Senior Team training -  
every Tuesday 18:30

3rd Sports and Recreation Trust AGM,  
Working Men's Club 19:30

4th Knit, Craft & Natter at Frank's Corner  
Café every Wednesday from  
10:30 – 12:00

4th Warm Winter Wednesday –  
fortnightly games afternoon at the  
Lighthouse 14:00

4th Parish Council meeting at  
North Street Workshops 19:00

5th Stoke Band Training Section  
every Thursday at Castle School  
19:00 – 19:45

5th Stoke Band every Thursday  
at Castle School 20:00 – 22:00

6th Village Artists' Group – every Friday  
in term time from 10:00 – 12:00

7th Village Artists' Group Acrylics  
Workshop at the Memorial Hall

9th Make Every Step Count Walk  
(40 minutes) from Lighthouse café.  
Meet 09:30

9th Medium Health Walk (3-4 miles) from  
Lighthouse café. Meet 09:50

10th Meditation & Shamanic Circle  
4th Tuesday of the month 19:00 at  
21, West Street

11th Afternoon Tea Club at the  
Lighthouse Café 14:15 – 16:15

18th Warm Winter Wednesday –  
fortnightly games afternoon at the  
Lighthouse 14:00

19th Parish Councillor Surgeries at  
7, North Street, 3rd Thursday 10:00 –  
12:00 & 18:00 – 20:00

23rd Medium Health Walk (3-4 miles) from  
Lighthouse café. Meet 09:50

23rd Make Every Step Count Walk  
(40 minutes) from Lighthouse café.  
Meet 09:30

24th Meditation & Shamanic Circle  
4th Tuesday of the month 19:00 at  
21, West Street

25th Song Bus – free Toddler event at  
Frank's Corner Café 09:30 start.

25th Afternoon Tea Club at the  
Lighthouse Café 14:15 – 16:15

25th Gardening Club Talk – Pruning  
Shrubs at the Memorial Hall from  
19:15 for 19:30

26th Memorial Hall fundraising quiz at the  
Fleur de Lys 19:30

28th Working Party at St Mary's Church  
from 10:00 – 15:00

**APRIL**

8th Afternoon Tea Club at the  
Lighthouse Café 14:15 – 16:15