

Newsletter

AUTUMN 2023



Stewartby & Kempston Hardwick
PARISH COUNCIL

www.stewartbykhparishcouncil.gov.uk





Chairman's REPORT

Cllr Lee Melville
Chairperson

Welcome to the autumn edition of our newsletter, I hope that everyone enjoyed their summer time. As ever the Parish Council has been very busy especially in regards developing the use of Sports ground and youth facilities.

The Council created a new sub committee to develop the Dave Law Sports Ground and Pavilion where further investment has been made into the Pitches, including a new youth pitch, online booking system, summer youth football camps, a new defibrillator, adoption as the home ground for 4 local teams and of course not forgetting the upgraded BMX Pump track, we are delighted how well this has been received. The intention is to keep this facility growing in its use for the local community especially for the under 18's who are often overlooked when providing community services. It is hoped that shortly we can open a BMX Academy and develop the skills of the many budding riders who have flocked to the new track.

As a Council we work hard to keep the Village looking as nice as possible and are proud to put on the Summer show of

hanging baskets around the Village. It was extremely disheartening to see 13 baskets stolen overnight in June. We will review the security of these for next year. We have also agreed the need to invest further in the upkeep of Kempston Hardwick and our grounds team will undertake works from September and then ongoing.

I have been working with the residents of Montgomery Close over the recently opened link Road into Hanson's Reach. The new road layout is not yet complete as works are also required on Montgomery Close itself and traffic calming measures as in plan have yet to be delivered. Residents have voiced concern over an increased level of anti social driving, especially speeding. I am in ongoing talks about ensuring these works are carried out as soon as possible with temporary measures put in place till works are completed. Unfortunately, the wheels of the developer and Bedford Borough Highways don't turn at the speed of many road users! Speeding is an issue in many other areas of the Village too and we are also reviewing how this matter can be policed better.



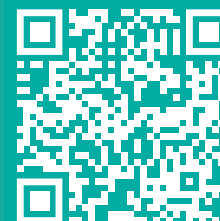
“Investment has been made to develop the Dave Law Sports Ground and Pavilion”

We often receive many complaints from residents of Hanson's Reach about the upkeep of the play areas and streets in general. Hanson's Reach is still under the control and management of Persimmon's and not the Council, with some areas also now managed by Encore. Highways adoption from the local authority is not expected until early 2025. In order to try and facilitate the many complaints we arranged a public meeting in the Village Hall for residents to raise their questions to the Directors of Persimmons and Encore. I can say that they heard the message loud and clear on how unhappy residents are and I hope that the management of the site will improve with a residents group been agreed to be set up. We will continue to monitor and push on these matters in the future.

Finally, work is already in hand for the planning of next years Village Summer event, which we hope to be our biggest yet. Having previously been restricted by temporary licences of up to 500, these events sold out but with still lots of capacity available. The Council has now secured a full premises licence for up to 1500 - watch this space, of course we will have our annual Christmas Fair and light switch on first, we look forward to seeing you there.

I hope that you all keep well until our next newsletter but feel free to contact me if I can assist you in any local matters

Don't forget to follow us on our socials and subscribe to our email news!



Stewartby Good Neighbour Scheme



We are looking to work with local residents to set up a Good Neighbour group in the village. We would like to know if you could volunteer to join us or if there is any way in which we might be able to help you. This is a voluntary group run by local residents who recognise the value in having 'good neighbours', particular where public transport and other local services can be limited and where people may not have family in the local area. Each volunteer decides what sort of help they are able to offer, how much and when.

They do not undertake jobs that would be carried out by qualified professionals but can help with things like occasional lifts, befriending or shopping. All volunteers are fully insured and have a DBS certificate.

Please could you complete this survey. Your replies will help us decide whether a scheme might work in our village and we look forward to receiving your completed survey.

If you would like to find out more, please contact debra.aitken@bedsrcc.org.uk

Possible Services	I might need this myself	I might be able to help with this
Occasional lifts to doctors, lunch clubs, shops, etc.		
Befriending – popping round for a chat over a cup of tea		
Form filling / letter writing / help with using a computer		
Collecting prescriptions, pensions, etc. / occasional help with shopping		
Small household repairs/practical tasks (such as changing a light bulb)		
Pet-care / dog-walking etc.		
Indoor plant watering / light gardening		
Being part of the phone rota, to answer callers and match them to a suitable volunteer		
Being part of the organising group – helping with publicity, fundraising, etc.		
Other – please specify		

Please return this survey to: The Village Hall or Sir Malcolm Stewart Homes

Name:

Address:

Telephone/ email:

What's On at the Village Hall?



Hall, Stage, Meeting Room and facilities available to HIRE.

For more information contact the hall clerk,

Niki at Email: villagehallstewartby@gmail.com or Phone: 01234 764 656

*****Children Party hire from £60 for 3 hours, to £95 for 5 hours*****

Day	Time	What's On?	Contact Details
Mon	10.00am to 11.00am	Pickle & Pea Play Toddlers 18mth+	Pickle & Pea Play - Chloe Call: 07710 802 377 Email: pickleandpeaplay@gmail.com bookwhen.com/pickleandpeaplay
	11.45am to 12.45pm	Babies 0 - 18mth	
	5.30pm to 6.30pm	Irish Dance Classes Age 4+	Slaney School of Irish Dance Call: 07450 051 533 Email: irishdanceslaney@gmail.com
Tue	5.00pm to 6.30pm	Inspire Musical Theatre Classes Age 3 – 18yr	Rosie Call: 07305 809 342 Email: inspirepa@outlook.com facebook.com/inspireperformingarts
Wed	Morning, various times	Little City Under 6s Play <u>Usually 3rd Wednesdays only</u>	Email: jen@littletcityuk.com Call: 07792 735 312 Book at: bit.ly/littletcitymk
	4.30pm to 8.30pm	Performing Arts Collective Children's Ballet, Modern, & Tap Classes	Trudie Call: 07598 352 223 Email: contact@pacollective.co.uk facebook.com/pacollectiveltd
Fri	9.45am to 10.45am	Baby Sensory Classes 4 to 13 mths	Baby Sensory Bedfordshire - Samantha Call: 07538 502 587
	11.05am to 12.05pm	Birth to 6 mths	Email: beds@babysensory.co.uk www.babysensory.com/beds
Sat	6:45pm to 7:45pm	Taekwondo Class Adult and children	Patrick O'Regan Call: 07741 314 847
	9:00am to 10:00am	Taekwondo Class Adult and children	Patrick O'Regan Call: 07741 314 847

BMX Day

Following the successful completion of the BMX pump track, it was a wonderful sight to see so many of our residents join us for the grand opening in June.

The pre-existing track had required improvements and we felt that we could further increase the layout to encourage more users to benefit from this local attraction. The environment on the day was one to remember, as we saw people from every generation enjoying the new BMX pump track and exploring the new layout.



The event was supported by some of our wonderful stall holders and food vendors, not forgetting the bouncy castles and zorb football. It really was a day to be enjoyed by all the family.

The track has continued to be a success with the younger generation, who are seen regularly using the area. We would like to ask that all users continue to do so, in a friendly and welcoming way to ensure any new riders are looked after.



Meeting Space @ Dave Law Sports Pavilion

Looking for a versatile venue to hold your next work meeting or event? What about the Dave Law Sports Pavilion. With a large main hall, an equipped kitchen, and ample parking, the Pavilion can accommodate groups of various sizes. Our facilities are perfect for meetings, training sessions, workshops, and

team-building events. The Pavilion has modern amenities including high-speed internet, audio-visual equipment, and refreshments can be provided also.

CONTACT
football@stewartbykhparishcouncil.gov.uk to book the Pavilion for your next work meeting or event!

SATURDAY 25TH NOVEMBER 2023 13:00 - 18:00

AN EVENT FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY TO ENJOY!

CHRISTMAS FAIR

MEET SANTA - CHRISTMAS CRAFTS - REFRESHMENTS

Stewartby Village Hall

Stewartby Way, Stewartby, MK43 9LU

Christmas light switch on at 6pm

Sponsor a star for the Stewartby tree

Meet Santa for £5 per child, includes a gift and craft activity

To book a stall or sponsor a star please email
clerk@stewartbykhparishcouncil.gov.uk



Marston Vale Line News



The three Class 150 (two carriage trains) which will serve the Marston Vale Line arrived at Bletchley Station from Newton Heath on 24th July. Each unit has an accessible toilet and can accommodate wheelchairs, buggies and cycles.

Technician training has started. Driver training will commence once this has been completed. Unlike driving a car, train drivers require specific training for every different type of train, and also need to refresh their training for each line at regular intervals.

Train services are due to resume in October. Updates will be posted on the Marston Vale CRP website and social media platforms.

A full rail replacement bus service (all stations and limited stop) will continue to be provided in the meantime. All vehicles are accessible.

A new rail replacement bus timetable was introduced on 22nd May in response to passenger feedback. The timetable is available at <https://www.marstonvalecommunityrail.org.uk/#times>. Alternatively please contact Stephen for a copy to be sent to you.

Refunds for delayed journeys of 15 minutes or more can be claimed from the London Northwestern Railway Delay Repay Scheme. Please visit <https://www.londonnorthwesternrailway.co.uk/about-us/delay-repay> for train journeys and e-mail contact lnr@wmtrains.co.uk for Rail Replacement Bus journeys.

Please purchase rail tickets from a staffed station, the Ticket Vending Machine (TVM) at unstaffed stations or via <https://www.londonnorthwesternrailway.co.uk/tickets-discounts/ticket-types>. Tickets purchased online can be collected at any TVM.

Please note the bus drivers are unable to issue rail tickets.

Please report any problems with Rail Replacement Buses to LNR via <https://www.londonnorthwesternrailway.co.uk/contact-us/customer-relations>. Problems with non-arrival or delayed buses can also be reported to LNR via Twitter – @LNRailway. The Twitter Team are available 24 hours per day.

No buses are provided on days when industrial action is taking place. Please check <https://www.nationalrail.co.uk> or call 03457 484950.



VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE

www.marstonvalecommunityrail.org.uk



FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

www.facebook.com/marstonvalecrp

Update from your local Borough Councillors

It's been a busy few months across the whole ward since the election. A highlight in representing the village of Stewartby was a meeting at the Incinerator plant in which Cllr Spice, and Mayor Tom went to make sure we all had the best interests of our residents at the forefront of the operation. We wanted to understand any impact that this site has for our residents.

We were very impressed with the facility, the operation and their consideration for our community. A good discussion was had where we asked challenging questions, and we will continue to remind them of the importance of taking local residents into consideration.

We also spoke about their reporting and it's accessibility for residents to find the data.

They took this feedback on board and we hope to see the reporting of their performance of the plant more accessible on their website. All in all it was a very educational visit for us.

There is an incredible visitor centre there that many schools and community groups visit - you just need to book and it is very informative. If you have any worries or concerns about the incinerator please do get in touch. Another recent highlight was attending the Stewartby Summer Fare. This was a fantastic community event and the residents of Stewartby are very fortunate to have such an enthusiastic organising team.



Andrea Spice

Andrea.spice@bedford.gov.uk



Graeme Coombes

Wilshamstead.ward@yahoo.co.uk



Marc Frost

Marc.frost@bedford.gov.uk

Follow us on Facebook @wixamsandwilstead

Rookery South ERF News



Following the start of full operations at Rookery South Energy Recovery Facility (ERF) in January 2022, the plant has been delivering on its promise to safely divert waste from landfill and generate much-needed baseload electricity in the process.

By the end of this year, Rookery South ERF will have processed approximately one million tonnes of residual, non-recyclable waste from homes and businesses throughout the area. That same waste could otherwise have been buried in landfill or exported overseas. Instead, it has enabled the generation of enough sustainable electricity to meet the annual needs of around 112,000 homes.

Meeting the stringent requirements of our environmental permit, the purpose of the facility is to extract as many resources as possible from the waste that has been thrown away – and put those resources to good use. That's how the facility contributes to the circular economy – by making use of materials

that already exist rather than relying entirely on the further mining of virgin resources. As well as electricity, we also produce approximately 1000,000 tonnes of recycled aggregate each year from the ash that's left after the combustion process. We recover the metals contained within the ash, which is recycled and used for new products.

After waste reduction, recycling and reuse efforts have been exhausted, energy recovery is considered the next best option for managing waste. That's the national perspective. But Rookery South ERF also benefits the local area in many ways and the management team strives to serve as a good neighbour.

Part of the community

One of the facility's first endeavours was to set up an independently-administered Community Trust Fund. In the first year of operation, Rookery South ERF donated almost £200,000 to local groups and projects including the Forest of Marston Vale Trust, Stewarthy Sailing Club and



Carers in Bedfordshire. Further donations will be made every year and you will find details of how to apply via the website www.rookerysoutherf.co.uk where you will be directed to the administrators of the fund, GrantScape. The team at the facility have also funded litter-picking initiatives and provided an all-weather footpath and cycle route to ensure the local landscape can be safely enjoyed by anyone. The Rookery North Circular Path has been formally adopted and is already attracting walkers, runners, nature enthusiasts and cyclists. Helping to look after the local environment is important to the team here.

In terms of the local economy, Rookery South ERF is committed to using local suppliers of goods and services wherever possible, and provides direct employment for more than 50 people, many of whom live locally. Rookery South ERF is now working on the launch of an apprenticeship scheme and is a

proud member of the Bedfordshire Chamber of Commerce.

Looking to the future

Rookery South ERF is set to remain as an important part of the area's social infrastructure, delivering vital services for many years to come, while making best use of the resources that exist within residual waste. Maintaining our outstanding safety record and being a good neighbour are also priorities for the future.

In addition, the operator of Rookery South ERF, Encyclis, is continually looking at ways to reduce its environmental impact in line with global sustainability goals and will strive to achieve the highest standards in the years ahead.

For further information, visit the website www.rookerysoutherf.co.uk where you will also find contact details if you want to get in touch.



Memorial Gardens

Lots of work has been carried out on the Memorial Garden last year including new plants and a new path which is better for walking on for both dogs and humans.

There are 4 memory walls in the corner of the garden which can have plaques on it and also we can offer a rose bush with a plaque or a bench.

The prices are as follows:

Plaque on wall 8" x 6" with lifetime maintenance £235

Rosebush with plaque and 15 years maintenance £800

Wooden Bench including plaque and 15 years maintenance £2000

If anyone would like to have these, we now have a form which can be requested from the Parish Clerk and returned so that we can order and add to the walls or gardens as required. Clerk@stewartbykhparishcouncil.gov.uk

needing help?

local charity could help.

A Wootton Charity, here to offer financial help if you are in real need and when other benefit payments can't be claimed for this item. For example in the past we have helped with furniture (beds, washing machines), costs of travelling to hospital, medical equipment and mobility equipment.

(Residents of Wootton and Stewartby only). For more information, please contact in confidence wootton.poorsland@gmail.com or Peter Ackroyd on 01234 768391



Wootton Poors Land Charity,
Registered charity number 200216

Football in Stewartby

This season we have a fantastic array of teams who will be playing on our sports fields. We wanted to introduce you to the teams so you know who to cheer when they are playing!



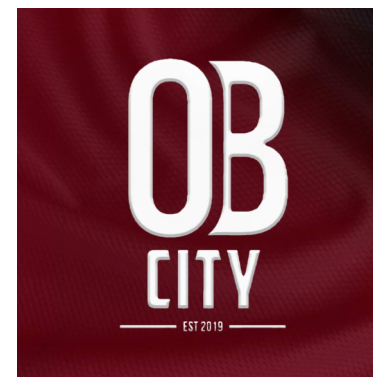
Stewartby FC

Tavistock Sound & Vision Division Three
Kickoff Sunday Mornings @ 10am



Punjab Lions (Primary & Reserves)

M&DH Insurance Division One
MDH Teamwear & Trophies Division Two
Kickoff Sunday Mornings @ 10am



OB City Bedford

Bedford Vehicle Trading Division Four
Kickoff Sunday Mornings @ 10am



Stewartby Youth FC

Children Aged 6 - 10
Kickoff Saturday Mornings 9-12pm

What's on Guide

OCT

Comedy Club 4 Kids
@ Quarry Theatre, Bedford

4 Oct
Since 2005, the Comedy Club 4 Kids has been getting the best stand-ups and sketch acts from the international circuit to do their thing for an audience of children and their families... but without the rude bits! It's just like a normal comedy club, but it's on in the day and kids are allowed in

Freaky Funfest
@ Mead Open Farm
21 Oct - 29 Oct
The Circus is coming to Mead Open Farm this October! Ticket includes a visit to the Pumpkin Patch and much, much more!

Wrest Park & Halloween Half-Term
@ Wrest Park
21 Oct - 29 Oct
Grab your broomsticks and get ready for a bewitchingly brilliant day out. Gather round for tales from spooky storytellers and solve creepy clues in our Halloween Quest.

Ghostly Crafts
@ Forest of Marston Vale
24 Oct
Make your own Halloween decorations! Just let your imagination run wild with the design and create something unique and scary!

Land of Lights
@ Gulliver's Land
Oct - Dec
Following a spectacular first season for Land of Lights Milton Keynes the festival is back for 2023. Look forward to a brand-new trail featuring 12 incredible worlds inspired by legendary fairytales and iconic characters. See classic tales in a whole new light!

The Monster March Trail
@ Forest of Marston Vale
25, 26, 27, 28 & 29 Oct
The Monster March has gone AWOL and now all the monsters are lost in the Sensory Wildlife Garden! Can you find them and get them back on track? Spot them all and complete the trail sheet and win a prize.

NOV
Family Fireworks & Farm Fun
@ Mead Open Farm
4 Nov
Join Mead Open Farm for an enchanting evening of fireworks and family farm fun!

The Jungle Book
@ The Place, Bedford
24 - 25 Nov
A tale of wisdom in our eternal quest for love, identity and belonging. You may think you know JUNGLE BOOK, but Indigo Moon Theatre's version is inspired by the poetry & spirit of Rudyard

Kipling's original books. Brought to life with inventive shadow theatre, powerful original music and colourful digital projections.

Christmas - An Enchanted Christmas Light Trail
@ Wrest Park
1 Dec - 1 Jan
Christmas at Wrest Park is a brand new, interactive light trail for 2023 set to bring colour, lights and play to Bedfordshire this December!

Christmas
@ Mead Open Farm
Dates throughout Dec
Enjoy the magic of Christmas at Mead Open Farm. There are so many great activities to enjoy!

Christmas Fair
@ Forest of Marston Vale
2 Dec
Explore handmade gifts from local businesses, food stalls, decorations, and more all whilst enjoying live music and carols throughout the day. You can even buy your Christmas tree from a local Christmas tree seller! 🎄

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland
@ The Place, Bedford
8 - 24 Dec
Follow the critically-acclaimed

Please
go to

[www.raring2go.co.uk/
bedford-and-biggleswade/
whats-on](http://www.raring2go.co.uk/bedford-and-biggleswade/whats-on)
for all the latest
information and details
of what's on in the area

Pantaloons down the rabbit hole for their own hilarious take on Lewis Carroll's nonsensical novel. All the unusual suspects are here: the mirthful Mad Hatter, the perpetually late White Rabbit, the quarrelsome Queen of Hearts and, of course, the adventurous Alice herself.

Breakfast with Santa
@ Forest of Marston Vale
10 Dec
A magical Christmas morning at the Forest Centre...
Come and join a festive morning of delicious food and fun with Santa. You can choose from a buffet style cooked full English breakfast or American style pancakes (plus juice, or a hot drink).

Jolly Christmas Crafts
@ Forest of Marston Vale
20 Dec
A festive and fun-filled craft session at the Forest Centre, where you can decorate your own Christmas themed object to take home and enjoy. All paints and utensils are provided by for you to create your own unique masterpiece.

Your Councillors and contacts

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Chair

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Stewartby & Kempston Hardwick
PARISH COUNCIL

Stewartby & Kempston Hardwick Parish Council
Council Office, Stewartby Village Hall, Stewartby Way,
Stewartby, Bedford, MK43 9LX

Share your thoughts

Use this space to let the council know your thoughts.

Ensure you add contact details if you would like us to get back to you.

Please cut this out and post it through the letterbox at the Village Hall

