



Shipston Forum

The community newsletter for Shipston-on-Stour

February 2013

Shipston Town Council maintains opposition to proposed large-scale developments on Campden Road

Following a passionate discussion in which a full range of views were expressed, Shipston Town Council voted to maintain its opposition to the proposed ASL development on the Campden Road. Councillors also voted to support the submission of additional evidence opposing the Cala Homes development, to the public inquiry being held in February.

After some debate, the town council supported the submission of additional information to the Cala Homes inquiry, prepared by the local business community and other interested parties, to ensure many of the original planning

arguments, including concerns about the loss of employment land, are considered. The inquiry will take place from 5th to 7th February at Elizabeth House, Stratford.

When it came to discussing the ASL proposal, the one indisputable fact was that opinion, both at the council meeting and across the town in general, was split. Fervent support for the proposal was met with equally fervent opposition, both among councillors and members of the public. This split was reflected in the vote when six councillors voted to change the town council's current position while six

objected to the change. The casting vote by Deputy Mayor, Veronica Murphy, means there is no change in town council policy and the council remains opposed to the proposal. Reflecting on the outcome, Ronnie Murphy said, "Shipston will be in a better position to determine its future once the neighbourhood plan is in place and I believe it would be better to wait until that plan, and the district council's Core Strategy, have been completed before developments of this scale are decided."

At the time of going to press, the ASL proposal was due to be heard by the Stratford District Council Planning Committee on 24th January at Shipston High School.



Don't let your dog cause disease

Dog fouling is not just unpleasant, it can be a health hazard. Shipston Town Council is calling on all dog owners to clean up after their pets as part of its *Proud of My Town* campaign.

It is illegal to allow your dog to foul public ground, be it a road, bridleway, footpath or field. Dog faeces often contains the roundworm toxocara which can cause the serious infection, toxocariasis, in humans. According to information produced by ENCAMS (now the Keep Britain Tidy campaign), toxocara eggs are not infectious until they embryonate, which is usually two to three weeks after they have been deposited by a dog. It is therefore safer to clean up after a dog immediately, but leaving mess lying around could be hazardous.

Keep Britain Tidy states many UK parks are contaminated with toxocara eggs. If ingested, either because hands haven't been washed properly or toys or other objects may have come into contact with dog faeces, toxocariasis can develop, sometimes leading to serious symptoms.

Shipston Town Council has joined forces with the police and

the district council dog warden to tackle the dog fouling issue. An action plan is being developed, which is expected to include awareness raising, reporting and fines. In the meantime, all dog owners are asked to ensure their dogs are wormed frequently and effectively and that any mess is rapidly cleaned up. Please consult your vet for further advice.

Mayor, Fay Ivens, said, "it is always a joy to see people out enjoying walks with their dogs, but there is no excuse for leaving dog mess lying around. I'm particularly shocked that so much dog mess can be found near schools and playgrounds. Please be responsible – clean up after your dog and use one of the many dog bins provided to safely dispose of the mess."



Mayor's column

Well, here we are well into 2013 but I must mention the two visits which we made on Christmas Day to the Ellen Badger Hospital and Low Furlong. It was a privilege to meet so many residents and visitors on that special day.

We had a good turnout for the first litter pick of 2013, when we were blessed with a lovely sunny spring like morning. Why not come and join us? We are a very friendly group and meet on the first Saturday of every month at New Clark House at 10am, followed by coffee and biscuits with a chance to chat and make new friends.

I would like to once again take this opportunity to thank the huge number of volunteers who do so much for our town. It never fails to amaze me to see just how many people give their time so freely for the benefit of others - not only for special events but also on a regular weekly basis. Thank you.

I am looking forward to my next Meet the Mayor visit at Shipston Primary School later this month. The first ones with Year 5 and 6 were a most enjoyable experience. I was delighted to meet the children, we had very interesting discussions about the town where they are growing up and they put forward some very well thought out questions and ideas.

I was delighted to hear that Mr. Sid Peachey has received a letter from Buckingham Palace in recognition of the fact that he has been involved with the building of all four Beacons during Her Majesty the Queen's Reign. Many, many congratulations Sid (The Gaffer) - what a marvellous achievement - we are very proud of you.

With another of my 'hats' on, if it snows and you are unable to clear your front path or need any other assistance during periods of bad weather please do not hesitate to get in touch with Georgina or Liz at the town council office on 662180 or myself on 662133.

Fay Ivens



Town council calls on WCC to rethink bus chaperone policy

Town and district councillors united in their opposition to Warwickshire County Council's plans to remove chaperones from buses taking children as young as four to and from school. At the January town council meeting, Shipston's county councillor, Chris Saint, also admitted he was not in favour of the plans.

Although the number of Shipston children directly affected by these plans is very small, a number of neighbouring parishes may be more seriously affected.

Shipston Town Council agreed to write to WCC to express its concerns about this cost saving initiative, which will deliver limited savings and yet, it believes, could have a significant impact on the safety and wellbeing of the children, bus drivers and other road users.

Anyone wishing to add their name to a countywide petition against the plans should visit <http://bit.ly/11t528M>.

Aged 18-21 and want to polish your CV? Shipston Rotary needs YOU!

Students from many parts of the world, including several from the UK, will attend the annual Rotary Youth Leadership Course at Moreton Morrell College in July and Shipston Rotary is looking to sponsor a local person to attend.



The supervised course aims to build self confidence and self-esteem through a variety of indoor and outdoor challenges. All successful students are presented with the Rotary Youth Leadership Award at the end of the course, a persuasive asset on a CV. The course takes place from 14th-19th July 2013.

Shipston Rotary is looking to sponsor someone from the local area who is reasonably physically fit, who wants to have fun while developing their leadership skills. If you think you are up to the challenge or to find out more, please email Nigel Willis on nigel872@btinternet.com

Calling all knitters - join the Wool Fair blanket brigade!

Work is underway to create a fabulous pure wool blanket for this year's Wool Fair. Lots of squares, in all neutral colours (beige, brown, creams) measuring 8"x8" are required. They can be knitted in any pattern.....cable, plain, rib, garter stitch.

Simply take your squares along to Nicki at Shipston Needlecraft on Sheep Street, where they will be eventually sewn together to form the beautiful blanket.

Stratford District Council tackles empty homes

Stratford District Council has begun an empty homes project, seeking to bring abandoned or empty homes back into positive use. Shipston has been identified as one of six hotspots, with 15 homes currently being monitored.

The scheme affects privately owned residential properties which have been empty for more than six months. Genuine second homes and holiday homes are excluded.

Leaving homes empty can attract anti social behaviour, fly tipping and can decrease the value of neighbouring properties by 18%. However, if brought back into use, the homes can reduce the need for additional housing development and generate funds for the community.

SDC's empty homes team is on hand to advise owners of currently empty homes what options might be available, such as renovation grants. The officers can also work with the police to enforce action where necessary. For information or to report an empty home, contact the team on 01789 260866.



January's hot topics

Badger without stripes: Jackie Warner raised the lack of white lines at Badger's Crescent which have been worn away. The High Street markings are due to be repainted soon.

Pothole pointers: Councillors reported potholes on Station Road and the Gyratory. The Gyratory is due to be resurfaced in the summer.

Litter pick progress: Fay Ivens thanked the many litter pickers who turned up to the first litter pick of 2013. The regular monthly sessions have been going from strength to strength. More volunteers are always welcome. For details, see page 7.

Stratford Road: Chris Saint confirmed that WCC is looking into jet cleaning the blocked areas around Cripplegate to reduce problems with the road flooding in heavy rain.

Flood marker: Chris Saint will discuss with the highways department a proposal by Philip Vial that a marker be installed by the roadside on the Shipston side of the bridge, enabling cars to see the depth of the water when flooding occurs.

Campaigning for Shipston

Hornsby Close appeal: Paul Rathkey represented the council at Hornsby Close planning appeal in December. The main objections were the proximity to the rugby club and visual impact of the development. SDC planning committee supported STC's objections but they were overruled by the district's regulatory committee. The outcome is expected by the end of January.

Orbit development on London Road: Many councillors attended the Orbit consultation, proposing up to 90 new houses on London Road. Concerns were raised about the intention to build on an area of restraint and the siting on the proposed access on the brow of the hill. A planning application is expected in March.

Campden Road developments: A number of members of the public shared their views on the proposed developments on Campden Road, which were considered by councillors (see page 1 for more details).

Recycling at the Hub: Proposals to remove recycling facilities at the Sheldon Bosley Hub were strongly opposed by town and district councillors. STC will respond to the consultation, requesting that the facilities remain.

One-way street: Following a suggestion from a member of the public, STC will propose to WCC that the road outside Mrs Brown's Teashop be made one way into the High Street.

Town Council business

Community Forum: The three priorities for Shipston's Safer Neighbourhood Team agreed at the December forum are outlined on page 12. The next forum will take place on 5 March at Ilmington Village Hall.

Last chance for the bus shelter: General Purposes group has agreed to repaint and regularly sweep out the Stratford Road bus stop in a last ditch attempt to make it a more pleasant area to wait for a bus. If the situation doesn't improve, the shelter may have to be replaced.

Communications contracts: The contract to produce the Shipston Forum from April 2013 to March 2014 has been awarded to Catherine Martin Communications and KMS Litho. The Forum will continue to be delivered with the Midweek newspaper. A decision on the website contract has been deferred pending further discussions.

Councillor's new home: Mark Wildish expressed his regret that he has had to leave Shipston in order to move into social housing in Stratford as no four-bedroomed houses were available locally. He intends to remain as a Shipston town councillor, however.

Snow clearing: Lawns2Mow will be asked to clear major footways in and around town in the event of snowfall.

Cemetery improvements: Work will be undertaken shortly to fill the muddy dip and repair or replace the broken gate at the Cemetery.

New Clark House Update

Neighbourhood Plan progress

We are pleased to report that we have been able to secure support from the Department of Communities and Local Government to assist with Shipston's neighbourhood plan.

An organisation called Locality has committed substantial time to support the process and we intend to ask them to focus on the community engagement programme.

In addition, over 30 local volunteers have signed up to help develop the plan and Stephen Miles is now sifting through and matching those volunteers to the set of major issues identified at the launch event.

In the meantime, the required notices have now been published announcing Shipston's intention to proceed with a Neighbourhood Plan and inviting residents to write in with any comments. For details, please see the ad on page 9.

New Street Car Park

Please note that the New Street Car Park will be closed from 4th February for up to 20 weeks to enable the scout hut to be rebuilt. For further details, please see the article on page 4.

Reporting potholes

We have contacted WCC Highways to let them know about several new potholes in the town's roads. Please continue to let us know about any new potholes that you see. It is really helpful and Highways are always grateful for the information.

Customer Access Terminal

The CAT, offering access to Stratford District Council from the convenient location of New Clark House, is due to be installed by the end of January. Look out for more details in the next issue of the Forum or come and try out the new terminal during February.

Georgina Beaumont:

Town Clerk
01608 662180
e: clerk@shipstononline.org



A bright future for Shipston Youth Club

Twelve months ago it was feared that Shipston Youth Club would close due to the withdrawal of local authority funding, but now it is going from strength to strength.

A new management committee was formed, grants were successfully applied for, and thanks to generous donations from Shipston Town Council and Shipston Rotary Club, the Youth Club was re-launched in September. New entertainment equipment was installed and the club recently passed its first milestone - successfully supporting young people in the community for three months.

Volunteers and club members are making all this possible through generously giving their time or helping out with fundraising initiatives. Towards the end of 2012, members of the Youth Club attended the Shout concert at Honington Church from which the Youth Club received another generous donation, while more members prepared non-alcoholic fruit punch and mince pies to sell at the Shipston Victorian Evening, raising a healthy £107 for club funds.

Plans are afoot to arrange a packed programme of activities over the coming months, such as graffiti art, cooking, recycled fashion, sports and lots more. During the summer the club will be arranging another Xfest – details to follow.

If you're interested in joining or supporting Shipston Youth Club, years 7 and 8 meet on alternate Tuesdays from 7pm until 9pm and seniors meet on Wednesday evenings from 7.30pm until 9.30 pm.

For more information please contact Secretary Richard Baldwin 01608 662178 or email Youth Leader Katie Corby shipstonyc@yahoo.co.uk



Table football - one of many activities available at the Youth Club

Greenfields gears up for healthy eating and activity week

Greenfields Nursery is busy preparing for a series of activities designed to teach the children about healthy eating, and encourage an active lifestyle.

Activities will include a visit from local dentist, Carrie Preston, to talk about how what you eat affects your teeth, a specially prepared buffet of less common food to encourage the children to try different dishes, and exercises to help the children keep their bodies healthy.

The nursery will also be holding a "Wellie Waddle", where all the children will be encouraged to pull on their wellies and walk around the Rugby field to raise money for Cystic Fibrosis.

Nursery manager, Lesley Tavener, said "as adults, we tend to know how important healthy eating and regular exercise is to maintain good health – even if we are less good at putting it into practice! We want to help ensure children know how they can look after their health at the earliest opportunity – and we'll make sure everyone has plenty of fun along the way!"



The children get ready for some advice on healthy eating

Bulldozers at the ready as work starts on new scout hut

February will see the start of work to demolish and rebuild the scout hut in New Street after a lengthy battle to secure funding.

The new hall will provide a much improved appearance and facility for the scouts and guides as well as the wider community.

In the short term, there will unfortunately be inconvenience to ensure the demolition and construction can take place safely. Weather permitting, the start date will be the 4th February 2013 for a period of twenty weeks.

The New Street car park will be fenced off from the end of the pathway to the rear of the properties backing on to the site property, up to the recreation area, across the rear of the hut and then from the end of the allotments back to the back wall of the houses in Cherry Orchard.

David Wright, Group Scout Leader, said "we apologise for any inconvenience caused but every effort will be made to keep this to a minimum. Once the main structure is up and weather-proofed we will review the situation and adjust the fencing if it is safe and practical to do so."

Shipston Primary School

Shipston On Stour Primary School



Pupils celebrate £1,000 windfall

Young politicians from Shipston Primary's School Council are celebrating the news that they have been awarded a £1,000 grant towards an adventure playground, thanks to Shipston Town Council.

Three elected members from Year 6 joined a Town Council meeting where they gave a compelling presentation, explaining their role working to improve Shipston Primary for other young people in the town and raising funds for local and national causes.

Pupils explained how their school had raised half of its £30,000 target for a new adventure playground and shared fundraising plans to finish all three stages in the future.

Stage one was completed in June when the Olympic Trail was opened and the School Council and Friends of Shipston Primary (FOSP) continue to look for alternative and creative ways to raise money for the project.

Christian Hilton, Head of Federation, said: "We are extremely grateful to the Town Council and proud of our pupils, who gave an excellent presentation and spoke passionately about the project."

School trip goes underground

Reported by Owain Jones, Year 6

On Tuesday 11th December, an overwhelmed Year 6 travelled to London to visit the Imperial War Museum.

At 8am, we set off from school (by coach) to London Marylebone station. It was a long, yet exciting journey. When we got off we headed to the London Underground (Tube). A

short walk to the museum followed our arrival at Lambeth North.

As we dropped off our bags, we ventured up to the Cecil Beaton (War Photography) exhibit. Intrigued by the photographs we carried on our visit. Next we visited the 'Secret War' – a spy exhibit. We saw weaponry and their radio-like communication tools. It had been the best part of the trip so far.

After a quick look at the planes Focke-Wulf (German), Spitfire (British), and Mustang (US) we headed to lunch. Eating our scrumptious lunch filled our bellies so we had enough energy for the last exhibit - 'Family in Wartime'. As we walked into the exhibit everyone rushed over to the awaiting Anderson shelter. We finally visited the shop where we bought some very good items.

Our time in London had ended and we headed home with a mini tour of the sights from Mr. Walsh. We arrived home at 5:30pm.

What a day!



Pupils try out a shelter at the Imperial War Museum

Shipston High School

High School hosts primary school conference

At the start of the New Year the High School was delighted to play host to 140 teachers from primary schools across south Warwickshire for a day conference on 'Good to Outstanding Teaching!' The conference was organised by members of the 'Stour Valley Professional Learning Community', the close working partnership that exists between the local primary schools and the High School.

The conference was led by an invited national expert on teaching, Andy Meller, who in the past has been a headteacher of several primary schools. He is currently a full-time trainer although he confided he also earns an income from some occasional acting. Certainly, his theatrical talents stood him in good stead when it came to holding the attention of his large audience for the day. Teachers attending the conference were not only enthused by the content of his presentations but also clearly appreciated his humorous style of delivery!

As well as providing its school Hall for the day, the High School's catering team led by Catering Supervisor, Margaret Betteridge, laid on a sumptuous lunch buffet for the delegates which also proved to be another highlight. Fortunately, as the day was a staff training day with no students on site, the team didn't need to worry about providing meals for the few hundred much younger hungry mouths it normally has to feed!

The conference, in addition to being an excellent showcase for the close relationship that exists between local primary schools and the High School, was another illustration of the High School's wider commitment to its local community. As well as the conference the High School continues to offer weekly lessons in science and technology to primary pupils along with an annual 'Eco Day', 'Creative Arts Day', 'Health Day' and a range of sporting activities. Margaret Betteridge's team also regularly provide lunches and refreshments for invited groups of visitors from the Shipston area who come to see the school. Without a doubt, the High School really does see itself as a school both 'in' and 'for' its local community.



High School catering team met the challenge of feeding hungry delegates

Shipston choirs fill the air with music and song

Shipston's Stour Singers' annual Christmas Concert at St Edmunds in December 2012 provided a delightful evening of musical entertainment for all. The singers, led by Richard Emms, presented Bach's exquisite Christmas Oratorio, attracting a wonderful quartet of professional soloists, and the experienced Cherwell Orchestra.

Less than a week later, the Stour Singers led a "Grand Carol Sing" in the Townsend Hall - a first for the choir - where audience participation was of the highest order, and refreshments were plentiful.

Stour Singers has a tradition of making music with members of the community who are not able to be out and about, and enjoyed a convivial carol evening at Rainbow Fields just before Christmas. Sadly the Ellen Badger Hospital had succumbed to norovirus, so the choir was unable to sing there.

Chamber choir, Cantamus, also led by Richard Emms, had a very busy musical December themselves, singing a beautiful blend of madrigals, motets, folk-songs and carols

at Compton Verney for the award-winning gallery's winter weekends.

Cantamus' next concert is the popular annual afternoon event, now in its third year. On Sunday 3rd. March the choir will perform a concert for Mad March Hares at the Townsend Hall, with music, readings, and opportunities for the audience to sing, accompanied by tea and home-made cakes. For full details see the ad on page eight.



Cantamus chamber choir in action

Usher in the spring with the Shipston Home Nursing Fashion Show

Shipston Home Nursing is holding a Spring Fashion Show, presented by Justina of Wellesbourne, to be held at Walton Hall on Thursday 14th March.

Included as part of the show will be an auction of Jewellery kindly donated by Howard Jewellers. held with none other than Nick Hewer of The Apprentice.

The event, which begins at 7pm, includes a Champagne and Canape reception followed by a two course dinner. Tickets cost £40 per person and spaces are limited. To book, please call Rebecca on 01608 674929 or Justina on 01789 841562. For details of other local events, visit www.shipstonhomenursing.co.uk

Developing Shipston High School – public meeting

Following the piece in last month's Forum, the High School has received some very welcome support for its plans to re-develop the school site starting with a new teaching block of six classrooms and a new multi-purpose, community sports hall.

Such has been the level of interest in the plans that the school has decided to hold a public meeting to explain its proposals in more detail, to give Shipston residents the chance to view the architects' drawings in person and to invite comments.

The meeting is open to all and will take place on Thursday 7th February 2013 at 7.00 p.m Shipston High School.

See the advert on page 16 for more information.

Take your partner by the hand...

The Shipston Wool Fair Committee is holding a Barn Dance at the Townsend Hall, Sheep Street, on Friday 1st March.

Everyone is welcome to join the fun and help raise funds for the 2013 Wool Fair.

The Silver Bough Band will be providing music and a dance caller, so all you need to do is join in and follow the instructions for a great time!

For more details go to www.shipstonwoolfair.org, or look out for the posters.



Lions gear up for annual Senior Citizens' Party

On Saturday 16th March, Stour Valley Lions will host its popular Senior Citizens' party at Shipston High School. With a theme of 'A party for the young at heart' the event will include drinks, professional entertainment, music from Shipston Town Band, afternoon tea and cakes.

The Lions are keen to ensure no one misses out. If you would like to attend but have not previously had an invite or you have recently moved into the area, please pass your name and address to any Lion member or ring David Squires on 664065.

The party starts at 2.00pm and transport and wheelchairs are also available for anyone who is unable to attend without assistance.



Regular events:

- Mon Citizens Advice Bureau:** Mornings, New Clark House. To book a free appointment, call 01789 200136
- Mon Mess Around:** Messy play for under 5's. Mondays during term time in Holden Room from 9.30am. Contact: Kristie Monaghan 07500 772514
- Mon Little Kickers:** Fun for Toddlers with soft footballs. Townsend Hall. Various sessions. Contact Helen Johnson - Tel 01869 323186 or hjohnson@littlekickers.co.uk
- Mon Shipston Duplicate Bridge Club:** 7pm for 7.15pm, Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote R, Shipston-on-Stour. Call Penny Law 663871
- Mon Zumba:** 7.45pm Shipston High School. £5. Other weekly classes also available. Contact: Debbie 07966 746794
- Tues Stroke Club:** Alternate Tuesdays (5, 19). 10am-12pm Room No 2, Ellen Badger Hospital.
- Tues Rhyme time for under 2s:** Alternate Tuesdays (15th and 29th). 10.45am Shipston Library. Free. Contact: 661255
- Tues Age Concern Lunch Club** at Stour Court. Contact: Stella, 686224
- Tues Bingo:** Alternate Tuesdays. Doors open at 6.30pm. Eyes down at 7.30pm. Sheldon Bosley Hub. Contact: 661886
- Tues Shipston on Stour Rotarians:** Halford Bridge Hotel, 7.30pm. Contact Adrian Ramskill 0797 656 6525.
- Weds St John's Ambulance:** Adults division. Meet at Shipston Fire Station, 7pm. Contact: Josie Bayliss, 684834
- Weds Tai Chi:** Gentle tai chi, 12.30-1.30pm. Townsend Hall, £5. Contact Debbie Wild, 07773 318830 or email debbie@swantaichi.co.uk
- Thur Age Concern Lunch Club** at Rainbow Fields Contact: Diana 01789 740627
- Thur Age Concern gentle exercise and relaxation class:** 2.15-3.13pm, Rainbow Fields. Contact Leigh, 665995
- Fri Walks over fields with friendly group.** Leaves Old Mill car park at 10am. Contact: Marlene, 663616
- Fri Bridge** 10.15am – 12.15pm Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road. Contact Val Young on 01608 238754 or 07516 091786
- Fri Shipston Probus:** alternate Fridays (8, 22)
- Fri Age Concern Lunch Club** at Stour Court. Contact: Linda, 662290

There are lots of regular classes on at the Townsend Hall. They include: line dancing, badminton, short tennis, yoga, ballet, Calypso kids music, Zumba, modern jazz dancing and circuit training. For more details, visit www.townsendhall.com or call Lisa Bryan on 07800 771368.

February Diary

- 1 Shipston Dementia Resource and Support Cafe:** Information about Dementia by Wendy Harkness. 2pm-3.30pm, Stour Court, Old Road. Contact: Barbara Smith 662433
- Chamber of Commerce Business Advice Surgeries:** Free advice sessions by appointment at Stour Enterprise Centre, Astech Mill, Stratford Road. 1pm – 4pm. To book, call 629693
- Shipston-on-Stour and District Twinning Association:** Quiz Evening. 7.30pm, Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road, Shipston-on-Stour. Teams of up to 4, cost £7.50/adult, including ploughman's supper. Bring your own drink.
- 1-2 Shipston Amateur Dramatic Society presents The Sleeping Beauty.** See ad on page 16.
- 2 Shipston Town Council Monthly Litter Pick:** All welcome. Meet at New Clark House, West Street at 10am. Equipment & refreshments provided. Contact: Fay Ivens 662133 or fayivens@aol.com

- 4 Stour Valley Visually Impaired Group:** Shipston Home Nurses with Rebecca Mawle. 2pm, Stour Court. Contact: Shirley Pilkington 662684
- 5 Multiple Sclerosis Society 'Drop in' meeting:** 10.30am at the George Hotel. Contact: Ann Bartlett 666161
- 6 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 10am-4pm, The Coach House, Church Street, Shipston (opposite the Library). Books include fiction, children's, cookery, gardening, art etc. To donate books contact Lion David Squires on pinnegards@tiscali.co.uk
- National Organisation of the Widowed:** Lunch 12pm. Contact: Barbara Bean 663230
- Shipston-on-Stour Women's Institute:** Mini Bridge – Val Younge. 7pm, Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road. Contact: Mal Lawrence 662122
- 7 Story Stomp:** Storytelling for 2-5 year olds. 10.30am, Shipston Library. Free. Contact: 661255
- Shipston High School:** Public meeting to discuss school building project. Architects' drawings available to view. Comments welcome. 7pm Shipston High School. See ad on page 16
- 8 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9am-4pm. Details as above.
- Dementia carers support group exploratory meeting:** 10am, New Clark House, West Street. See page 10 for details.
- Stour Valley Lions Rural Cinema presents 'Gambit':** For details see ad on page 8.
- 9 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9am-2pm. Details as above.
- Mayor's Surgery:** 10am, High Street
- 11 Shipston Town Council Monthly Meeting:** 7pm, New Clark House. All welcome. Contact: Georgina Beaumont 662180
- 12 Stour Valley Baptist Church Holiday at Home:** See ad on page 16 for details.
- Shipston Flower Club:** 'Winter Warmer' by Susan Smithson. 7.30pm, Shipston Primary School, Station Road. Non-members welcome. Contact: 01295 788099
- Stour Valley Lions Monthly Meeting:** 8pm, The George Hotel, Shipston. All welcome.
- 13 Shipston & District Gardening Club:** The Garden in Winter – John Page. 7.30pm, Catholic Church, Darlingscote Road. Contact: Tony Mitchell 666933
- 15 Shipston Music Society presents 'Stringbeans':** See ad on pg 9.
- 17 The Porter Family in Concert:** in aid of St Edmunds Church. See ad on page 8 for details.
- 18 Stour Valley Visually Impaired Group:** Palestine - Israel. 2pm, Stour Court. Contact: Shirley Pilkington 662684
- 19 Shipston Arts and Crafts Society:** The Arts & Crafts Movement in the Cotswolds by Kirsty Hartsiotis. 7.30pm, Catholic Church Hall. Contact: Penny Law 663871
- 20 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 10am-4pm. Details as above.
- National Organisation of the Widowed:** Meeting. 10.30am-12pm, Coach and Horses. Contact: Barbara Bean 663230
- Neighbourhood Watch Meeting:** Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner Ron Ball to attend. 7.30pm, New Clark House. Contact: George Houghton 662603
- 22 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9am-4pm. Details as above.
- 23 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9am-2pm. Details as above.
- Townsend Hall Annual Quiz:** See ad on page 9
- 27 Shipston and District Literary Society:** Literary Influences of the Book of Common Prayer by Tom Winniffrith. 7.30pm, The George Hotel. Contact: Mary Edwards 01789 450737 or Malcolm Pollard 663482



STOUR VALLEY LIONS **BOOK SHOP**



**Now open on Wednesdays,
10am-4pm**

For full details of opening hours, see the What's On diary.

**February focus:
Transport through the ages**

**Venue: The Coach House, Church Street,
Shipston on Stour**

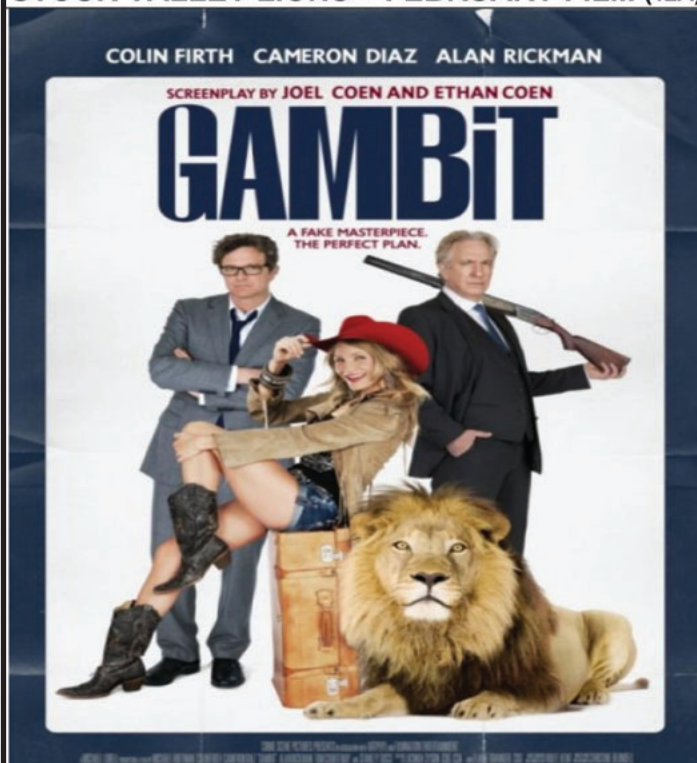
(opposite the Shipston Library, adjacent to the White Bear Car Park)

**Huge selection of fiction, non-fiction and children's books.
All proceeds to local charities.**

Books in GOOD condition are always gratefully accepted,
contact as below, we regret we can't accept books at the Coach House.

New Members always welcome, contact Lion David Squires,
e.mail pinnegards@tiscali.co.uk

STOUR VALLEY LIONS – FEBRUARY FILM (12A)



SHIPSTON HIGH SCHOOL
Friday 8th February, 2013 at 7:00 pm

Advance Tickets £3.50 (£4 on door)

From: R. Clarke Electrical, 27 High Street, Shipston On Stour.
Or Lion Judith Jackson. Tel: 01608-661148
Raffle and Refreshments

SHIPSTON TWINNING ASSOCIATION

INTERESTED IN TWINNING,
MEETING AND MAKING
NEW FRIENDS?

WE ARE LOOKING FOR FAMILIES
TO HOST OUR FRENCH
VISITORS FROM:

TORIGNI SUR VIRE

FROM THURSDAY 25–28th APRIL, 2013

CAN YOU HELP?

CONTACT:

Keith McCarthy on 01608 662652

Lynda Sheehan on 01608 661600

CantamuS

Musical Director - Richard Emms

MAD MARCH HARES

- a Sunday afternoon entertainment
with tea and home-made cakes –

Sunday 3rd. March 2013 at 3.00.p.m. in
the Townsend Hall, Shipston-on-Stour.

Tickets cost £10
(no charge to accompanied children)

Telephone 01789 269587 for further information.

Concert given by

The Porter Family

*raising money for
St Edmunds Church*

**at the Townsend Hall,
Sheet Street
Shipston on Stour CV36 4AE**

**Sunday 17 February
2.30pm**

Interval for tea and raffle

Tickets £10 from R Clarke, High St
Shipston or on the door



It's QUESTION TIME !!

Asking the questions are members of last years winning team
Rose Morris and Steph Howells.

Join us at
TOWNSEND HALL,
Shipston on Stour

ANNUAL QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday, 23rd February 7.30 pm

Teams of 4 £20, which includes light refreshments

Raffle

Licensed Bar

All proceeds to Townsend Hall improvements

To book a table contact
Peter Johnson or Jenny Glover
01608 664456 01608 662197

Townsendhall.com



SHIPSTON MUSIC SOCIETY

Presents

"Stringbeans"

*Bethany Porter String
Quartet*

Friday February 15th 7.30pm

at Shipston Methodist Church

Guests Welcome £5.00

For further details ring 01608 663207



STRATFORD-ON-AVON DISTRICT COUNCIL
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990
NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING (GENERAL)
PLANNING REGULATIONS 2012

Application for the designation of a neighbourhood plan area by Shipston-on-Stour Town Council

Notice is given that Stratford-on-Avon District Council has received from the Shipston-on-Stour Town Council an application under Part 2, Regulation 5 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, to designate the area comprising the civil parish of Shipston-on-Stour as a neighbourhood within the meaning of section of Section 61G of 1990 Act (see explanatory note below).

A copy of the application and a map can be viewed on the Council website at www.stratford.gov.uk/nplan or at Stratford-on-Avon District Council's offices, Elizabeth House, Church Street, Stratford-upon-Avon, and Stratford-upon-Avon and Shipston-on-Stour libraries during normal opening hours.

Representations on whether the civil parish of Shipston-on-Stour is deemed an appropriate area may be made to the Council no later than 5pm on Friday 22nd February 2013. They may be made either online, using the link above, by emailing planning.policy@stratford-dc.gov.uk or by writing to Policy Team, Stratford-on-Avon District Council, Elizabeth House, Church Street, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6HX

Paul Lankester, Chief Executive

Date 10th January 2013

Explanatory Note

Following the introduction of the Localism Act 2011, the purpose of designating a Neighbourhood Area is for a Neighbourhood Plan to then be prepared for that area. The Shipston-on-Stour Town Council is currently preparing a neighbourhood plan and this application now seeks to formalise the process.

WWW.STRATFORD.GOV.UK

Dementia Carers Drop-in Support Group

A new facility is to be launched to add to the support already available in Shipston and the surrounding villages for those involved in dementia care.

The aim of the group is to be able to offer some advice and peer support to dementia carers.

An exploratory meeting is to be held at New Clark House in Shipston at 10am on February 8th to explain the value and purpose of such a facility.

Volunteers are needed to help in formulating this group; we particularly need people with an understanding of dementia who would be prepared to meet and greet participants and help with refreshments.

We hope that this group will be meeting once a month starting on March 8th at 10am in the New Clarke House in Shipston. For further information, please contact Barbara Smith on 01608 662433.

Stour Valley Lions Lions February Film



The blockbuster film for February is a crime comedy 'Gambit' (12A) starring Colin Firth, Cameron Diaz, Alan Rickman, Stanley Tucci and Tom Courtenay. An art curator Harry Deane is an expert in fine art, but he's equally accomplished in taking abuse from his insolent boss. That's about to change. The plan - trick the avid art collector into buying a fake Monet painting. To assist in the heist, Deane hires a rowdy Texas cowgirl to help him fool the richest man in England. But as the plan begins to unravel, Deane finds he is falling in love with the rodeo queen, ensuing further complications.

The film will be shown at Shipston High School on Friday the 8th February at 7.00pm.

Donation to Agape

At the January business meeting Lion President John Cavana presented a cheque for £200 to Karen Olorenshaw. Agape means unconditional love. Karen has and will again soon be travelling to Hyderabad in India during her holidays to join up with Agape workers helping the children and adults who live off the rubbish tips. Their work provides food, clothing, schooling and refuges for families who would otherwise live under plastic sheets.

Lions Meetings

The next Lions business meeting will be held at The George Hotel on the 12th February. If you would like to attend to understand what Stour Valley Lions are involved with - you are welcome to join us.

Neighbourhood Watch

The next meeting of Shipston Neighbourhood Watch will be at New Clark House rather than the normal venue of the Scout Hut. However, the meeting will start at the normal time of 7.30pm.

The new Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner, Ron Ball, has agreed to attend.



Shipston WI



After a cheery welcome and New Year greeting from our newly formed committee, it was on to the talk for the evening from our first speaker for 2013, Janet Jarvis. We have been fortunate to have Janet speak to us before and as usual her talk was very entertaining. This time, her talk, 'Strangler at the Door', was a collection of tales of her time running a B&B in Kent.

We heard riotous stories of her guests, both young and old, from all parts of Europe and beyond. Some were holidaying in England and some were working, mainly in the construction industry. Over a period of ten years she had some amazing guests, both inside and outside, (sleeping in tents in her garden). Many of her guests returned year on year, with some, like the construction workers, staying for many, many weeks.

Her stories were very amusing, particularly tales of beds and the toilet! Did she have a strangler at the door? Well she's not absolutely certain, but she did have cause to believe one may have stayed at her B&B around the time a murder occurred on Romney Marshes!

A great beginning to what will be an interesting variety of speakers this year. If you would like to join us, you would be most welcome. We meet on the first Wednesday of the month at The Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road at 7 pm. Why not come along

Shipston Beekeepers

Would you like to keep bees?

A lot of people keep bees because they produce honey, one of the healthiest and most natural foods and one which has been valued by man since prehistory as a sweetener. Others keep bees because they are interested in the study of bees and of their habits; bees are fascinating creatures and there is always something new to learn about them.

With no means of dealing with the varroa mite that is now present in all UK honey bee colonies, a feral honey bee nest is unlikely to remain viable for more than a couple of seasons. With the help of beekeepers it is only managed colonies that can survive to carry out the essential pollination our food crops. Beekeeping is an enjoyable open air hobby bringing you in contact with people from all walks of life. Bees can be kept by almost everyone except a very small minority who are allergic to bee stings.

Shipston Beekeepers is holding an "Introduction to Beekeeping" day on Saturday 9th March at the Old Free School, Brailes OX15 5HT. The day will deal with the basics of beekeeping for the complete beginner or those with very limited experience of this craft.

Arrive at 09.30 for coffee prior to a prompt 10.00 start. Refreshments, a light lunch and a practical beekeeping reference manual are included in the day's price of £40. The event is scheduled to finish at 15.30 approx.

Contact Douglas Nethercleft on 07850 352905 or djn0001@aol.com to book your place. Numbers are limited.

Shipston Senior Citizens Action Network (SCAN)



A group of over 30 people met on 8th January, to hear an excellent talk about safeguarding vulnerable adults by Rhiannon Price Jones from Warwickshire County Council.

Whilst most people are aware of the high profile, distressing cases of ill treatment of children, less is known at the treatment of vulnerable adults. It was explained that people with learning disabilities, people with mental health needs, older people, people with sensory impairments, people who misuse alcohol or drugs can all be vulnerable to ill treatment. Abuse can be wide ranging and can include issues such as physical, sexual, financial, material, and psychological treatment.

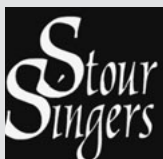
Hopefully instances of abuse are rare but Rhiannon said the County Council and other agencies such as the NHS and the Police treat all reports very seriously.

Anyone who has concerns that a vulnerable adult is at risk of significant harm through abuse should ring Warwickshire County Council on 01926 412080.

Following the talk the members used their "mastermind" skills to take part in a quiz which was very much enjoyed.

Shipston SCAN meetings are free and held bi monthly on the 2nd Tuesday of each alternate month at the Townsend Hall commencing at 10.30am. All over 50's are very welcome. The next meeting is on 12th March when speakers from Arrhythmic Alliance and the Widowed Association have been invited to attend. For further information please contact Alan Bartlett on 01608 666161 or Jane Pearce on 663491.

Stour Singers and Cantamus



Shipston-on-Stour has much to be proud of in terms of its music – a long tradition of the Town Band, an innovative Music Society, the well-established Shipston Proms, and two significant choirs, at the very least.

Stour Singers is a large community choir, numbering more than 80 members – and attracting its singers from a wide geographical area surrounding Shipston. Cantamus is an accomplished unaccompanied choir of more than 20 singers. The musical director (and founder) of both choirs is Shipston resident, Richard Emms – teacher, conductor, composer – who provides the energy, inspiration, and enthusiasm to engage the interest of experienced singers and newcomers alike.

Spring plans for the Stour Singers focus on a wonderful "double bill" of Vivaldi's Gloria, and Dvorak's Mass in D – so do book the date now in your diary – Saturday 11th May, at 7.30.p.m. in St. Edmund's Church.

Cantamus' next concert is the popular annual afternoon event on Sunday 3rd March (see page 6 for details).

For details, contact Richard Emms 01608 662163, Vic Twyman, 01451 870361 or Yvonne Ridle 01789 269587

Warwickshire Trading Standards

Don't Unwittingly Help the Spread of Rabies

Increasing numbers of puppies are being imported illegally from Eastern Europe in to the UK where puppy prices are much higher and are being sold via adverts on the Internet and in newspaper small ads as UK bred dogs. They are accompanied by bogus animal histories (breed and pedigree information) and forged documents.

Smuggled puppies and kittens may carry diseases including rabies! Rabies remains a problem in Eastern Europe. New advice on buying dogs and cats is now available:

- Buy your animal from a reputable supplier. Advice is available from organisations such as the RSPCA.
- Check the animal's history by speaking to a previous owner. If you are buying a puppy or kitten, you should ask to see it with its mother and the rest of the litter.
- View the animal and its documentation before you buy. The documentation must be correct. For information visit: www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-pets/pets/buying-cat-dog/
- If you have any doubts about an animal speak to your vet before agreeing to buy.

Probus



David Howe is a most popular and accomplished speaker who modestly describes himself as a "teacher, school inspector, school governor, intermittent historian and opener of school toilets".

He has a list of at least 30 talks and approaching Christmas, his talk "Christmas: magic or humbug" seemed the most appropriate, and, as usual, it was full of humour. On 13th December, our Christmas lunch was held at Charingworth Manor. It was well attended, most enjoyable and a welcome opportunity also to entertain our wives.

HEAR HERE!

Proposed Social Club for the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing in Shipston and district.



Deafness is a very limiting factor when it comes to social interaction and can result in loneliness and isolation, even in the home. It therefore seems like a good idea to form a social club to meet once a week or once a month (depending on demand), ideally on a Tuesday or a Wednesday, which Mark Pilbeam is prepared to launch.

The plan is to use the upstairs meeting room at New Clark House (with chairlift access) which also has an inductive loop system for use with the 'T' setting on hearing aids.

In between meetings members could also do a great deal to keep in touch via the internet and, if sufficient numbers are interested, Mark will set up a dedicated website.

If you are interested in this project please contact Mark on

markpilbeam@headweb.co.uk with the following information: Your name, your interests, hobbies and ambitions and any ideas or suggestions you care to make for the club, including potential speakers. Please include details of anyone you know who would be interested in the club but who does not have an internet connection. Please also confirm your permission to divulge your details to other members of Hear Here.

This information will then be shared among the interested members so that a programme of events can start to be established for the new group.

Shipston Home Nursing



The Shipston Home Nursing annual two day Christmas Gift Fair, which took place at the end of October/early November last year, was a great success. Shoppers and their children were treated to a Halloween party, fancy dress competitions, face-painting and trick or treating on the Wednesday night. Despite the weather trying to dampen everyone's spirits an enthusiastic crowd enjoyed Thursday's shopping day with some amazing stalls.

Over the two days, £6000 was raised for the charity and the SHN team would like to express an enormous thank you to everyone who supported their gift fair and to everyone involved in making it a successful event.

Team GP – not too late to sponsor

Team GP has now raised a staggering total of £3,175 for their Shakespeare way challenge. SHN sends its heartfelt thanks to the three brave GP's – including Shipston's own Dr David Williams - and all who have sponsored them. If you haven't donated and wish to do so please go to www.justgiving.com/ShakespeareWay

Stour United Businesses



Stour United Businesses (SUBS) was set up in 2005 to provide networking opportunities, a voice for the Stour Valley, support and to raise the profile of local businesses.

SUBs works with other economic development groups to encourage business start-up and growth. We have an affiliation with the Coventry & Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce and get involved with the C&W Local Enterprise Partnership in support of these objectives.

SUBs' first meeting of 2013 will be on Thursday 21 Feb at 6:30 for 7pm. Following the successful format of our Christmas event, we will feature more "SUBs Snippets" presented by fellow members who will be sure to entertain and educate. There will be ample opportunity to network with new and old acquaintances over a glass of wine and canapes. We are very pleased to confirm that Celia Lendis will host the meeting at her gallery in Moreton in Marsh.

We look forward to seeing members on the 21st - non members are also very welcome. For more information, email info@stourunitedbusinesses.co.uk

Shipston Safer Neighbourhood Team

The following three policing priorities were voted on at the Community Forum which was held on 18th September at Pillerton Priors Village Hall.

- Dog fouling in Shipston around the High School (multi agency approach).
- The creation of a youth shelter in Shipston at a suitable location for youths to gather without causing alarm to residents (multi agency approach).
- Burglary reduction in rural village locations and raising awareness of offender patterns including addressing a Kent's Lane, Ettington parking issue.

The next Community Forum meeting will be on the 5th March at Ilmington Village Hall.

Keep car thieves out in the cold on frosty mornings

Warwickshire Police has issued advice to make sure Jack Frost doesn't have a hand in your car being stolen during the cold weather.

As temperatures plummet and we continue to wake up to frost and snow covered cars, the police are warning everyone not to be tempted to leave their cars defrosting outside their homes, unattended.

"What could be easier for a thief than to find a car with the keys in the ignition and the engine running?" asked George Stepney, Crime Prevention Manager for Warwickshire Police.

"Unfortunately we know there are opportunist thieves who make a point of going to residential areas on cold frosty mornings on the lookout for cars which have been left with the keys in the ignition and the engine running.

"It takes them a matter of seconds to jump in and drive your car away – then it won't just be the frost that you find has disappeared – your car may have vanished too."

The extra sting in the tail is that most motor insurance policies will not pay out for a claim where a car is stolen with the keys in the ignition.

It isn't just outside your house that car owners need to be extra careful about security.

If you nip in to buy a newspaper on the way to work, buying petrol at the garage or stopping to pick up a take-away on your way home – always take your key out of the ignition and lock the car for the few moments you are away from it.

Monthly charity cake raffle on the cards

The winner of the Mrs Brown's Tearooms Christmas cake raffle was Jeff Berliner from Newbold on Stour.

The raffle raised £100 for Shipston Home Nursing.

In view of the success of the raffle, Mrs Brown's will continue to support local charities by organising a monthly raffle to win one of the tearoom's delicious homemade cakes.

Readers' Letters

Letter from Jackie Homer

I would like to register my disgust about the conditions on the Hanson Track.

On 14th December I attempted to walk up the Hanson Track. I am not a dog owner but an animal lover and would like to think of myself as a responsible citizen. Obviously because of the recent weather conditions the track was extremely muddy and caution was necessary to navigate the conditions underfoot, but what I was most disgusted about was the amount of dog fouling that takes place there. It was impossible to take more than a couple of steps before having to avoid dog excrement and the odour was appalling.

I see no excuse for this unhealthy practice by dog owners and wonder how, or if, the council is able to intervene to improve conditions there. I hope that something can be done.

See page 1 for town council plans to help tackle this issue

Letter from local resident. Name and address withheld

My son has swimming lessons at the Shipston pool. At a recent lesson, when he got out of the pool, there weren't any cubicles free in which to get him changed – not one. This is because many parents leave their children's clothes in the cubicles whilst they are swimming, meaning that these cubicles cannot be used by children who need them in the meantime.

My son was left shivering and we had to change him in the main corridor which he found extremely embarrassing. He didn't want to go in the female changing room as he was too embarrassed and I couldn't go in the men's group changing room.

There are signs up around the pool asking people not to leave their belongings in the cubicles and yet people just choose to ignore them. I urge any parent reading this to please think of others and either use the lockers (for a returnable sum of one pound) or take the bag with you into the viewing area.

Management did advise me that I was well within my rights to do remove clothing left in a cubicle, so next time there is no cubicle available to get my son changed, I shall be doing just that.

Letter from Shipston Rotary

Another cracking Victorian Evening, one of the best, was enjoyed by perhaps more adults and children than ever.

Shipston Rotary, the organisers, would like to place on record their profound gratitude for the remarkable level of support and sponsorship from 44 companies and organisations, as well as help from many individual volunteers. But most of all they want to thank you for coming along and enjoying the evening and so generously supporting the local charities and good causes that took part, and who do so much good work in our community. You made all the Rotarians efforts extremely worthwhile.

Letter from Paul Glover [edited]

Perhaps the ex-Mayor and current councillor could explain to local shopkeepers, businesses, taxpayers, householders and the public in general, what his comment "no problems with the Darlingscote Caravan Site" [January Forum, page 3] actually means?

Proud of my town

Royal recognition

Two Shipston residents have recently been acknowledged by Buckingham Palace for their wonderful community work.

Shipston First Responder, Keith Higginson, has received a Diamond Jubilee Medal in recognition of his commitment to the volunteer emergency response service. The medal was awarded to all frontline ambulance staff and volunteers who have completed more than 7 years continuous service.



This honour comes on top of the Anne Sankey Medal awarded to Keith a few years ago by Shipston Town Council, for his ongoing community work and support for the people of Shipston. This includes 15 years as a Shipston Town Councillor and loyal membership of Stour Valley Lions since it began over 30 years ago.

Keith's medals are available to view at the Shipston Museum, accessible from the Telegraph Street Car Park.

Sid Peachey recently received a letter from Buckingham Palace in recognition of his involvement in the four beacons which have been lit in Shipston in recent years, the latest of which was, of course, for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Well done Sid!

Super Snow Wardens

When the snow descended on Shipston on the 18th January, our snow wardens sprang into action and were quick to offer help to neighbours in need of assistance with path and pavement clearing.

Lawns2Mow did a sterling job clearing the town centre and major footways which helped to prevent major disruption in the town.

Fingers crossed, that may be it for the white stuff for a while!

District Council update

At the time of writing the District Council still do not have a timetable for finalising the Core Strategy Planning Policy Document. I am very concerned that the councillors running the council have allowed such a serious delay to occur. The consequences for Shipston could be potentially disastrous with developers presenting us with planning applications for ever more houses.

Orbit Housing Association have recently confirmed their plans for 'up to 90' houses on the London Road in the field adjacent to Angela's Meadow, previously defined as an 'Area of Restraint' where development should not take place. I am not very happy about this proposal which again, is made in the absence of any development plan for Shipston.

Meanwhile preparation of the Shipston Neighbourhood Plan is progressing. If you wish to get involved in this and help to ensure that the views of all Shipston residents are heard and taken into account when considering the future development of Shipston, please let me know.

I am supporting proposals for the District Council to pass 20% of the first years New Homes Bonus to the Town or Parish Council where development has taken place since 2011. The government introduced New Homes Bonus with the intention that communities would receive some benefit from new housing in their area.

I have been trying to get the lights repaired in the Bridge car park. These are the responsibility of the District Council but there is a problem obtaining the equipment required.

Richard Cheney

t: 01608 685570

e: richard.cheney@btinternet.com

Richard Cheney and Jeff Kenner take it in turns to provide the content for this column.

**County Council update****Trading Standards**

A number of people were amused at the recent article in the Midweek whereby Warwickshire Trading Standards were working to control the illegal import of puppies from some eastern European countries.



Warwickshire
County Council

There is a serious side to this situation. Unlike Britain, these countries are not free of rabies and the importers have evaded the need to put animals in quarantine. This work to help control rabies is vital.

Fire and Rescue Service

The operational strategy for our County Fire and Rescue service is called the 'Integrated Risk Management Plan'. Not a very sexy title, but the Service is about dealing with problems in an emergency whose focus is managing risks – what it says on the tin. I have been part of a member team to work up the new plan for 2013 – 2017, which has just undergone a three-month public consultation.

Not only have we re-appraised our service operations, developing improvements, but are doing two things to save significant sums of money in Warwickshire:

- 1 Plans to relocate Leamington Fire Station and the service HQ, so that crews there can respond to incidents more effectively.
- 2 Formed an alliance with Northamptonshire to share the costs of service management and firefighter training.

Best wishes to all for the New Year.

Councillor Chris Saint

County Councillor – Shipston-on-Stour Division

t: 01608 662290

e: christophersaint@warwickshire.gov.uk

Shipston Medical Centre**Colds – a common, time-limited illness!**

The best way to treat most colds, coughs or sore throats is to drink plenty of fluids and to rest. Colds can last about two weeks and may end with a cough. There is no cure for colds, but there are many over the counter remedies to ease the symptoms – paracetamol, for example. Ask your pharmacist for advice.

If a cold lasts more than three weeks, or you become breathless or have chest pains, or already have a chest complaint, see your doctor.

Antibiotics do not work against infections caused by viruses, such as colds. They are only successful in treating bacterial infection. Your Doctor will only prescribe antibiotics if you have a bacterial infection as this helps prevent antibiotic resistance in the population and means they will be more effective when you really do need them.

New Partner

We are pleased to announce that Dr Tim Marshall will be joining the practice in mid-March, and would encourage patients who previously usually saw Dr Whiteley to see Dr Marshall.

**Missed Appointments**

Missed appointments not only waste time and money, they can also prevent others from booking appointments.

If you can no longer make your appointment or no longer need it, please call reception to cancel with as much notice as possible. Thank you.

Medical Centre – t: 01608 661845

Twitter - @ShipstonMC

Your Town Councillors


Fay Ivens, Town Mayor
Proud Campaign chair

t: 01608 662133

e: fayivens@aol.com


Veronica Murphy, Deputy Mayor
Communications group chair

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e: veronica.murphy123@btinternet.com


Ian Cooper
Finance group chair

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e: ian@piruk.com


Brian Healey

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e: brian.healey@hotmail.co.uk


Arthur Ivens

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Adrian Jelf

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Melanie Trapp

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e: melanie.trapp@sky.com


Jackie Warner

t: 07717 391234


Mark Wildish

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e: mark.wildish@talktalk.net

Photography of councillors by Richard Sampson, lensmedia.com

Shipston-on-Stour Town Council

New Clark House, West Street, Shipston-on-Stour, CV36 4HD

Georgina Beaumont, Town Clerk

t: 01608 662180 e: clerk@shipstononline.org

Something exciting to share?

If you have a story that's relevant to Shipston residents, please contact the editor, Catherine Martin, on 01865 600262 or email: forum@shipstononline.org

Copy deadline: First Wednesday of every month

– but the sooner you can notify the editor of a potential story the better.

The Shipston Forum is produced monthly by the Town Council to support the community and is distributed to all households. If you don't receive a copy, please contact the Town Clerk. The Forum can also be downloaded from www.shipstononline.org

Copies of the Talking Shipston Forum can be requested via New Clark House.

Large print copies are available to read at the Library, New Clark House and the Medical Centre.

While every effort is made to ensure information is accurate, the Town Council does not accept responsibility for material submitted by readers or third parties and does not endorse any organisation or event publicised. Contributions may be edited to fit available space.

Useful Contacts

Community Links Transport	01789 294491
Shipston Library:	01608 661255
- 24/7 renewal line	01926 499273
Highways customer services	01926 412515
Shipston Volunteer Transport Scheme	01608 663122
Shipston Forum	01865 600262
Shipston Leisure Centre	01608 662354
Shipston Medical Centre	01608 661845
– Out of hours	03001 303040
Shipston Post Office	01608 661465
Shipston Town Council	01608 662180
Shipston Recycling Centre	01608 663560
Stratford District Council	01789 267575
Warwickshire County Council	01926 410410
Local police (non emergency)	101
PC Richard Grove (Beat Manager)	07977 456585
PCSO Hayley Ditchburn	07879 608696
PCSO Andy Steventon	07966 626908
Churches of Shipston:	
Stour Valley Baptist	01608 664876
Our Lady & St Michael	01608 685259
St Edmund's	01295 688193
Methodist Church	01608 661843



Shipston High School Public Meeting 7pm, 7th February, 7pm High School

Come and hear our plans to renovate and expand the High School, including the creation of a new sports hall for use by the school and wider community.

See the architect's drawings and share your views.

All welcome – particularly any club representatives who may wish to make use of the new hall.

**Please call 01608 661833
for more details**

Why not join us for a mid-winter Holiday at Home



for the over 65s ?

activities, games, quizzes & entertainment

Townsend Hall Shipston on Stour
Tuesday February 12th
10.00am to 3.00pm

Costs £5 for the day, including lunch & refreshments.

**To reserve your place contact Rosemary on
01608 662584**

*Shipston Amateur Dramatic Society
present*

The Sleeping Beauty



a pantomime by Norman Robbins

**Townsend Hall
Sheep Street, Shipston-on-Stour**

**Thursday 31st January, Friday 1st February
and Saturday 2nd February**
Evening Performances 7.30 pm
Saturday Matinee 2.30 pm

Tickets – Adults £7, Children £5
(Thursday performance all £5)
**Available from John Lyne Home Hardware,
High Street, Shipston-on-Stour or on the door**



Spring DIP & DASH AQUATHLON SHIPSTON LEISURE CENTRE 23RD MARCH 2013



Races for all – from 8yrs to 80+



Give your 'Get Fit' in 2013 a focus...



British Triathlon Certified



Prizes for all age categories



Safe traffic free routes



Raise Money for a charity of your choice

Limited Spaces
Advance on-line entry only
Race fee from £12

ENTER ONLINE AT:
[www.entrycentral.com/
Spring-Dip-and-Dash](http://www.entrycentral.com/Spring-Dip-and-Dash)

For queries contact
Stratford Upon Avon Athletic Club
01789 777 275