

**Having a clear out?**

South Staffordshire Council can help you get rid of your bulky waste items including sofas, beds, wardrobes and white goods such as fridges, freezers and washing machines. You can book online at any time via its website. The cost for a bulky household waste collection is £30.00 for every 3 items collected (maximum of 9 items):

- 1-3 items (inclusive) = £30.00
- 4-6 items (inclusive) = £60.00
- 7-9 items (inclusive) = £90.00

Items must be presented at your normal collection point and crews must be able to gain safe access to the items for collection.

There is also free disposal at household recycling centres. Bulky household waste including large electrical items can be recycled at these recycling centres: Poplars Landfill (Cannock), Pendeford Mill Lane (Bilbrook) and Botterham Lane (Wombourne). These sites are operated by Staffordshire County Council.

**Engleton Lane Development, Brewood**

South Staffordshire Council's Site Allocations Document was approved by the Government Inspectorate in May 2018, which meant that the Engleton Lane development would go ahead as part of the Government's initiative to build more houses. There are to be 73 houses comprising of a mixture of privately owned and Housing Association shared ownership/rental properties. The latter are available to people with a strong local connection and will give the opportunity for all to live in the area. The Parish Council has made representations regarding construction traffic access, and we await confirmation of the proposed routing. For further details, please visit <https://planning.sstaffs.gov.uk/online-applications/> planning application 18/00991/FUL.



**BREWOOD & COVEN  
PARISH COUNCIL  
with Bishop's Wood & Coven Heath**

**NEWSLETTER**

**AUTUMN 2019**

**Your Councillors:**

**Bishop's Wood:**

Mary Sambrook (Vice Chair)  
01785 841398  
Karen Webber 01785 841229

**Brewood:**

Jan Jeffries 01902 851831  
Anne Holmes 850611  
Peter Knight CBE 07809 475473  
Wendy Sutton 851682  
Richard Taylor 850594  
Mac Webb MBE 850671

**Coven:**

Moira Alden-Court  
703528  
Janis Bradshaw 791435  
Richard Dakin (Chairman) 850938  
Antonio Pupino  
07857 061 128  
Glen Sibley 790059  
Christine Smythe 703500

**Coven Heath:**

David Short 07931 032737

**District Councillors:**

Joyce Bolton 851079  
Brian Cox 01785 840482  
Anne Holmes 850611  
Wendy Sutton 851682

**County Councillor:**

Mark Sutton 851682

**The scheduled meetings of the Parish Council for this quarter are:**

12 & 26 Sept, 10 & 31 Oct, 14 & 28 Nov.

Council meetings are held at **7.00pm** in the Council Chamber, 35 Stafford Street, Brewood, and include a 15 minute public participation session at the start of each meeting, when members of the public are able to address the Council.

**Parish Council Elections**

The elections held on 2<sup>nd</sup> May this year provided an opportunity for some new faces to join the Parish Council. Three Councillors decided not to stand for re-election, having served the Parish Council and local community for many years.

Parish Cllr Jan Carr, of Coven Ward had served continuously from 8<sup>th</sup> June 2006; she was originally co-opted and then was elected uncontested in the 2011 election. Parish Cllr David Evans of Brewood Ward resigned just before the end of a term of twelve consecutive years; he was co-opted onto the Parish Council on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2007 and subsequently elected, like Jan, uncontested in 2011. Parish Councillor Linda Tomkins had represented Coven Heath since her co-option on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2012, she too was elected uncontested in 2015.

The contribution that these Councillors made during their respective terms of office cannot be understated and we are sure that they will continue to be active in their respective local communities.

This time, all seats were uncontested meaning that all Parish Councillors were elected unopposed.

Parish Cllr Jan Jeffries opted to stand for Brewood instead of Bishop's Wood and was successful. The seat she vacated was taken by Parish Cllr Karen Webber. This left two seats available for co-option and were filled by Peter Knight CBE (Brewood) and Christine Smythe (Coven) at the meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> May. David Short was elected to replace Linda Tomkins at Coven Heath.

**West Midlands Interchange – Four Ashes**

The final date on the planning inspector's examination timetable was 27<sup>th</sup> August. There had been a succession of hearings and a number of site visits prior to then. Parish Councillors have attended the hearings and the site visits and have made representations on behalf of local residents. There were 1,324 comments originally made and 931 additional comments accepted by the Planning Inspectorate. Five Parish Councils and also the Collective of 13 Parish Councils have made their objections known. The Planning Inspector will formulate his report and recommendations to be submitted to The Secretary of State in November and a decision is expected in February 2020.

**Garden Villages – Tong**

The Shropshire Local Plan Review Consultation on Strategic Sites is available on Shropshire County Council's website at [www.shropshire.gov.uk/local-plan-strategic-sites-consultation](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/local-plan-strategic-sites-consultation). The document includes a potential strategic site at land north of J3 of the M54 off the A41 near Weston Park. This is not a preferred site, but is still contained within the document. Bradford Estates has said 'The masterplan will set out how the site could be developed into a series of connected villages, each with its own distinct character but divided by landscaping and hedgerows. It will help define the employment zone and link to the M54' The plan includes 3,000 homes and a new technology and employment hub.

**CONTACT DETAILS:**

**Council Office:**

35 Stafford Street,  
Brewood,  
ST19 9DX

Tel. 01902 850809

Or find us on Facebook

Open to the public  
9.30am to 12.30pm  
Monday to Friday.

Meetings start at 7.00pm

**Clerk:**  
**Maggie Birtles PSLCC**

**Assistant Clerk:**  
**Gemma Jones.**

**Voluntary Car Scheme:**  
Tel. 01902 851786  
**Car Scheme Co-ordinator:**  
**Sofena Phillips.**

For details of Neighbourhood Policing Meetings open to everyone visit [www.staffordshire.police.uk/local\\_policing/south\\_staffs/](http://www.staffordshire.police.uk/local_policing/south_staffs/)

**BREWOOD & DISTRICT VOLUNTARY CAR SCHEME**

The Voluntary Car Scheme service provides transport for people who cannot easily use ordinary transport. Mainly supporting elderly and/or disabled people who need to get to medical appointments at their GP surgery or hospital or the dentist. However, the service is available to anyone who finds it difficult to travel (subject to driver availability). Because the car scheme is voluntary, and all drivers generously give their time freely, it enables the scheme to offer transport at an extremely competitive rate to clients, as charges are based on petrol costs. If you would like know more about how to access the scheme please call Sofena Phillips, the car scheme coordinator on 01902 851786.

If you are able to spare some time as a driver, the Voluntary Car Scheme would very much like to hear from you in person, by telephone or via email. You will be paid for petrol used at 45p per mile.

***The Parish Council endeavours to distribute this newsletter in a timely manner but sometimes this is not possible. There may be occasions when you receive your copy after some events have taken place. This is due to circumstances beyond our control.***

**Email the Parish Council:**  
[brewoodparish@btconnect.com](mailto:brewoodparish@btconnect.com)

**Visit our website:**  
[www.brewoodandcovenparish.org.uk](http://www.brewoodandcovenparish.org.uk)

**Find and like us on: Facebook.**  
Report all dog fouling to **South Staffordshire Council.**

**Staffordshire County Council** have responsibility for roads and pavements across Staffordshire:

**Please report problems such as pot holes, street lights, blocked gullies to: 0300 111 8000**

**Email: [highways@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:highways@staffordshire.gov.uk)**

**Online at: [www.staffordshire.gov.uk](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk)**

**Or download: MyStaffs App to access key services.**

**IF YOU REQUIRE THIS NEWSLETTER IN LARGE PRINT PLEASE CALL 01902 850809**

### Flooding in Bishop's Wood

Staffordshire County Council, together with the Parish Council, is funding some remedial work in Bishop's Wood to combat flooding in the future. It is estimated that the cost will be somewhere in the region of £7,000. Tong Close and Brookside Gardens have been greatly affected by water running off the fields, combined with this, the old agricultural drains have disintegrated. With the development of additional houses over the years blockages have occurred and there is now no 'true outlet' for the water to run away. Extensive investigations have taken place and it has been discovered that currently there is just one single drain into which water from a large catchment area is attempting to run. Clearly this is the cause of the problems experienced in this part of the village. It is therefore planned that a new open ditch will be dug and new land drains laid. It is anticipated that this will also help drain the standing water on the Parish Council's playing field which has been a problem for many years.

Other areas of Bishop's Wood will be tackled at a later stage.

### Flooding in Coven

There was extensive flooding last year at St. Paul's School in Coven. Staffordshire County Council have laid new land drains and are in the process of clearing the brook, lowering the 'pinch point' on the school playing field, raising the footbridge and creating a retention pond in the school field. The Parish Council has organised for the area around the culvert at the Poplars Farm Way entrance to The Bront to be cleared which should be completed before October. The gullies at the end of Greenacres will also be cleared using separate funding from County Councillor Mark Sutton's budget.

### Flood Prevention Measures for Householders

In response to flooding and other environmental issues the rules governing the rights of residents to pave their front garden with hard standings without planning permission were changed in 2008.

If the surface to be covered is more than five square meters, planning permission is required for laying traditional, impermeable driveways such as non-porous concrete or asphalt unless the rainwater is directed to soakaway or border rain garden to drain naturally within the boundary of the property.

Residents should be wary of companies which provide these types of driveways who claim that the rules can be circumvented. Driveways completed without the requisite planning permission could be subject to an investigation by planning enforcement.

The Parish continues to experience issues with flooding. We would encourage residents to consider using permeable (or porous) surfacing such as gravel, permeable concrete block paving or porous asphalt for which no planning permission is required. The Environment Agency has issued guidance which is available on the gov.uk website via the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/permeable-surfacing-of-front-gardens-guidance>.

### Dates for Christmas Lights Switching-on:

**Brewood - 24<sup>th</sup> November**  
**Bishop's Wood - 29<sup>th</sup> November**  
**Coven - 30<sup>th</sup> November**  
**Coven Heath - 7<sup>th</sup> December**



### Did you know?

There is an App that you can download to your mobile phone telling you where all the public toilets are in the UK.

With **The Great British Toilet Map** you can set your own preferences, for example whether or not there are baby changing facilities or disabled access.

Download the App now to your mobile phone, you never know when you might need it!



### A message from Brewood BKV Team:

#### Brewood Wins Best Kept Village Once Again

Huge thanks to everyone in our village and beyond who helped us win the Best Kept Village competition again this year. We actually won Best Large Village in South Staffordshire (so we can keep the banner over the bus shelter in Sandy Lane displayed!) You can view our framed certificate in Brewood Library. The competition is now organised by the Community Foundation for Staffordshire, and our Parish Council supports our entry, so many thanks to them. Forty-one Staffordshire villages entered this year, and judges looked at all villages twice in the first round: once in May and again in June.

Gnosall won Best Large Village in County (which we won last year, and were awarded a Shield and a Rowan tree). Bednall won Best Kept Small Village in South Staffs, they also gained the highest percentage points for any village in South Staffordshire (the honour we won in 2017), so Bednall gets the BKV Post and the prize money of £200. So, despite the fact we worked harder than ever, with more working parties and more village people involved than ever, and the village looked really super, we still need to up our game next year to beat Gnosall and Bednall! We shall have to think of new ideas with a 'wow factor'... perhaps an art trail or nature trail in the village, or special wildflower areas – all ideas welcome!

We had wonderful help from volunteer students at Rodbaston College who transformed St Mary's Churchyard. Next year we hope they will return and do the same job for our Parish Churchyard (St Mary & St Chad). Our village volunteer group (Blooming Brewood Champions, BBCs!) kept the Memorial Garden in the Parish church tidy and also had many weeding, tidying and planting parties, usually ending with tea, cakes and prosecco in a member's garden! A plea here for everyone to help us next year. If all businesses and private homes could just keep their own frontages clear of weeds and litter it would be wonderful and save our backs for other jobs! Our stalwart group of 21 Litter Picking Champions kept all village streets and public spaces clear of litter all year round. Many other groups also do sterling work to keep our village looking good (e.g. Friends of Barnfield Sandbeds, Canal Volunteers, Parish Council employees, businesses and homes who have lovely floral displays etc).

Brewood pupils also did well in the Children's Poster Competition and the County Winner aged 5-7 category was Rosie Slawson from St Mary & St Chad school. Brandon Swift, (St Mary & St Chad) and Enid Sutcliffe (St Dominic's) were both Highly Commended in the Children's Poetry & Prose Competition aged 8-11 category. Other pupils from Brewood Schools also won vouchers for their competition entries at a local level. Very well done all and we hope you will enter in even greater numbers next year! There also exist Adult Poetry & Prose, and Art competitions. Brewood had no entries this year, so adults, do have a go next year.

If you would like to be involved next year (we start working parties next March/April) even if you can only give us half an hour just occasionally, please contact our Chair of BKV Sue Hayes on [sue.hayes@hotmail.com](mailto:sue.hayes@hotmail.com) or Maggie Bailey on [maggie@mansions.me.uk](mailto:maggie@mansions.me.uk). There is always cake! And what could be better than exercise in the fresh air whilst meeting new people and making new friends!

