



THE LONG ITCHINGTON DIARY

January 2020 – March 2020

Published bi-monthly by the Long Itchington Parish Council (Phone: ~ 815216) parishcouncil@longitchington.com

INSIDE

Calendar of Eventsp2

Church and Chapel News...p3

Other Community Newsp4

Diary Dates

The next LI Diary will run from:

Saturday, 14th March - Saturday 16th May

Please send any contributions by:

Friday 28th February

to:

Victoria Baker
the editor:

lipcdiary@gmail.com

Or phone:
~ 815216

Council Tax – The Parish Precept for 2020/21

The Parish Precept is the small part of your Council Tax bill that is set and managed by your Parish Council. The Precept covers the running costs of our Parish including repairs and Parish administration.

At the January Parish Council meeting the budget for the 2020/21 financial year was finalised which enabled the precept to be set at £98.84 for the year for a Band D property. Whilst general running costs have risen over the last year and central support grants for Parishes have been further reduced, the Parish Council has managed to keep the overall increase to 2% which for a Band D property equates to 16.2 pence per month.

We have some exciting projects planned for the new financial year, including a new play area for Model Village, greater accessibility for all at the Green End entrance, lighting for the Community Centre car park extension and many other things, to be outlined at the Annual Parish Meeting in April.

New Councillor for Long Itchington

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Safi Setchell to the Parish Council. Safi is already part of the Community Centre Management Committee and we wish her well in her new role.

Advice for residents if experiencing localised flooding

Remember always dial 999 if there is a risk to life and please use this website for all other advice: www.cswprepared.org.uk/hazard-advice/flooding/advice-during-flooding

For sewers and burst water mains, or the flooding of your home, contact Severn Trent on: 0800 783 4444.

If concerned about public drains and flooded roads, contact Warwickshire County Council: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/reporhighwayproblem

River flooding or river contamination from sewage, contact the Environment Agency on: 0345 988 1188.

The Parish has a pump, to access it contact: 07935 336329.

Sandbags are kept at the Green Man.

School Crossing

Plans are afoot to install a zebra crossing on Stockton Road by the school entrance to help children access school more safely.

The Carnival needs your help!

This is a plea from the Carnival Committee, we desperately need more committee members and volunteers to assist on the day of the Carnival. We need help with the running of stalls, marshalling, and helping to organise in general, amongst other jobs. If you are interested in joining or just helping on the day, please contact our secretary, Stacey at: stacey.astell@gmail.com or attend our next meeting at the Buck and Bell on Monday, 27th January at 6.30pm.

Thank you, Christopher Purser

The Parish Council would like to pay tribute to the amazing contribution Christopher has made in Long Itchington. Not only has he worked tirelessly and very efficiently as our Tree Warden, but he has also been our HS2 representative – taking our case to the House of Lords, the treasurer on the LILAC Group, and has assisted in many other tasks to improve the look of the parish. We will really miss his input and friendly face at meetings.

Tree Warden

After seventeen years as Long Itchington's tree warden, Christopher Purser is stepping down. His replacement, Christopher Farmer will take over under the helpful eye of Christopher Purser.

Annual Parish Meeting

At our Annual Parish Meeting on Saturday 25th April, 2020 we will be again celebrating the achievements and contributions of some of our residents. If you would like to nominate someone for this, please contact the parish office for a form. Please note, you cannot nominate a relative.

Parish Council Grants

Every year the Parish Council sets aside a sum of money to be distributed amongst local village groups. We would very much like to hear from your group with a view to receiving one of these grants. Take a look at the website: www.longitchington.org.uk (policies and documents) to download a form or contact: ~ 815216.

Defibrillators in the village

You may not be aware, but there are two defibrillators in Long Itchington – one at the Shop, Leigh Crescent and one outside the Harvester. Should you need one, the process is to dial 999 and they will give you the code.

The machine itself will talk you through the procedure until an ambulance arrives.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY

- Fri 17th Film Night, the Community Centre, 7.30pm (doors open at 7.00pm)
Mon 27th Parish Council, Planning Committee meeting, (to consider all relevant planning applications), Community Centre, 11.00am
Carnival Committee meeting, the Buck and Bell, 6.30pm
Wed 29th Dementia Café, Galanos House, 2.30pm
Thurs 30th Afternoon teas, the Church, 2.00 – 4.00pm
Mondays *Knit and Natter, the Green Man, 7.30pm*

FEBRUARY

- Wed 5th Parish Council Meeting, Community Centre, 7.30pm
Wed 12th Wednesday Club, Community Centre, 2.30pm
History Group, 'How 17th Century Civil War affected Long Itchington and Local Parishes', Community Centre, 7.30pm
Thurs 13th Cricket Club AGM, the Green Man, 8.00pm
Wed 19th Women's Institute Meeting, Community Centre, 7.30pm
Wed 26th Dementia Café, Galanos House, 2.30pm
Thurs 27th Afternoon teas, the Church, 2.00 – 4.00pm
Sat 29th Rummage Sale, Galanos House, 2.30pm
Mondays *Knit and Natter, the Green Man, 7.30pm*

MARCH

- Wed 4th Parish Council Meeting, Community Centre, 7.30pm
Fri 6th Special Film Night, live musical performance alongside a silent film screening, Community Centre, time TBC, see posters displayed nearer the time.
Wed 11th Wednesday Club, Community Centre, 2.30pm
History Group, 'Historic Buildings in Leamington Spa', Community Centre, 7.30pm
Mondays *Knit and Natter, the Green Man, 7.30pm*

Cricket Club AGM

The Cricket Club's AGM will take place on Thursday, 13th February at 8.00pm at the Green Man.

All existing, and any potentially new players will be most welcome as will parents with children currently playing in the junior section or parents looking to get their children involved in cricket in 2020.

Responsible Dog Owners, we thank you!

Thankfully, the vast majority of dog owners in Long Itchington are extremely responsible.

A small minority, however, are not.

The "rules" are that dogs must be "kept under control". The Parish Council reminds residents that no animals are allowed in any of our children's play areas. In addition, we would like to advise that dog mess on other sports areas – the football field, skate ramp etc, is extremely dangerous and anti-social. *As it is everywhere!!*

It is also an offence to have a dog on a designated road without it being held on a lead.

And finally, we ask you to respect the tranquility of the Memorial Garden when walking with dogs.

Save the date

- 25th April The Parish Council would like to give a second reminder to villagers about the Annual Parish Meeting, which will be held at the Community Centre on Saturday, 25th April. More information about times and content will follow in the next edition of the diary.

CHURCH AND CHAPEL EVENTS

Regular events at Holy Trinity Church:

- 1st Sunday Holy Communion, Holy Trinity - 9.30am
2nd Sunday Morning Worship, Holy Trinity – 9.30am
3rd Sunday Holy Communion, Holy Trinity – 9.30am
4th Sunday Morning Worship, Holy Trinity – 9.30am
Every Wednesday at 10.00am in term time, said service of Holy Communion in Church.

Regular events at the Chapel:

- Café Church on 26th Jan, 9th & 23rd Feb, 8th Mar, at 10.00am
Coffee drop-in & sale, 6th Feb & 5th Mar, 10.00am – 12noon
Evening Worship on 19th & 26th Jan, 9th, 16th & 23rd Feb, 8th & 15th Mar at 6.15pm
Women's Hour, 21st Jan, 4th & 18th Feb & 3rd Mar, 2.30pm
NB: There are no services on the first Sunday of the month, unless specified in special services.

For special events at the Church and Chapel see page 3.

New venture for the Film Group

Remember the good old days of silent movies?

Of course, you don't! But if you would like to get a flavour of this era, come along to the Community Centre on 6th March to watch "The Lodger - A Story of the London Fog"(1927) accompanied by a live ensemble, Minima, playing music and making realistic sound effects to enhance the experience.

Directed by Alfred Hitchcock and starring Ivor Novello, this promises to be a very unusual evening.

Tickets at £7 can be purchased from Margaret Bailey on: ~ 814397 or Wendy Charles on: ~ 812751, wine and beer will be available to soothe your nerves!

After a busy Christmas it takes time to get going again, however there is one special service on Sunday, 19th January at 3.30pm to mark the week of prayer for Christian unity. Everyone is welcome to attend and after the service there will be a variety of delicious puddings to share. In February, Bible Studies begin on Thursdays, (the 13th and 27th), and on the 12th and 26th March. Further services and events will feature in later editions of the diary. We wish you all a happy and peaceful 2020.

Special dates

19 th Jan	Week of prayer for Christian unity, 3.30pm
1 st Mar	Rededication Services, at 10.00am & 6.15pm
Thursdays (13 th & 27 th Feb, 12 th & 26 th Mar)	Bible Studies, 10.45 – 12.00, Chapel

January Film Night

The next film showing at the Community Centre will be 'My Cousin Rachel' on Friday, 17th January at 7.30pm (doors open at 7pm). Refreshments include wine, beer and soft drinks. Transport for Long Itchington residents can be arranged but must be booked in advance. Tickets are £5 with all profits going to the Community Centre. Limited tickets are available so booking is advised. Tickets are available from Margaret Bailey on: ~ 814397 or Wendy Charles on: ~ 812751.

Long Itchington Football

Seniors play on Sunday mornings from 10.30am.

If you would like more information, please see Instagram: @longitchfc, Facebook: Long Itchington Football Club, Twitter: @longitchfc or email: longitchingtonfc@gmail.com

Women's Institute News

Long Itchington WI finished an event-packed 2019 with a lively Christmas meeting. Members enjoyed good food whilst solving a hilarious murder mystery written by our own President Jo, who was also the murder victim!

The WI has a varied and interesting programme of speakers and activities lined-up in 2020. The meeting on Wednesday, 19th February will include a talk from Luke Chittenden on Fire Safety and members will also be bringing along new items they have made from recycled clothing. The next meeting on Wednesday 18th March will feature all things chocolate with expert speaker Sally Daniels.

You can find out more about the 2020 meeting programme and other WI activities on the Long Itchington WI website: <https://longitchingtonwi.weebly.com>. Long Itchington WI is for all women who live and work in the village and new members are very welcome. If you would like to meet us and see what we do please come along to any meeting on the third Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm at the Community Centre or you can contact secretary Jenni Venn via email: secretary.liwi@gmail.com or, alternatively phone: ~ 812248.

Calendar Sales

This year's sales were a little disappointing with many calendars still available. If you want one (or two!) please contact: ~ 814921.

Everyone at Holy Trinity Church, Long Itchington, would like to wish you all a Happy New Year. As we journey through 2020, we would like to remind you that from 2.00pm to 4.00pm on the last Thursday of each month our 'Afternoon Teas' are available. Please pop in and see us and catch-up over a tea or coffee and cake. With the start of the New Year you may well be starting to think about arranging a baptism/christening, confirming your faith or making plans for a wedding. If you would like details of how to go about any of these, please contact Revd Jane Everitt on: ~ 717909.

Our 'Candlemass' service at 9.30am on Sunday, 2nd February prompts us to leave Christmas and turn to face Christ's Passion as we turn from the crib to the cross. Further details about the Holy Week and Easter services will be available in the March to May edition of the diary. If you would like further details of what is going on at Holy Trinity Church, please see the church and village notice boards, our news bulletin, (available in church each week), or search Facebook for 'Holy Trinity Church Long Itchington' where you can also 'like' us. If you need any further information, please contact Revd Jane Everitt, (number above) or email: revdjane@theeveritts.co.uk

Special dates

30th Jan	Afternoon Teas in Church, 2.00pm – 4.00pm, all welcome
26th Feb	'Ash Wednesday', services at 10.00am and 7.00pm
27th Feb	Afternoon Teas in Church, 2.00pm – 4.00pm, all welcome

'Save the date'

22nd Mar	Mothering Sunday service, 9.30am
29th Mar	Joint benefice service at church, 9.30am

A good turnout for New Year's Day walks

The large amounts of rainfall in November and December have certainly made walking the Rights of Way more difficult. However, the Friday morning walks (meeting at the Pond at 9.00am) and the five walks offered for New Year's Day were well supported. The addition of breakfast in local pubs for the Friday walks before and after Christmas was particularly welcomed.

Despite the bad weather volunteers have been out making sure paths are well signposted and we continue to get positive comments from neighbouring parishes. If you would like to help with this work please contact: ~ 815119 or email: longitchingtonpaths@gmail.com. As in previous years there are plans for walks at weekends and evenings as well as the regular Friday walks over the next twelve months. For further information keep an eye on the parish noticeboards, the Diary and: www.longitchingtonwalks.co.uk

Having a party? Need a venue? Why not book Long Itchington Community Centre?

Competitive rates, plenty of parking, fully equipped kitchen, glasses, crockery and cutlery, tables and chairs. To book, visit: <http://www.longitchington.org.uk/community-centre-facilities-and-how-to-book/>, email: parishcouncil@longitchington.com or call the Bookings Secretary on: ~ 815216

Parish wildlife news

It has been a busy year with much having been achieved, but with much still to do. The wildlife wardens continue to do the very important monitoring of our parish wildlife, as well as undertaking proactive nature conservation activities. Many voluntary man hours have been spent on wildlife related activities this past year and many thanks must go to those who have given their time to help. Activities have ranged from litter picking, tree planting, the village pond tidy up, hedgehog monitoring and nature reserve creation.

The year ahead will continue to be busy with work remaining at the Community Nature Reserve at Bascote Road. Anyone wishing to have an opportunity to get involved then please get in touch, we would be happy to hear from you (please see the 2020 Information Sheet). Getting hands on is a great way to get close to nature and help make a difference. Also, this year why not make your garden more wildlife friendly, by keeping a small part dedicated to wildflowers and grasses, or why not plant a tree. There can be nothing better than watching birds, butterflies and hedgehogs from the comfort of your own home, while also helping your local environment.

To find out more we have a dedicated website with more news about our activities plus wildlife information and photos, please go to: www.longitchingtonwildlife.org.uk. The Community Nature Reserve also has its own Facebook page (Bascote Road Scrubs Community Nature Reserve).

Ever felt "out of the loop"?

You can receive up-to-date information about village activities by signing up to our Email contacts list. You'll only receive two or three emails a week and can unsubscribe at any time. Email: parishcouncil@longitchington.com to sign up.

Carers' Café starting in Long Itchington

If you care for a loved one or just find that you spend a lot of time in the house on your own, you might like to get out once a week to meet other residents for a coffee and a chat in a local hostelry. If this interests you please contact Wendy Charles on: ~ 812751.

Community Centre Display Cabinet

If you have an interesting hobby or collection of items which might adorn the display cabinet in the Community Centre please contact the Parish Office. This is also a good way of advertising events such as the Carnival or activities for village groups.

Knit & Natter

The 'knit and natter' group meet at the Green Man on Monday evenings from 7.30pm to 9.30pm. It is a sociable group, welcoming knitters (and 'stitchers') of all abilities (tuition, wool and needles available).

Work on your own project or join us making hats, scarves & blankets for local charities.

Parish Notes – A summary of 2019

Residents often wonder what happens in the lowest tier of local government. As councillors, we often feel we have no power but many responsibilities! Every year brings unique challenges and tasks to be completed, some rather mundane and others much more exciting. 2019 was again such a year with the usual number of faulty lights to be reported, dog mess to be frowned upon and planning applications to be considered. The regular frustrations continued with, sadly, a growing frustration on housing and planning applications for more housing and in October the bombshell of learning that Ruby's Field had been included in potential plans for houses by Stratford District Council, a body we had hitherto seen as an ally. But success in other areas ensued thanks to pressure from the community as the large Collingham Lane development for 75+ houses was refused along with the rather bizarre notion of building houses on car parking land at Leigh Crescent.

One of the more amusing events of the year was the sight of buses attempting to access Spinney Fields and getting stuck – not funny for the driver or, indeed, for some residents but served to highlight what happens when good intentions out-weigh good communications.

The watery theme of 2019 has been both bad and good. We've had considerable sewage and flooding events which have involved councillors literally "manning the pumps" (on one occasion all through the night); we've called meetings with Severn Trent, WCC, SDC and others to try and bang heads in an effort to resolve our flooding vulnerabilities, but as yet we are all left feeling a little deflated. We've purchased a new trailer for our flood pump so that we are not towing it around the parish in 'medieval' style on foot. On the positive side the new toilets must be the smartest and most modern in Warwickshire – courtesy in no small part to monies from HS2, (which, to put the records straight we still firmly object to) and the money received was not a bribe to remove our objection to HS2 as suggested on Facebook!

We continue to try and modernise with a new website, new car park along Marton Road, new playground at Green End. But most importantly we do try to help the community when they ask for help. More often than not we can't actually change things ourselves, but we can advise and point you in the right direction. The memories created by the Open Gardens event remind us all of why Long Itchington is such a lovely place to live. It's also a privilege to be a councillor and try and retain that unique quality in our community which is so hard to put into words.

Reporting crimes or suspicious activity

Rather than just sharing incidents on Facebook, it is really important to report all incidents of suspicious activity to the Police. If a crime is in progress, dial 999. If not, dial 101.

Wildflowers vandalised

Our parish is very beautiful, please do not pick wildflowers – snowdrops have been dug up around the Green! Please challenge anyone doing this.

CONTACT DETAILS FOR LONG ITCHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL:

The address for Long Itchington Parish Council is The Community Centre, Stockton Road, Long Itchington, Southam CV47 9QP. The office is open **Monday to Friday between 9.30am – 11.30am** and all planning applications relating to the village can be viewed there, although making an appointment is advisable to ensure the plans are on site.

Phone: ~ 815216

email: parishcouncil@longitchington.com

Website: www.longitchington.org.uk