



# THE LONG ITCHINGTON DIARY

September-November 2020

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Long Itchington  
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## DIARY DATES

**The next LI Diary  
will run from:**

**Sat 14 November  
to  
Sat 12 January**

Residents will appreciate that, due to the present Covid-19 situation, dates may be liable to change.

Contact:  
[lipcdiary@gmail.com](mailto:lipcdiary@gmail.com)

## If you want to keep in touch.....

We send regular updates of news, flood warnings etc, via email to residents. If you would like to receive them please let us know by emailing the parish office on:

**[parishcouncil@  
longitchington.com](mailto:parishcouncil@longitchington.com)**

## In memory of Bob Stevens

It is with great sadness that we remember Bob Stevens who died unexpectedly on July 31st. He was our county councillor for the last twenty-three years, working totally for the good of our community all hours of the day and night. His conscientious nature and desire to help was very much appreciated by parish councillors past and present. His contribution was not always recognised as he was never someone to blow his own trumpet.

For many years he worked as a county councillor, district councillor and school governor; he seemed to be in meetings every night of the week. Indeed, on a personal note, none of us can remember many occasions over more than twenty years when he missed a parish council meeting. He was of an era - polite, gentlemanly and always honest. His remarkable twenty-year naval career left its mark - nautical terminology was always in evidence.

He helped very many residents and was always happy to advise and guide the parishes he represented. He loved to communicate his knowledge and experience to help others. He was his "own man", not someone to be swayed from his path. This was his strength. We will miss him greatly and extend our sincere condolences to his family.

## Neighbourhood Plan Update – your views really matter

A complete draft of the proposed Neighbourhood Plan, covering Long Itchington, Bascote and Bascote Heath, is now available for the next step in the process. In October 2020 the whole draft document will be put out for public consultation over a period of 6 weeks. Local residents, businesses and other interested parties will be able to make comments which will be taken into account when the Plan is being looked at by government.

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group is working on how to safely consult with you to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to be involved in accordance with the government's Covid-19 guidelines and restrictions.

If you wish to take part in this consultation but are still staying at home because of Covid-19 and do not have access to a computer, then please let us know and we will make sure we can provide you with a paper copy of the plan.

The Neighbourhood Plan is very important because it is your chance to shape how our local area will be developed in the coming years.

Eventually it will be formally adopted as a planning policy document that must be taken into account when Stratford District Council considers any planning application affecting our local area. This is a very important step.

## Parish Council Meetings

At the monthly PC meeting on September 2<sup>nd</sup> the running of public meetings was discussed. The advice currently is that PC meetings should remain as virtual (Zoom) meetings to ensure the safety of participants and the public. Whilst this is not ideal the council felt it was the correct way to conduct meetings at the moment.

Any member of the public can ask to observe the monthly meeting by contacting the parish clerks by phone or by email. Meetings are recorded and can be accessed via our website.

## Flu Vaccinations

This year more than any other it is important to be vaccinated against flu. Local surgeries are not holding clinics in Long Itchington, but you can book an appointment at your local GP surgery yourself. There is to be an expanded vaccination programme including people over 50, people living with those who are shielding, all school year groups up to year 7 as well as the usual recipients of the vaccine.

If you make an appointment but cannot transport yourself to the surgery, please ring us and we will try and find a volunteer to take you.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### SEPTEMBER

Sat/Sun 12/13th Chapel Harvest Bring & Buy Sale  
Wed 16th Women's Institute Meeting, Zoom meeting, 7.30pm  
Sat 26th Stockton Tip reopens, appointment only  
Wed 30th Closing date for L.I.E.F. applications

### OCTOBER

Wed 7th Parish Council Meeting, Zoom meeting, 7.30pm  
Wed 21st Women's Institute Meeting, format to be advised, 7.30 pm

### NOVEMBER

Wed 4th Parish Council Meeting, Zoom meeting, 7.30pm  
Wed 18th LI Women's Institute Annual General Meeting, format to be advised, 7.30pm

**Most regular events are currently suspended due to Covid-19, contact individual event organisers for update.**

### Long Itchington Educational Trust (L.I.E.F)

Trustees are as usual inviting applications for grants to help young local people pursue their higher or vocational education and training in the coming year. Visit [www.longitchington.org.uk/L.I.E.F](http://www.longitchington.org.uk/L.I.E.F) for details including eligibility and a downloadable application form for the 2020/21 academic year.

Applications with the necessary supporting information should be returned to Peter Myhill at Pathways, 2 Lime Croft, Long Itchington CV47 9PG by 30th September 2020. The Trustees will be flexible, at their discretion, about applications after this date if there is specific evidence that university/college entrance arrangements/timescales are affected by the current Covid 19 situation.

For queries or further information contact either Peter Myhill on 01926 814443 or Andy Jack on 01926 815522.

### 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 **will not be open** for visitors until it is safe to do so. Emails and phone calls are monitored regularly. We are not receiving planning applications by post at the moment, but they can be viewed from our website. There is a post box if you wish to write to us.

Phone: ~ 815216  
Email: [parishcouncil@longitchington.com](mailto:parishcouncil@longitchington.com)  
Website: [www.longitchington.org.uk](http://www.longitchington.org.uk)

### Update on Community Centre

The Community Centre will be opening again, but it will be a quite different experience because Covid Measures are in place. Hirers who belong to professional bodies will be required to follow any guidelines specific to them in addition to ours.

Hirers can book the community room but not the school hall. The kitchen remains closed and the toilet facilities are confined to the one toilet within the hall. Access to the disabled toilet will be by request only. Groups wishing to hold seated events will be limited to twenty participants spaced at one metre intervals, with up to three organisers/speakers at the front. Exercise type classes should check with their insurance company/professional body.

There will be extended periods between bookings when the hall will be cleaned. Hirers will be required to keep contact records for all participants in case someone tests positive. Masks must be worn, and hirers have a responsibility to clean touch points after each event. All enquiries can be directed to the parish clerks on 01926 815216 or via email. The Community Centre Management Committee reserves the right to refuse a booking if it cannot be Covid secure.

### Caretaking Vacancy at Community Centre

Long Itchington Community Centre are looking for someone to undertake caretaking duties at the Community Centre, Stockton Road, to start immediately.

Hours may vary week to week; particularly at the current time when bookings are reduced, Flexible working options are available, e.g. a couple sharing the role.

For further details please contact the Parish Office on 01926 815216 or [parishcouncil@longitchington.com](mailto:parishcouncil@longitchington.com)

or Sally Shillitoe (CCMC Chairman) on 01926 813423 for the full job description and an application form.

### Parish Council invites applicants for cleaning role

The Parish Council wishes to appoint a cleaner for twice-weekly cleaning at the Green End public toilets as well as a once a week deep clean of the Community Centre and Parish Office.

Please contact the Parish Office on 01926 815216 or email [parishcouncil@longitchington.com](mailto:parishcouncil@longitchington.com) for further details and application form.

## **HOLY TRINITY CHURCH NEWS**

### **Sue Myhill Churchwarden**

The Rev Jane has now undergone surgery in Birmingham and will be returning to the village to recuperate in the near future. Please continue to hold Jane in your thoughts and prayers during her recovery.

The church at present has no plans to commence weekly Sunday Services. However we are open for private prayer four days a week from 10am – 12noon on Sunday, Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

We are also producing a weekly service sheet which is available by email or hand delivered to anyone within the village. We also share a Holy Communion Service online with St Esprit at Marton every 2 – 3 weeks.

All our social events are also on hold and at this stage no firm decision has been made regarding the Christmas Card Sale (Nov 7<sup>th</sup>) or the Christmas Tree Festival in December. All events which can be held will be widely advertised through the notice boards, social media and Parish Council communications.

On a positive note we are now progressing well on organising the rewiring of the building and upgrading the lighting system – watch this space!

During the next few months we will be collecting food for the Local Foodbank at the church. Please drop off your donation in the porch during the opening times for private prayer or contact me if you wish to have them collected.

If anyone would like to have more information re the printed service, online communion or anything else concerning the church please contact me on 01926 814050 or [psmyhill@btinternet.com](mailto:psmyhill@btinternet.com)

Trusting our community will stay well and safe during these unusual times.

## **Open Gardens 2021**

Plans are underway for Long Itchington to take part in Open Gardens in 2021.

If you are interested in opening your garden please contact Steve and Adrienne on [mitchellasm@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mitchellasm@hotmail.co.uk) by September 25th.

## **New playground for Model Village**

The parish council is working closely with Scouts and residents at Model Village to provide local children with an exciting new play area.

This is being funded from developer 106 monies agreed with Stratford District Council. This will be an exciting and much needed resource for the local community.

## **CHAPEL NEWS Revd Marion Hartwell**

### **Out of Doors Harvest Thanksgiving Bring & Buy**

**Saturday and Sunday 12th/13th September:** 10.00 am - 2.00 pm: Please bring your fresh and non-perishable food donations to the Chapel.

**Sunday 13th September:** 2.00 - 4.00 pm: Come and buy fresh produce and preserves.

Fruit, vegetables and flowers will be sold for Christian Aid and preserves for the Chapel.  
Non-perishable foods will be donated to the Food Bank.

### **Update on open spaces**

With the re-opening of our play areas and the easing of lockdown restrictions, residents can now use our open spaces and playgrounds.

All playground and exercise equipment has been, and will continue to be, sprayed with an anti-viral coating on a weekly basis. This protection, however, is no absolute guarantee, so please continue to take steps to protect yourself and your children. Use the sanitisers when entering and leaving a play area but do bring your own with you in case our supply has been used up.

### **Southam Library**

Southam Library is now offering a limited number of services by appointment only and will be open Monday to Friday 10.00am - 3.00pm (closed on Wednesday) and Saturdays 10.00am - 1.00pm.

Two public computers and print facilities will be available. At this stage the Library is limiting the number of customers in the building to ensure social distancing around the computer area.  
Face coverings must be worn.

Please remember, all access to the library is by appointment for either collecting books or using the PCs. Full details can be found on [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/southamlibrary](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/southamlibrary)

### **Stockton Recycling Centre**

Just to confirm **Stockton HW&RC (tip)** will reopen on **Saturday 26th September**. There will be a booking system, with appointments becoming available the week before. Initially, it will only open **SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS**, with extended closing times **of 5.45pm (17.45)** on both days.

### **Litter and dog mess**

There has been a noticeable increase in litter and dog mess in recent months. The parish council is looking into providing more dog poo bins placed strategically around the village. Emptying of bins will not be increased by Stratford District Council, so we are asking everyone please to take litter and dog poo bags home for disposal when bins are full.

## WI News

Long Itchington WI is now Zooming! The first remote WI meeting was in June when members enjoyed seeing and hearing from each other again, took part in a Garden quiz and watched small films made by some members of their activities in the lockdown. At the July WI meeting members had a very entertaining talk from Anne Bufton-McCoy the Chair of the Warwickshire Federation of WIs about some of her many adventures as a Head Teacher which will feature in her forth-coming book. The sudden change in the weather in August sadly meant that the WI Summer Surprise garden parties planned for our August meeting also became a Zoom meeting.

The next WI meetings will be a Zoom meeting on Wednesday 16 September when speaker Graham Sutherland will tell us about "Wicked Women"; and then on Wednesday 21 October with speaker Julia Mitchell on "From IT to Tai Chi" when WI members will get a chance to try Tai Chi for themselves. Please contact Jenni Venn for further information: email [secretary.liwi@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.liwi@gmail.com) or phone 01926 812248 email. New members are always welcome.

## The Old Railway Line is to be upgraded by Sustrans The "Lias" Line

The old railway line in its entirety from Leamington Spa to Rugby is going to be included in the national cycle and walking network.

One new section will run from the railway bridge on Stonebridge Lane (where the existing section of Sustrans route 41 follows the course of the old railway line) right up to the Fosse Way where it will join the Offchurch Greenway. This will provide a safe cycle and walking route direct from Long Itchington into Leamington Spa. The other section will run from the canal, over the old viaduct crossing the River Itchen, past Model Village and joining the A423.

### How to find out more

**You can send questions via the Parish Council:** [parishcouncil@longitchington.com](mailto:parishcouncil@longitchington.com) or to Carmen Szeto (project manager), [Carmen.Szeto@sustrans.org.uk](mailto:Carmen.Szeto@sustrans.org.uk)

The Parish Council is delighted that all residents will benefit from a significant addition to our cycling and walking routes. We will keep you informed as we get further information..

## HS2 update – how to complain

You will no doubt have noticed quite a bit of disruption to the roads from HS2 works recently. Try as we do, the parish council has little or no power or influence over routes and traffic movements. One recent success was the installation of "no entry" signs for HS2 traffic to Church Road from the A423. However, there has been little success in removing HS2 traffic from Bascote, Bascote Heath and other minor parish roads.

In order to put pressure on HS2 to control their contractors' vehicles it is essential that all vehicles seen on unsuitable roads must be communicated to HS2 in the form of a complaint. You can do this by writing to FREEPOST HS2 COMMUNITY HUB. Download a complaint form at [www.hs2.org.uk/documents/hs2-complaints-form/](http://www.hs2.org.uk/documents/hs2-complaints-form/). It is really important to include the registration number of the vehicle, the time, date and place and a photograph if available.

Please keep the parish council in the loop as well.

## Scarecrow Trail a huge success

The parish council would like to say a massive thank you to Kay Byrne for organising the Scarecrow Trail in August. There were 31 Entries and the winners, as voted for by residents, were Maria Dale, Hayley Cooper, Lizzie Scott and Chris Lawrence. Donations for the Community Centre totalled £139 and generous donations of food and toiletries were taken to the Leamington Night Shelter. A great event. Thank you, everyone!

## Long Itchington History Group

We trust all our members are well and staying safe. Prior to Covid-19 protocols a full programme of talks for the 2020/21 season had been booked. We have cancelled talks Sept – Dec, and will review the situation for 2021. Our message is: 'Not at the moment, but we will be back!'

## Anyone for Tennis?

We have two carpeted courts at very reasonable prices.

For more details please contact: Christine Williams - 01926 811143

## 100 Club

The current situation with coronavirus has prompted us to delay resumption of the 100 Club until the New Year. If you are interested in joining and want to know more please visit our website and search for "100 Club" or phone Linda on 814255.

## Safe cycle route to Southam

Funding has been received by Warwickshire County Council for a safe cycle and walking route to Southam along the east side of the A423. This is a capital project for WCC.

## Calendar 2021

The calendar is taking shape and will be on sale from early November. Please do consider supporting us - each calendar is only £6, has beautiful photographs of the parish and all profits go to local causes. To pre-order, please email [batkins5691@googlemail.com](mailto:batkins5691@googlemail.com) or phone 814921

## Cricket Club Quiz

COVID-19 permitting, the club hope to run their ever popular Xmas General Quiz on 4th December, 8.00 pm.