



# THE LONG ITCHINGTON DIARY

February – May 2021

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

## CENSUS 2021

Once every 10 years, the census helps to build the most complete picture of England and Wales. The whole population has the chance to provide the information that ensures all communities are represented in decisions on funding and services. The census is so important that it is compulsory for everyone to take part. This March you will be expected to take part.

Questions asked include age, sex and marital status, family relationships, religion and the type of home you live in. It is up to individuals to decide how they would like to answer each question. And the data is analysed so that all results are anonymous.

It is designed to be filled in mainly online. But there will be lots of support for those who either can't or don't want to fill theirs in this way. Anyone can request a paper copy.

There will be help for people who need it with phone advice, forms in different languages and those in Large Print for example.

If you feel you would like a paper copy instead of filling it in online or any other help please contact us or phone 01329 444972. The following website gives more information: [www.census.gov.uk](http://www.census.gov.uk).

*Editor*  
Barbara Purser

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## DIARY DATES

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

**Sat 15 May  
to  
Sat 17 July**

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)

## Covid-19 – where are we?

During lockdown we are still offering help to residents who need shopping, prescriptions (on Wednesdays) or other tasks. Our lovely volunteers are just waiting to be called. If you need help you can contact us by email: [parishcouncil@longitchington.com](mailto:parishcouncil@longitchington.com), or by phone: 01926 815216 /01926 814921.

Vaccinations are gathering pace and at point of writing this we believe the over 65s and those with underlying health conditions are next in line to receive a call. If you think you've been missed please first contact your GP.

## Local Elections Thursday May 6th

On Thursday 6 May 2021 residents in Stratford-on-Avon will go to the polls to have their say on who represents them at Warwickshire County Council and also as the Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner. In Long Itchington we are hoping to have two polling stations as usual - the Church and the Community Centre. Voting will be carried out under strict Covid-19 measures. It is important that everyone who is entitled to vote is able to do so, regardless of the pandemic. We are expecting further guidance for people in self-isolation nearer the time. If you are new to the area or have recently moved house you may need to register to vote. In which case, contact Stratford District Council: [www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote) or phone: 01789 267575.

## Neighbourhood Plan

We continue to make progress with the Neighbourhood Plan. We have considered all the consultation responses and are amending parts of the wording (not the substance of the policies) where appropriate, based on those responses.

We are also finalising our Consultation Statement, which states what responses we received, whether we agreed or disagreed - and why- with the action taken.

The next step (step 4 in the process) is to submit both the NP (with the consultation statement to Stratford District Council.

They check it and, if it meets the legal requirements Stratford consult again and appoint an independent examiner (step 5).

If they are happy, the next -and final- step is a referendum in which residents vote on the Plan. If over half of those voting vote in favour, the Plan is adopted.

It is a long process and the Steering Group would like to thank residents for their valuable input.

We very much hope that once we submit to Stratford everything will run smoothly.

## The planning process explained

All decisions on planning applications are made by Stratford District Council as our local Planning Authority. Although not part of the planning decision process, the parish council is a "statutory consultee" which means we have an opportunity to submit comments on all planning applications within the parish. The parish council has to balance the views of the applicant, those who may be directly affected, and the wider community as a whole.

Most planning applications sent to us by Stratford District Council are considered by the parish council's planning committee which meets approximately every three weeks. Large or significant planning applications (for example for a housing development) are considered by the full parish council. The details of the planning meetings are posted on our website.

Stratford District Council also take measures to notify immediate neighbours that a planning application which may have an effect on them has been submitted. We have recently seen that delays may be occurring in such notifications. The parish council is following this up with Stratford District Council to make sure any notifications are sent out in a timely manner. As a resident of the parish, you have the opportunity to comment on any applications. This can be done online or by letter.

If you wish to find planning applications within the parish there is a section on our website: [www.longitchington.org.uk/planning-applications](http://www.longitchington.org.uk/planning-applications) or on the Stratford District Council website. The parish council takes steps to check the details of planning applications before considering them and submitting comments to Stratford District Council. This process may include visiting the site and also talking to neighbours and other potentially affected parties. However, in current circumstances with Covid restrictions in place this is more difficult, particularly where a site visit would normally have been involved.

If residents become aware of a planning application which they feel may affect them and they wish to share their views with the parish council please contact us by phone or by e-mail.

Useful sources of information :  
[www.stratford.gov.uk/planning](http://www.stratford.gov.uk/planning)  
[www.longitchington.org.uk/policies-and-documents/](http://www.longitchington.org.uk/policies-and-documents/) - search for User Guide for Householder Development.

## Annual Parish Meeting

Under normal circumstances the Parish Council would be hosting a face-to-face Annual Parish Meeting in the Spring. In order to fulfil our legal requirement to hold an APM, we have decided to do this virtually on Saturday April 24<sup>th</sup>. Residents with access to the internet will be able to attend remotely. If you would like to send questions to the Parish Council in advance, please email us. More details will be publicised nearer the time, by email, on our website and on noticeboards.

## Fosse Foodbank, Southam

The Fosse Foodbank, at the Graham Adams Centre in Southam, is open Monday mornings between 11.00 – 12.00 and provides emergency food support for individuals and families in this area in urgent need.  
**For further information contact Foodbank on 07745 244493.**

## Village Noticeboards

During 2021 a programme of refurbishment will take place with older noticeboards replaced with new ones all of which will have waterproof fronts to preserve posters and announcements from the elements.

## Green Bin charges start from April 1st

Sign-up at: [www.stratford.gov.uk/gardenwaste](http://www.stratford.gov.uk/gardenwaste) or telephone 01789 260628. Pay £40 per green bin for a 12-month subscription from 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022. You will receive a permit to put on your green bin prior to 1 April 2021. The service for subscribers will start on 1 April 2021. Your green bin will not be emptied if you have not signed up.

**Sign up between 11 January and 28 February 2021 for an early bird charge of £35 per green bin.**

## Dog Fouling

In recent months the parish council has received a marked increase in the number of messages complaining about dog fouling on our streets and public areas. In an attempt to assist we are increasing the number of bins in the village and looking at some poo bag dispensers. We recognise that the vast majority of dog owners are very responsible. We urge residents to challenge those who do not "pick up" and to discuss this with younger members of the family who may be doing the dog walking at the moment. Please encourage them to "do the right thing".

## Issues of sewage

After years of problems with faulty sewers and sewage overflows, particularly in the Stockton Road/Southam Road area, the Parish Council has made a formal complaint to Severn Trent Water which has not been dealt with effectively. We have made a formal complaint about Severn Trent Water to the Consumer Council for Water. This situation is deeply frustrating, not least for affected residents. Any progress will be reported.

## 100 Club Lottery

It's not too late to join and costs only £1.00 per month. The next draw is on March 20th. If you would like to take part and help raise money to improve the facilities for the Community Centre contact Linda Clark on 814255 or email [linda.wulfstan@btinternet.com](mailto:linda.wulfstan@btinternet.com) for further information or go to <https://www.longitchington.org.uk/community-centre-facilities-and-how-to-book/100-club-lottery/>

## Parish Council meetings

Wednesday March 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7.30 pm  
Thursday April 1<sup>st</sup> – 7.30 pm  
Wednesday May 5<sup>th</sup> – 7.30 pm

## District Councillor Update

Together with the Parish Council I have been discussing the redevelopment of the Lias Line as a cycle way with Sustrans, who are carrying out the works, to try and ensure that the local community is closely considered by the scheme. This includes requests to address the drainage issues around Model Village, ensure appropriate access locations to the line are provided, maintain the ecology and vegetation, and to manage construction to minimise the impact to residents. There have been positive responses and I will provide updates when I can.

HS2 continue to cause issues but I am glad to say they are considering a change to their plans so as to avoid the removal of an ancient tree off Welsh Road after calls for it to be saved from locals and campaigners. I am hopeful that this will be the case in helping to maintain our natural landscape.

The Green Bin Charge will be coming into effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April following a delay due to the pandemic. This service can be paid for on the council website or by contacting them at [streetscene@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:streetscene@stratford-dc.gov.uk) or 01789 260628.

The Covid case numbers for the District are continuing to fall, being some of the lowest in Warwickshire which is positive, but this does rely on the national measures being adhered to.

Feel free to get in touch.

[Louis.Adam@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:Louis.Adam@stratford-dc.gov.uk)

Tel: 07971 342940

## Long Itchington Online Photographic Club

The club currently has 40 active members, but we can cater for more..... There are groups for under 18s and users of mobile phones, compacts and DSLRs.

We don't meet up which makes it a great Covid-19 safe hobby. Members take it in turns to nominate a theme / topic for a specific month and then you have one month to take and submit your image on that theme / topic. The following month, you score the images in your own group and the one that scores the most in each group receives a certificate.

There is no use of stock images or previously taken photographs, which means everyone is playing on the same level playing field. There are also tutorials online.

If you are interested kindly send an email to [admin@liphoto.club](mailto:admin@liphoto.club), the website can be viewed at [www.liphoto.club](http://www.liphoto.club).

## News from Holy Trinity Church

This has been a difficult year for us at Holy Trinity, coping with lockdown restrictions but also with the sad news that Rev Jane has decided to take early retirement due to ill health. Our thanks go to Jane for all the service and support she has given during her time in Long Itchington and we send Jane and Tim our very best wishes for the future and pray for a positive outcome for Jane as she undergoes further treatment. Jane and Tim will leave the village towards the end of February and will move to be closer to family in Lancashire. I am sure you will all wish them well.

At the present time we have had to close our church building but our church remains active. Each week our worship team send services either by email or by hand to many villagers and if you would like to be included please contact Sue Myhill (churchwarden), 01926 814040 [psmyhill@btinternet.com](mailto:psmyhill@btinternet.com) or Rosie Skilbeck (PCC secretary) 01926 814799 [andyandrosie@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:andyandrosie@tiscali.co.uk) and they will add you to the ever growing distribution list.

Monthly communion services take place by Zoom and are open to anyone wishing to participate. Check for details on Holy Trinity Facebook page.

Weddings and funerals continue to be held in church under strict current guidelines and if anyone needs pastoral care from a vicar or lay member churchwarden Sue can arrange this.

Lent is fast approaching and as we prepare for Easter there will be mid week reflections available online and daily reflections during Holy Week. We would dearly love to open our church for Easter but until further guidance we must be patient- so watch notice boards and social media for further information.

We continue to support those in need at home and overseas through our giving scheme as far as we are able, but with no income from services or fund raising events, this is becoming more difficult.

On a very positive note our long awaited rewiring and electrical work is about to commence and will give us a beautiful new lighting scheme, improving our church for the future. Fortunately, we had managed to raise the funds to enable this work to be done before the current coronavirus pandemic. Once we return to more normal times there is much more work to be done to maintain and improve our beautiful Grade 2 listed building. We look forward to the challenges ahead and we know we can rely on the village for support.

Please keep safe and stay positive - "Tomorrow will be a better day".

Sue Myhill Churchwarden

**If you would like to support the work at Holy Trinity Church you can donate now.**

**Our bank details are Account: Holy Trinity Church  
Sort code: 40-42-15 HSBC Account no: 20545120**

## GET READY TO PARTY (ON THE PITCH)!

Like most events, **Long Itchington Cricket Club's 2020 PARTY ON THE PITCH** sadly had to be cancelled because of the pandemic. With the news that most adults will have received their vaccine by September - we are very much hoping that we can stage the event later this year - so please put this date in your diary.

**SATURDAY 4<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021 (LATE AFTERNOON START)**

**Live music from the fantastic ROOM 17**

Obviously, all this will be subject to Covid restrictions being sufficiently relaxed to allow the event to go ahead, and we fully expect demand to be high. So – **to secure your tickets NOW, please e-mail Steve & Jo Crosthwaite at [sandjcrosthwaite@btinternet.com](mailto:sandjcrosthwaite@btinternet.com)** to say how many tickets (of each category) you would like to reserve. **PLEASE SEND NO MONEY NOW!** Tickets will hopefully be coming on sale in May (i.e. when we should know if the event can definitely take place).

Ticket prices will be:

Adults - £10  
Secondary school children - £5  
Primary school and below – free  
Family ticket - £25

BBQ provided but bring your own booze.  
More ladies' toilets this year!

## Cricket Club

To find out the next cricket club fixtures follow this link:  
<https://longitchington.play-cricket.com/>

## FOOTPATHS

Unfortunately, the New Year Day Walks had to be cancelled this year. Thanks to everyone who registered an interest and helped with the organisation of the event.

The Parish Council have applied to have an additional path adopted as an officially recognised Public Right of Way. Starting at the entrance to the wood near the Long Itch Diner, the route follows a well established and walked track to the disused railway line where it then goes the Stockton to join footpath SM12 at the Blue Lias. The application may take some time to process and we will keep you informed of progress on [www.longitchington.org.uk](http://www.longitchington.org.uk) and [www.longitchingtonwalks.co.uk](http://www.longitchingtonwalks.co.uk)

## DO YOU HAVE SOME SPARE TIME AND ENJOY BEING OUTDOORS?

After many years of dedicated and valued service, Long Itchington Cricket Club's groundsman Graham Foster plans to reduce his involvement and step away completely within the next year or so. We are therefore looking to replace him with one or more willing volunteers who would relish spending time in the open air in a beautiful setting. You would play a vital role in ensuring Long Itchington's budding cricketers, young and old, can continue to enjoy the national pastime of village cricket.

**NO PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OF CRICKET IS NEEDED!** Full training will be given, and you'd work alongside Graham throughout the 2021 season. Tasks involve scarifying, mowing and rolling the square using a sit-on roller, as well as marking out wickets for games throughout the summer. Very little work is needed in winter.

If you are interested in helping in any way – note this is an unpaid position – please call or email Club Chairman Steve Crosthwaite on 07540 969547 or [sandjcrosthwaite@btinternet.com](mailto:sandjcrosthwaite@btinternet.com).

## WI News

Long Itchington WI has a full programme of meetings for 2021. These will be held online until we are able to meet in person again. The WI is also holding weekly online coffee mornings for members every Monday from 10:30 to 11:30am. Members are currently knitting and crafting toys, blankets and premature baby bonnets for Warwick and Nuneaton Hospitals as well as embarking on a new lockdown "table-cloth" project.

WI meetings this Spring will feature chocolate making on Wednesday 17 March 2021; "Going around the world and back" on Wednesday 21 April 2021 and members will be considering the WI national resolutions on Wednesday 19 May 2021.

New WI members are always welcome. If you would like to know more about the WI please email Ali Williams [aliwilliams1908@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:aliwilliams1908@hotmail.co.uk)

## Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

Several local young people have adapted to a new normal and continue to complete their silver and bronze awards by volunteering in the parish. Working on projects with the Parish Council and on their own projects they have completed much needed tasks like litter-picking, supporting the vulnerable and helping with the production of our Information Sheet. This is a great effort from them and from their parents who are organising and supporting them to achieve their aims. We thank them all.

## CONTACT DETAILS FOR LONG ITCHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL:

The address for Long Itchington Parish Council is Community Centre, Stockton Road, Long Itchington, Southam CV47 9QP. The office is manned on **Thursday & Friday between 9.30am – 11.30am**. No face-to-face visits can take place at the moment. Parish clerks continue to work from home.

Phone: ~ 815216 or in emergency: ~ 814921

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