



The Long Itchington Newsletter

Spring Edition

February 2023



Neighbourhood Plan

Long Itchington, Bascote & Bascote Heath

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REFERENDUM

The Long Itchington Neighbourhood Plan has been seven years in the making and is now ready to be voted on by residents at a referendum on **March 2nd**. A Neighbourhood Development Plan establishes a vision and planning policies for its area, as well as proposals for the future development and use of land. In our case the neighbourhood plan area encompasses Long Itchington, Model Village, Bascote and Bascote Heath. It runs until 2031.

If approved at referendum, the policies contained within the plan will have full weight when Stratford District Council makes decisions on planning applications which fall within the plan's geographic area. During the course of developing the Long Itchington NDP, consultation with residents and business owners took place to take into account the views of local people. We are very grateful to everyone who took part.

This NDP does not designate any specific parcels of land for development between now and 2031. Planning applications for development will still be considered in the normal way. Before voting you may wish to read the draft plan, copies of which can be found at: [Long Itchington Neighbourhood Plan | Stratford-on-Avon District Council](#) or by contacting the parish office on 01926 815216.

In order to be adopted, the Neighbourhood Plan must achieve more than a 50% “yes” vote at the referendum. That is: more than 50% of those voting.

If you have any questions in advance of the referendum, please contact any of the following: parishcouncil@longitchington.com; batkins5691@longitchington.com; sally.shillitoe@gmail.com

The vote, like any election, will take place at the Church and the Community Centre on March 2nd. You will receive a polling card. If you are going to be away and wish to vote, remember to request a postal or proxy vote.

A new year, a new Newsletter

This is our first new-look newsletter, which we will change and refine over the coming months. There will be four editions each year – Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter. We would love to hear from you with suggestions for the future – bits you like and things you don't – lipcdiary@gmail.com

Precept for 2023/24

The Parish Council is facing increased costs, like most residents, for energy in particular. At the parish council meeting on January 25th, it was agreed to ask for a precept increase for the parish of 9.5%, this is less than the 10.95% required to meet our full budget costs and falls below the level of inflation. The actual annual increase for someone living in a band D house equates to 19 pence per week extra.

Please sign up to regular email updates from the Parish Council, by emailing parishcouncil@longitchington.com. You will then receive regular updates on local issues of interest – events, road closures, flood warnings, film nights, and many other things.

News from Local parish groups

1st Long Itchington Scouts

1st Long Itchington Scouts is a super exciting group, with a wide and diverse range of activities each week. There are three sections, our youngest members, Beavers (Mon 6.15 - 7.30), our middle group, Cubs (Thurs 7.00 to 8.30) and our Scouts (Wed 7.30 - 9.00). All three sections are currently full, but we have waiting lists of young people wanting to join. Due to this, we really need more adult leaders to assist with evening meetings and/or weekend camps (1 per term) - we provide all training and will support anyone wishing to help, even on an ad hoc basis - please note a DBS is required. All you need is energy and a willingness to have fun. We'd love to hear from you. If interested, please email Scout Leader - Liz-ritchie@outlook.com

Tennis Association



We now have a thriving open session on a Saturday morning. The courts are next to the school on Stockton Road, but you would need to book first. Membership is under £1 per week. Please contact – Christine Williams on: 811143

Film Group starts again...

The very popular film nights are to resume at the Community Centre on March 3rd at 7.30pm. The first film will be "Fisherman's Friends Two", a light-hearted and uplifting musical to start our film nights off. Tickets remain at £5. Drinks available. Tickets from Wendy Charles : 07769 561650 & Margaret Bailey : 811143. Booking is essential.

History Group

Meetings run from September to May, meet at the Community Centre on the second Wednesday of each month at 7.30. £3 entry, all welcome.

Programme

8th February Railways around Rugby – David Hanger
8th March Metal Detecting 'Finds' in Long Itchington – WMDC
12th April AGM followed by Back Tracks, Detecting the Past – Colin Clay/Phil Taylor

Further information, contact David Williams, Chairman, 01926 812573

www.longitchingtonhistory.org.uk email: contact@longitchingtonhistory.org.uk

The Long Itchington W I

Long Itchington WI has a new and varied programme of speakers, meetings and activities planned for 2023 – meeting every third Wednesday at 7.30pm at the Community Centre. On 15th February the meeting will be about cake – cakemaker, Kay Byrne will help us to have a go at improving skills. On 18th March members will find out about willow weaving with Penny Vigers. On April 19th we have a "Murder and Mayhem" to look forward to with author Jane Isaac. We welcome new members – for more information, contact Jenni Venn at president.liwi@gmail.com or ring 812248.

Knit and Natter

The Knit & Natter Group is welcomed by the Buck and Bell on Monday evenings at 7.30. We welcome new members for knitting, crocheting, embroidery etc. and, of course, chatting. We are an informal group, enjoying two restaurant trips a year. For more information, contact Carole Manley on 810112



Cricket 2023

Old and new players for Juniors and Seniors very welcome.

Indoor nets start on Thursday 9th February at Princethorpe College from 6.45 – 9.15 pm for senior players. Junior nets start on 23rd February at 6.45 pm, followed by the seniors at 8.00. More information on our Facebook page. The Senior season starts with a friendly away to Hunningham on 15th April. League fixtures start in May.

Church and School News

Church News - We need your help.

Have you been to services or events at Holy Trinity Church? Perhaps you or your family were christened or married here, or have relatives buried in the churchyard. You may walk through the churchyard or simply enjoy the glimpses of the building as you walk in the local area. Perhaps your children or grandchildren go to our Church school and have enjoyed visits to the building.

Our church has been a place of worship and a focal point for key life events for 1000 years and we want to make sure it continues to be so, but it costs **over £3000 a month** simply to keep Holy Trinity open and running. That does not include any major repairs or maintenance. Contrary to popular belief, we get **no** money from the Diocese so meet all these costs ourselves, through fees for weddings and funerals, fundraising events and donations. Our income last year did not meet our essential costs.

Can you help with a donation, however big or small? If every household in the parish gave £1 a week, Holy Trinity's future would be secure. If you are a UK taxpayer, we can claim Gift Aid on your donations and as we are a registered charity, you can offset your giving against tax.

Please – if you can, help to keep our beautiful church at the heart of our community for all generations. Contact our Treasurer, Richard Jackson on 01926 814306 for a Gift Aid form and our bank details.

LENT: A TIME TO REFLECT and REBOOT

Lent is often associated with "giving something up" (e.g. chocolate or alcohol). But on the principle that "less is more", it's a time to consider what we can do without in order to prioritise our lives around what matters most. Maybe a time to break a habit or to have a clear out. A time to make a new habit and to live according to values that enrich our lives and those of others. By doing that we will not be so much giving something up but gaining something of lasting value. Jesus said: "Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and all other needful things will be added in." Welcome to Holy Trinity where our services are at 9.30am each Sunday, and on Easter Day the Holy Communion Celebration Service is at 10.30am. Please see our Facebook Page for details of other special services and events during Holy Week. A seasonal favourite - Tuesday 21st February 1-3pm pancakes in Church. All welcome.

Every blessing. Rev Canon Richard Suffern.

This school year at Long Itchington Primary School

Written by Year 6 pupils (Read the full article on our website)

Royal Shakespeare Company VISIT: Two actors from the RSC came in and acted out some scenes from Twelfth Night. We also got to think of questions to ask the actors and the characters they were playing. Some pupils have been trained as RSC ambassadors and who enjoy supporting others in school with acting and performing Shakespeare plays.

Sporting Activities: This term, year 6 was represented by two teams entering a **rowing** competition and have had lots of fun participating in individual and team relay rowing races. Some year 5 and 6 girls have taken part in a great Girl Power event that encourages year 3 and 4 girls to try more sporting activities. Many children from year 5 and 6 classes have been involved in **cross country running**, they have been to three different tracks and have done very well in all competitions.

Visit to Coventry Cathedral: In November, Years 5 and 6 were lucky enough to visit Coventry Cathedral to support our learning about World War 2. We were able to find out about the devastating impact of the Blitz on the cathedral and visit the museum and the ruins. We found out many interesting facts about the cathedral and what happened to the city after the Blitz.

Activities for Key Stage 1 Pupils: Younger pupils in school have been able to take part in forest school sessions with Andrew from "Kick." They have also been able to take part in a new Lego Club after school where they enjoy building and creating with Andrew.

Voter ID at Polling Stations

From 4 May 2023 onwards, the Elections Act 2022 requires voters who are on the Register of Electors to show photographic identification at polling stations before they are given a ballot paper. You can read more about this at: <https://www.stratford.gov.uk/council-democracy/voter-id-at-polling-stations.cfm>. Many different forms of photo ID will be acceptable, including passports, driving licences, blue badges or an Oyster 60+ card. For more information go to the Stratford District Council website - link above. As there will be local elections in May, it is important to be prepared. **Please note: This does not come into force until after the Neighbourhood Plan Referendum.** If you do not have any of the photo ID items mentioned on the SDC website, you will be able to apply for a Voter Authority Certificate in due course; this is a free photographic identification document specific for the purposes of voting.

Ruby's Meadow – see photo →

We are delighted to let you know that the appeal lodged by Rosconn with the Appeals Inspectorate has been turned down. The Appeals Inspector ruled that the site was unsuitable for development. Only the High Court can quash this decision. You can read the full judgment here - <https://longitchington.org.uk/policies-and-documents/appeal-decision-january-2023/>

We would like to thank everyone who lodged comments and objections. The Parish Council also thanks Cllr Louis Adam and Cllr Christopher Kettle for significant contributions throughout the process. Very special thanks to Cllr Jon Venn for hours and days of work.

Against all the odds good things sometimes happen...



Village Sign

The timber we have acquired for the sign is now seasoning well and the Parish Council will decide upon an appropriate location in the next few weeks. We are keen to ensure that the sign will conform to a traditional design and reflect the unique characteristics of our community. We look forward to hearing your ideas on the final design and we will soon engage more formally with residents and interest groups in the community.



Weekly Warm Hubs have been taking place for nearly 4 months and are proving to be a real success. We have had lovely feedback from attendees and one of our sources of funding, WRCC. The Calendar Group paid for food at the Harvester when Holy Trinity was just too cold for comfort, and we have had a grant from Chris Kettle's County Councillor's fund which means we can continue throughout the year. As well as companionship, conversation and lunch, we have had bingo, some gentle exercise, visits from the primary school children and the Fire Service, plus books, magazines and jigsaws to borrow. All are most welcome - regular visitors range in age from one to ninety. See the village noticeboards, and LIPC Facebook and emails for dates and venues and spread the word!

Next dates are Thursday 16th February – Community Centre; Thursday 23rd February – Holy Trinity Church; Thursday 2nd March – The Harvester; Thursday 9th March – Chapel

*Newsletter is published by Long Itchington Parish Council for delivery to all households.
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