

# Parish Information Bulletin

January 2018

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# Shepton Mallet Snowdrop Festival

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**If you wish to submit an item for the Parish Council Information Bulletin, please email it to [parishbulletin@mendip.gov.uk](mailto:parishbulletin@mendip.gov.uk)**



# Mendip Parish Forum

The Mendip Parish Forum is for clerks, elected members and community representatives from across Mendip. The forums are held quarterly in the Council Chamber at the Mendip District Council offices.

The last forum on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2018 was attended by 20 people representing 14 parishes.

## Actions from the forum

1. Shape Mendip Lottery figures:
  - Tickets – 458
  - Approved Causes – 45
  - Funds raised to date - £12,620.40
2. All presentations uploaded to the MDC website:  
<http://www.mendip.gov.uk/article/5433/Thursday-18th-January-2018>

## Date of next Forum

Currently scheduled for 19<sup>th</sup> April 2018

## Your Forum – your ideas

Please send suggestions to Chris Loughlin – [Chris.Loughlin@mendip.gov.uk](mailto:Chris.Loughlin@mendip.gov.uk) or call 07816 949449.

# The Shepton Mallet Snowdrop Festival 2018

The second Shepton Mallet Snowdrop Festival will take place on 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> February 2018. It will be opened in the Market Place on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2018 by Glastonbury Festival founder Michael Eavis CBE. Events include a Poetry Competition and a Photography Competition with cash prizes!

The Shepton Mallet Snowdrop Festival celebrates the life and work of the Victorian horticulturalist and snowdrop fanatic James Allen, who lived in Shepton Mallet all his life.

Shop window displays along the High St and Town St will feature snowdrops, with a prize going to the best dressed window. Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2018 will see a big Friday market with specialist snowdrop bulb nurseries selling their products and lots of stalls featuring snowdrop related articles.

The programme for the rest of the weekend will focus on community snowdrop themed events including a Children's Fancy Dress Parade and snowdrop walks. Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2018 will feature a celebratory, band-led walk to the cemetery to plant snowdrops on the grave of James Allen and the awards for the Poetry and Photography competitions.

Dominic Weston for the Festival said: "It's not too late to enter the Poetry and Photography Competition but you will have to hurry. The closing deadline for the Poetry Competition is 14<sup>th</sup> January 2018. Entrants may write in any poetic form, with a maximum line count of 30, and on any aspect of snowdrops or the James Allen story – let your imaginations run riot! The deadline for the Photography Competition is now 11<sup>th</sup> February 2018, giving people a chance to photograph snowdrops in bloom, but we have also offered photographers the theme



of 'Renewal' in case you miss the blossoms. There are cash prizes for both competitions, with all the information on the festival website."

Information on more of the Snowdrop Festival can be found on the festival website: [www.sheptonssnowdropfestival.org.uk](http://www.sheptonssnowdropfestival.org.uk)



## Kick Start 2018 at your Local Mendip Leisure Centre and save 50%

Great way to start getting fit for 2018, whether you like swimming, classes, racquet sports or working out in the gym there is something for everyone from complete beginners to those seeking a high intensity work out.

With use of Wells Sport & Fitness, Frome Sport & Fitness, Strode Swimming & Fitness, Tor Sports & Leisure Centre plus Shepton Mallet Lido ( in the summer) membership is really



great value and at the moment you can get your first month HALF PRICE and pay No Joining Fee!

Plus if you haven't tried the centres before you can try before you buy with a free activity pass.

Visit [www.fusion-lifestyle.com/offers](http://www.fusion-lifestyle.com/offers) for details.

So come along and start your fitness journey today, you have nothing to lose, apart from some weight.

## One You Somerset

Welcome to 2018, what are your New Year's health goals?

To help kick start a healthy New Year, One You Somerset offers a personalised health score through a 10 min quiz. How Are You is for over 18s only and is only designed to point you in the right direction. It's not a medical assessment – if you're worried about your health you should speak to a health professional.

[www.healthysomerset.co.uk/how-are-you/](http://www.healthysomerset.co.uk/how-are-you/)

Please forward on to colleagues, family and friends where appropriate.

## Sugar Smart

Some people eat as many as 40 teaspoons of sugar each day. That is more than 5 x the recommended daily allowance.

For the first time in human history, the world has more people that are overweight than underweight.

The SUGAR SMART campaign has been launched to help local authorities, organisations, workplaces and individuals to reduce the amount of sugar we all consume. The campaign is run by the Jamie Oliver Foundation and Sustain, and we are asking organisations in Somerset to sign up and help encourage our local workforce to choose Sugar Smart options. The campaign has access to FREE support, guidance and resources to enable your organisation to make various pledges to encourage employees to be healthier in the workplace, from sugar smart quizzes, to revising vending machine options, the support and ideas are endless.

For more information, visit <http://www.healthysomerset.co.uk/work/sugar-smart/>

Don't forget to let us know what pledges you decide to choose and the action you are taking, so we can tailor our support to you.

# Managing and minimising Mendip parishes' plastics

Growing concern over plastics has highlighted Somerset's plans to recycle more items each week and the benefits of Mendip's "you and crew" twice-sorted kerbside collections, as well as what every individual can do to cut back on plastic.

Twice sorting produces valuable raw materials rather than the contaminated output of all-in-one-bin systems that helped prompt China's ban on mixed plastic imports.

No plastics recycled or sent to landfill from Somerset end up in the oceans, none of the county's annual 3,500 tonnes of plastic bottles collected is going to China and almost all of it is reprocessed in the UK.

Plastics are at the heart of three multi-million pound improvements to waste services being carefully aligned over the next two or more years.

A freshly-designed vehicle fleet will begin work under the new "Recycle More" collections contract with extra materials, including much more plastic packaging, while rubbish is switched away from costly and wasteful landfill burial to instead generate electricity.

And consumer choice is seeing many reduce their plastic purchasing by finding low-waste or no-waste shopping solutions.

For more on plastics and how to waste less, recycle more and save money, see [www.somersetwaste.gov.uk](http://www.somersetwaste.gov.uk) or check Somersetwaste on Facebook and Twitter.



# Making Every Contact Count (MECC)

Making a positive change to the physical and mental health and wellbeing of any of our service users / community / is a very important objective for Somerset. We know only too well the effect of long-term diseases on our population caused by, for example, tobacco, hypertension, alcohol, being overweight or being physically inactive (approximately 40% of the UK's disability adjusted life years lost are attributable to these causes).

We know that making changes such as stopping smoking, improving diet, increasing physical activity, losing weight and reducing alcohol consumption can significantly help people to reduce their risk of poor health, and that making these changes is not easy for people.

A really important way of supporting people is to take every opportunity we have during the thousands of day to day interactions officers and service users have with each other. This approach is known as Making Every Contact Count (MECC). It is an approach that encourages us all to listen to individuals, ask open questions, and to encourage others to consider thoughts about a particular health or lifestyle statement.

The Making Every Contact Count (MECC) approach is designed to encourage us all to use every opportunity we can to positively change these 'risky' behaviours in order to improve the wellbeing of individuals, communities and populations.

To provide support and training, and a full understanding of this important approach, Public Health England have provided funding to enable us to access some useful training resources, with the aim of ensuring staff have the skills, knowledge and confidence to deliver the right messages and information to service users and members of the public.

There are a variety of training options available. For more information, please contact Louise Bulmer at [LBulmer@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:LBulmer@somerset.gov.uk).

## Digital Drop in Sessions for local businesses

Informal, drop in sessions & open discussions with field experts. Get to the bottom of your queries with our friendly advisers

<b>Digital drop in sessions</b> The Sherston	<b>Digital Marketing workshops</b> SS&L
1 <sup>st</sup> March – Marketing Automation Made Easy <a href="https://easyautomation.eventbrite.co.uk">https://easyautomation.eventbrite.co.uk</a>	1 <sup>st</sup> Feb – Better Business branding: Logos and beyond <a href="https://wellsbrandingworkshop.eventbrite.co.uk">https://wellsbrandingworkshop.eventbrite.co.uk</a>
	3 <sup>rd</sup> May – Digital Marketing Masterclass <a href="https://digitalmarketingmaster.eventbrite.co.uk">https://digitalmarketingmaster.eventbrite.co.uk</a>

### Shepton Sessions

A programme of FREE & informal, drop-in advice sessions with field experts to help you to improve your business's digital performance.



Discuss Digital  
16th Jan - Improve your Google ranking  
20th Feb - IT anything  
20th Mar - Planning your Social Marketing  
19th April - Xero & cloud bookkeeping apps

**3rd Tuesday of the month, 4-6PM @ My Coffee Stop**

More info / bookings: [www.mendip.gov.uk/growwithdigital](http://www.mendip.gov.uk/growwithdigital) 01749 341345

## Somerset Social Entrepreneurs Programme 2018

The Somerset Social Entrepreneurs Programme 2018 is a eight day action learning programme over four months plus webinars, allowing and encouraging participants to implement changes between sessions and providing time and space to reflect on their learning. The programme will consist of a blend of modes of delivery and learning methods for personal and organisational development. These will include: day-long intensive study sessions, interactive webinars, workshops, action learning sets, and business review sessions where you will be looking at your organisation's specific challenges and opportunities with the support of experts. We complete with a final progression and celebration event.

7th February	16th April
19th February	20th April*
23rd February*	2nd May
7th March	4th May*
9th March*	16th May
21st March	

\* Participants will be invited to attend a Business Review Panel on only 1 of these days

### How to apply

Apply for the programme by downloading the application form via the below link. You can save the form to your device, fill it in offline and then submit it via e-mail.

<https://www.the-sse.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/Somerset-Social-Entrepreneurs-Programme-Application-2018.docx>

For more information, email [mandy.heard@dartington.org](mailto:mandy.heard@dartington.org) or call 01803 847067



# Community Funding

**HERITAGE ENTERPRISE GRANTS** - Grants up to £5 million to support economic growth by helping rescue neglected historic buildings and sites and return them to viable productive use (application deadlines 2018 available – see below. Next deadline 16<sup>th</sup> March 2018).

There is a two stage application process. Applicants may submit an online project enquiry form. HLF staff will then get in touch within 10 working days to say whether the project fits with the programme and to provide support with an application. The 2018 application deadlines are:

- o Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March;
- o Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> June; and
- o Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> August, after which the programme is expected to close.

Guidance notes, a project enquiry form, an application form, standard terms of conditions and other relevant documents can be found on the [Heritage Lottery Fund website](#).

**QUEEN ELIZABETH SCHOLARSHIPS** - Scholarships up to £18,000 and apprenticeship support to fund further study, training and practical experience for UK craftsmen and women across the UK to improve their craft and trade skills (application deadline 12<sup>th</sup> February 2018).

For those wishing to apply for QEST Apprenticeship or Scholarship funding, **the first 2018 application deadline is Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2018**. Application forms can be downloaded from the [QEST website](#).

**BRITISH AND FOREIGN SCHOOL SOCIETY** – New programme offering grants to improve approaches to the educational attainment of young children and ‘looked after children’ in the UK (application deadline 9<sup>th</sup> April 2018). The 2018 application deadlines are:

- o Monday 9<sup>th</sup> April for consideration at the May grants committee meeting; and
- o Monday 27<sup>th</sup> August for consideration at the October grants committee meeting.

Further information, guidance notes and an application form is available on the [Society's website](#) (potential applicants are required to register before they can access the online application form).

**THE BARCHESTER HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION** - Grants up to £5,000 for small local groups and charities to improve the quality of life for older people as well as adults with a physical or mental disability (applications may be made at any time).

Applications may be submitted at any time. Application forms are available to complete online or to download from the [Foundation's website](#).



**RETHINKING PARKS FUND** - Grants up to £200,000 for not-for-profit organisations, social enterprises and local authorities to support parks innovators across the UK (application deadlines 27<sup>th</sup> February and 28<sup>th</sup> March 2018).

The deadlines for initial applications are:

- o **Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2018** for Replication Awards; and
- o **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2018** for Prototyping Awards.

There is a two stage application process. Those who are successful at the initial stage will be selected to work with Nesta to develop their applications for a second selection stage. Final funding decisions will be made in Spring 2018 and work should begin in June 2018. An application form and guidelines are available on the [Nesta website](#).

**GREGGS FOUNDATION LOCAL COMMUNITY PROJECT GRANTS** - Grants up to £2,000 for not-for-profit organisations in England, Scotland & Wales to deliver projects or provide equipment to people in need at the heart of their local communities (application deadline 9 March 2018). The Greggs Foundation Local Community Grants programme is designed to support projects that improve resilience within a community of people who share a common interest or passion.

Projects can include sessional activities/respice support, equipment for sessional activities, trips and residential breaks. The Foundation is also interested in new approaches and innovative ideas as well as sustainable approaches to supporting the community of interest.

There are two funding rounds per year. The next deadline for applications is **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2018**. Application forms are available to complete online at the **Foundation's website**.

**DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE'S CHARITABLE TRUST** Grants up to £10,000 for UK registered charities to deliver local capital projects (next application deadline 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018). While the Trust doesn't specify a minimum or maximum grant award level, awards are typically between £250 and £10,000, although the majority of awards are likely to be towards the lower end of this range.

The next application deadline is **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018**. Application forms are available to download from the **Trust's website**.



# News from the Monitoring Officer

## Standards Committee

The Standards Committee has an important role in seeking to ensure high standards of behaviour amongst Members of the District Council as well as Parishes.

Contact details for SALC and SLCC	
<b>Somerset Association of Local Councils</b>  Edgar Hall Somerton Business Park 8 Cary Court Somerton TA11 6SB Telephone 01458 270922	<b>Society of Local Council Clerks</b>  The Society of Local Council Clerks Main Office No.8 The Crescent Taunton TA1 4EA  Telephone: 01823 253646 Fax: 01823 253681  www.slcc.co.uk

## Parish Declaration of Interest Forms

Guidance for completing the Parish Declaration of Interest Forms can be found on the website following the link <http://www.mendip.gov.uk/article/2321/Parish-Councils>

## Calendar of meetings 2018-2019

Mendip District Council has prepared a draft calendar of its public meetings to be held in 2018/2019. Please contact [committee\\_services@mendip.gov.uk](mailto:committee_services@mendip.gov.uk) if you wish to have a copy.

It should be noted that this calendar is a draft, and subject to change. However, any changes will be because of the timetable for Council business - it will not be possible to make changes to suit individuals.

The calendar will finally be agreed by annual full council in May 2018.

## A date for your diary

### Audit Committee, Wednesday, 31<sup>st</sup> January 2018

Starting on 31<sup>st</sup> January 18 at 15:00 for 3 hours until 18:00

### Wednesday, 31<sup>st</sup> January 2018

This meeting will be held in the Council Chamber, Mendip District Council, Shepton Mallet at 5.30 pm. An agenda will be published 7 days ahead of the meeting.



**Cabinet, Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

Starting on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 18:30 for 3 hours until 21:30

**[Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> February 2018](#)**

This meeting will be held in the Council Chamber, Mendip District Council, Shepton Mallet. The meeting will commence at 6.30 pm. An agenda will be published 7 days ahead of the meeting.

**Full Council, Monday, 19 February 2018**

Starting on 19 Feb 18 at 18:30 for 3 hours until 21:30

**[Monday, 19 February 2018](#)**

This meeting will be held in the Council Chamber starting at 6.30 pm. An agenda will be published 7 days ahead of the meeting.

**Planning Board, Wednesday, 21 February 2018**

Starting on 21 Feb 18 at 18:00 for 3 hours until 21:00

**[Wednesday, 21 February 2018](#)**

This meeting will be held in the Council Chamber, Mendip District Council, Shepton Mallet at 6 pm. An agenda will be published 7 days ahead of the meeting.

**Scrutiny Board, Monday, 26 February 2018**

Starting on 26 Feb 18 at 18:30 for 3 hours until 21:30

**Standards Committee, Tuesday, 6 March 2018**

Starting on 06 Mar 18 at 14:00 for 3 hours until 17:00

**[Tuesday, 6 March 2018](#)**

This meeting will be held in the Council Chamber, Mendip District Council, Shepton Mallet at 2 pm. An agenda will be published 7 days ahead of the meeting.

**Contact details for the committee officers are as follows:**

Claire Dicken                      [claire.dicken@mendip.gov.uk](mailto:claire.dicken@mendip.gov.uk)                      01749 341341

