

# Ston Easton Parish Council



## Spring 2017

### Forthcoming Parish Council Meetings

Thurs 18 May – Clapton Village Hall (Annual Meeting) 7.30pm

(please note change of date)

Tues 11 July – Ston Easton Village Hall: 7.30pm

“The sun just touched the morning;  
The morning, happy thing,  
Supposed that he had come to dwell,  
And life would be all spring.”

Emily Dickinson

### News from your Village Agent

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Have you seen one of the new pound coins yet? You won't miss them – they are 12 sided like an old threepenny bit. They are lighter than the current ones. You have until 15<sup>th</sup> October to change old pounds for new ones. As with the current ones the designs on the back vary.



After 15<sup>th</sup> October, you will be able to take them into your bank & get them changed, but probably only in bags of £20. The old £5 notes are also due to go the same way on 5<sup>th</sup> May. New polymer £10 notes will start to circulate in the summer, with the £20 note following in 2020. Coin-operated machines like car parks & supermarket trolleys are being adapted to take the new coins.

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Fake phone calls from HMRC are still plaguing the area, so please do not respond to them. **THEY ARE FAKE CALLS** and are causing a great deal of upset. HMRC will write to you if there is any problem with your tax.

Please do contact me if there is a problem or worry that I might be able to help you deal with. I can visit, telephone you or correspond by email if you prefer.

All conversations are confidential.

Jacky Smith

07950 782436

[jacky@somersetcc.org.uk](mailto:jacky@somersetcc.org.uk)

### DIARY DATES

Sunday 2nd April

LITTER PICK in and around Clapton

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April - 10.30-12.00

COFFEE MORNING Ston Easton Village Hall

Saturday 22 April - 7.30pm

CURRY & QUIZ NIGHT Ston Easton Village Hall  
In aid of Get Active Ston Easton

Tuesday 11 July – 6.30pm

DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING Ston Easton Village Hall (run by South Western Ambulance Trust)

Every Monday 7.30 – 9.00pm

VILLAGE VOICES CHOIR Ston Easton Village Hall

### News from Ston Easton Park

The trees on the main road have now been cut to make the pavement safer. We have a new manager starting in April who we hope will make himself known in the village.

A new bar has opened in the hotel & all are welcome to try it!! We often have a range of full time or part time work available.

### Mendip Gardening Club



April 19

Water in the Garden

May 17

A New Garden for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

All meetings at Ston Easton Village hall at 7.30.  
Visitors and new members are always very welcome.

For more information please contact

June (01761 413116) or Hilary (01761 750139)

Or go to [www.stoneaston.org.uk](http://www.stoneaston.org.uk) and click on Gardening Club

### A REMINDER FROM SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL

Somerset County Council Elections take place on **Thursday 4 May**. Make sure you are registered to vote.

If you have any questions about the process, including registering to vote, please contact Mendip District Council on 01749 341590

YOUR VOTE MATTERS

DON'T LOSE IT



### Revised Recycling and Refuse Collections - Easter Bank Holidays

All collections will be one day later - including additional collections on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April

## A MESSAGE FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR HARVEY SIGGS

After twelve years representing the Mendip Hills Division, I will not be seeking re-election to the County Council. I have enjoyed my time, especially working with the Parish Councils, who I believe do not always receive sufficient recognition for all the work they do. As a result of my Highways Small Improvement Schemes a number of pedestrian crossings & highways improvements suggested by Parish Councils & others are in place. Some are still in process but I am sure they will happen. The big issue, even more now, is around the speed of traffic. I would like to thank all those who have shown confidence in my representation over the years & will continue to use my voice to sing the praises of the Mendip Hills. Thank you. Harvey

### **Clapton History Group - Thomas Elford Poynting**

One of many interesting findings made by the group concerns a Poynting Family – sometimes Pointing – who lived in Clapton during the 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.

On a map produced in 1784 for landowner Lord Weymouth, there is actually a field called Pointings; another document reports an Isaac Pointing paying Land Tax on two fields. In 1813, we find an Abel Poynting marrying Mary Elford of Ston Easton. There are records of generations of Elford's living in Ston Easton since the 17<sup>th</sup> Century. Elderly residents of Ston Easton may recall the Elford's shop & garage in the village.

Abel & Mary Poynting appear to have set up home in Chilcompton. Abel, although illiterate, undertook farm & building work, Mary had some education & helped at Dames' Schools in the village. Abel & Mary's eldest son named Thomas Elford Poynting had a fascinating career. He left school at 11 & worked with his grandfather Joseph who was a stonemason. Thomas was keen on learning & he used to walk to Wells to buy himself books. At the age of seventeen, he moved to Bath to work in a conveyancing office, but he attended evening classes to pursue studies in Latin, Greek, French, History, Science & Philosophy. At the age of 21, he married Elizabeth Long of Foxcote & he started a small academy in Trim Street in Bath, while still returning every week to run the Sunday School in Chilcompton.

At the age of 27, on account of his reputation as a charismatic teacher, he was invited to teach in a school in Manchester. Besides continuing his teaching, he became a Unitarian Minister & opened a new church there. Thomas & Elizabeth had seven children, the youngest son John Henry became a famous scientist (more about him in another episode). Elizabeth died in 1859 & two years later he married the daughter of the editor of the Manchester Guardian.

In 1865, Thomas wrote a novel called Norton Purnell based on characters he had known in our area in his youth. Thomas died in 1878.

### **MATTERS FROM RECENT PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS**

**Adopt a Kiosk** - The Parish Council has expressed an interest in adopting the telephone boxes in Ston Easton and Clapton – if you have any ideas about uses for these iconic boxes please let us know.

**Royal British Legion Admiral Nurses** – a relatively new service in Somerset which supports veterans and their families dealing with dementia – contact Vicky Redmond-Fitzgerald on 07823 416747

**Mendip District Council** The budget has been set for 2017/8 including a small 1.99% increase in Council Tax

**Mendip Business Awards** Nominations are open until 31 March - Contact 01749 341345 or visit the website [www.mendipbusinessawards.co.uk](http://www.mendipbusinessawards.co.uk).

**Somerset County Council** – Cllr Harvey Siggs announced that he will be standing down at the election after 12 years representing this Parish (and many others). The Parish Council thanked him for the help and service he had provided over that time.

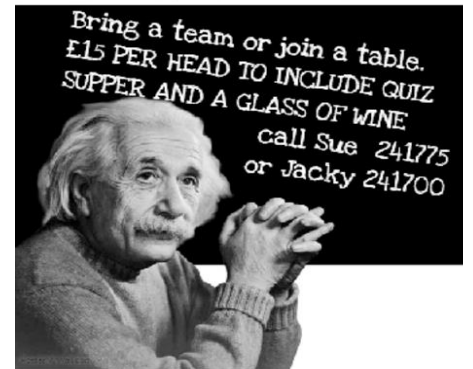
Please note that the date of the Annual Meeting has been changed to **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May** at Clapton Village Hall

If you have any feedback, suggestions for items you would like to see included in a future Newsletter or if you would prefer to receive your Newsletters by e-mail, please contact the Clerk on 07887 861826 or [fionajlyons@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:fionajlyons@hotmail.co.uk)

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## Curry & 7.30PM QUIZ N'GHT

IN AID OF STON EASTON GET ACTIVE PROJECT  
22ND APRIL, STON EASTON VILLAGE HALL



### SHAPE

MENDIP LOTTERY



### **A Lottery Supporting Mendip**

*Shape Mendip Lottery* is a weekly lottery that directly supports good causes within Mendip. When you play the *Shape Mendip Lottery* you know that 60% of your ticket price goes to good causes that benefit your local community. You can even specify which local cause you wish your ticket money to benefit. For further information <https://www.shapemendiplottery.co.uk>

VILLAGE VOICES COMMUNITY CHOIR  
We are a thriving community choir based in Ston Easton & would love more members. We meet in Ston Easton Village Hall every Monday evening from 7.30-9pm. We sing and have fun! Every now & then we hold concerts or appear at events by request. There is no audition you just need to love singing. Why not give us a try?

Call Jacky on 01761 241700 for more information or just come along for a trial