

Severn Stoke and Croome D’Abitot Parish Council

It was with great sadness that we have learned of the death of our valued colleague and friend Hugh Hanmer. We thank his family, with deepest gratitude, for the many years of his dedicated parish contributions, both as a resident and as Chairman of Severn Stoke and Croome d’Abitot Parish Council.

Thank you to everyone that attended the annual residents’ meeting hosted by St Denys’ Church on 20th March. We received updates in person from The National Trust, our Lengthsman, St Denys’ Church, The Parish Hall Committee and from our District and County Councillors. We also had third party reports from Tarmac and from our police officer. The Environment Agency attended – please see the minutes of the meeting for the information provided. Parish Councillors will keep residents updated with all urgent new information in respect of the bund. Thank you to Paul Mills, the Ring Master at St Mary’s Church Kempsey, for the interesting introduction on Bell Ringing at St Denys’ and for explaining plans for ringing on Sunday Services, weddings and for other events as well.

Also at that meeting, residents voted overwhelmingly to support a motion to write in complaint to the planning department at Worcester City Council et al. This was in response to a resident concern about the permitted housing being built at the Ketch A38 roundabout. Residents supported the topic of the letter that ‘this 3-story housing development is not in any way suitable for this location, a blight on the surrounding countryside and, the adjacent traffic and pollution being of significant determent to the residents who will live there’. The parish council has put that request into motion.

Residents also supported a complaint to our Police and Crime Commissioner. Residents supported the letter stating ‘how entirely unacceptable it is that we have just one single police constable covering the Kempsey and Alfrick ward’. No response so far!

The parish council encourage all to sign up for the Police Online tool, Neighbourhood Matters. This is a free service available to all and it is where West Mercia Police will provide community messages, crime prevention advice and details of community engagements. Residents can sign up to receive messages via this link

<https://neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk/>

Councillors continue to receive with much interest the plans for the D-Day commemorations on 6th June, which will see a beacon lighting event on Kempsey Common.

Thank you to outgoing Parish Councillor Lee Russell, who has regrettably had to resign due to work commitments. The position, which will be open to be filled via election if residents request it, will be advertised shortly on parish noticeboards. Those interested in applying for the other positions that are available to fill immediately via co-option are more than welcome to contact the parish clerk. These times see a certain crisis in the number of people coming forward to volunteer in all aspects of society. Vibrant communities with strong levels of civic participation are good for localities and good for all individuals. Parish councils are the closest tier of government to residents and therefore the most accessible. This parish council has recently taken on and addressed a lot of feedback from past councillors and from volunteers and is a welcoming, warm and open place. No matter what your background and availability etc – the role of parish councillor is a flexible one in many respects. Make Severn Stoke and Croome d’Abitot Parish Council the first place that you dip your toe into volunteering.

NEXT MEETING: Wed 22nd May 2024, 7.30pm, 7.30pm, at the meeting room at Croome National Trust Visitor Centre.

Lisa Stevens, Parish Council Clerk, T: 07950256363, E: severnstokeandcda@gmail.com Your councillors are Laurence Freeman (Chair), Susan Faulkner (Deputy), Raymond Williams, Pat Preston, Royston Garrard, Nicola Sumner & Richard Hill.

Contact the parish clerk if you would like to receive agendas or minutes by email.