

Parish Information Bulletin

November 2017



parishbulletin@mendip.gov.uk

End Loneliness in Mendip

See page 3 to find out more...



What's in your Parish Bulletin this month...?

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----|
| Wells Christmas Market | 3 |
| End Loneliness in Mendip Campaign | 3 |
| Digital Drop in Sessions | 5 |
| Age UK – New term new you | 6 |
| Mendip Parish Forum | 7 |
| Community Funding | 8 |
| News from the Monitoring Officer | 12 |
| A date for your diary | 12 |

If you wish to submit an item for the Parish Council Information Bulletin, please email it to parishbulletin@mendip.gov.uk

Wells Christmas Market

Mendip District Council, working in partnership with Wells Town Council, is pleased to announce that a Christmas market will return to Wells this year.

The market will open on Wednesday 20 December and run until Saturday 23 December from 9am to 4pm each day.

Situated in The Market Place at the heart of Wells there will be more than 100 traders offering a range of gifts and produce ideal for that special Christmas present.

A range of food and drink will also be on offer, including mulled cider and wine, cheese rounds, organic beef, spicy sausages, variety of breads, cakes, Christmas puddings, festive pies and pasties, as well as Indian and Thai food.

And if that wasn't enough to get you in the Christmas mood, there will also be music and carols.

There will be free parking in Mendip's car parks in Wells for the duration of the market (time limits will still apply).

The council is also on the look-out for local organisations, clubs and schools who would like to play a part in the market in some way, for example musical groups or performers. If you would like to be involved, contact markets@mendip.gov.uk

End Loneliness in Mendip campaign - focus on Retirement Gateway

Mendip District Council, working alongside a number of leading local health and wellbeing service providers, including Health Connections Mendip, Somerset Public Health and Mendip General Practices, has launched the End Loneliness in Mendip campaign, which aims to raise awareness of the support available for older people who are suffering from loneliness.

As part of the campaign, a new initiative has been set up called the Retirement Gateway.

Dr Geoff Sharp, Chair, Mendip Local Implementation Group, said: "We read and hear a great deal in the media about planning ahead financially for our



retirement and we look forward to a time of leisure and doing what we want with our days.

"However, little is said about other possible effects of retirement. Nowadays society is geared so much towards working hard and working all hours that it can become all consuming. After the honeymoon period of retirement can come a feeling of loss - loss of a role, loss of regular contact with friends at work and loss of structure.

"In response to this, patients and Health Connections Mendip are setting up a Retirement Gateway where people who have retired can meet others who have retired, find out about volunteering and Community Connector training.

"For some people, it might just be an opportunity to make new friends, others might want to find out how they can get more involved in the local community. It won't be a regular group but a 'gateway' to other things. It is envisaged that there might be two or three meetings throughout the year across Mendip but we really need to hear from you to see what might work."

The first session takes place in Frome on Tuesday November 7 from 10am to 12noon at Frome Medical Practice. Just turn up at 10am, there's no need to book a place.

Further dates are planned 2018 in Shepton Mallet and Glastonbury.

To find out more or to get involved contact Health Connections Mendip on 01373-468368 mendip.healthconnections@nhs.net

To find out more about the End Loneliness in Mendip campaign and how to get involved go to - www.endlonelinessinmendip.org.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

| Digital drop in sessions The Sherston | Digital Marketing workshops SS&L |
|--|---|
| 12 th Oct 5-7 Manage Your Social Media https://manageyoursocialmediawells.eventbrite.co.uk | 2 nd Nov – Build Your Business with Blogging https://buildwithblogging.eventbrite.co.uk |
| 9 th Nov 5-7 Business IT anything https://wellsbusinessitanything.eventbrite.co.uk | 1 st Feb – Better Business branding: Logos and beyond https://wellsbrandingworkshop.eventbrite.co.uk |
| 11 th Jan 5-7 Getting your branding right https://gettingyourbrandingright.eventbrite.co.uk | 1 st March – Marketing Automation Made Easy https://easyautomation.eventbrite.co.uk |
| <i>Please note the above events direct users to www.mendip.gov.uk/growwithdigital - presently this web page hasn't yet been updated but will be next week</i> | 3 rd May – Digital Marketing Masterclass https://digitalmarketingmaster.eventbrite.co.uk |

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

- 17th Oct - Social Media Marketing
- 21st Nov - Get the most out of your online shop
- 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 01749 341345



Age UK - New term, new you

With the feel of Autumn now in the air, and the nights beginning to draw in, your mind may be turning to making a change and trying something new before the year is out. Local Charity Age UK Somerset has two suggestions which they say could make you happier and healthier!

First, you could think about joining their Movement to Music activity sessions which are held:

- Street Methodist Church, Mondays 11.45am – 12.45pm
- Frome Medical Practice, Mondays 12- 1pm
- Frome Medical Practice, Fridays 10 – 11am
- Shepton Mallet Leisure Centre, Wednesdays 11- 12noon
- Evercreech Village Hall, Wednesdays 2-3pm
- Coleford coming soon.

But wait. Before you think “that sounds like hard work”, yes these sessions can improve balance, flexibility, co-ordination, muscle strength and help you to sleep better at night. However, another equally good reason to join is that all the sessions are a good laugh and don’t take themselves too seriously. As they are geared for the more “mature” adult there is no-competitiveness, they are a good way to meet new people and extend your social life, and at the end you will have that satisfied glowing feeling for having taken part. All the sessions are low in price and pay-as-you-go so you could go along at any time to try a session to see if it’s for you, or dip in and out of sessions, with no need to commit to the whole term.

Alternatively, they suggest another way to get that feel-good feeling is by helping out. The charity is looking for Volunteers anywhere in Somerset and North Somerset to lead their popular chair-based activity sessions. No experience is necessary and all they ask is that you have a good sense of humour and can spare a couple of hours a week.

For further information please contact Ageing Well 01823 345626 or email ageingwell@ageuksomerset.org.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 Tuesday, 26 September 2017 was attended by 13 people representing 12 parishes.

Date of next Forum

January 18 2018

Your Forum – your ideas

Please send suggestions to Sara Skirton – sara.skirton@mendip.gov.uk or call 01749 341340.

Community Funding

Capacity Building Grants for Community Sponsorship of Refugees

Grants to train & support community groups to become community sponsors of refugees coming into the UK through the Government's Refugee Resettlement Programme (application deadline 15 Dec)

The [Community Sponsorship of Refugees scheme](#) is a new £1 million grant programme jointly sponsored by the Home Office, the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG), and the Department for International Development.

The fund is designed to give experienced organisations the resources to provide training and support to community groups who want to take on the role of welcoming and supporting refugee families in the UK.

Sponsor groups can include:

- o Registered charities;
- o Businesses;
- o Local authorities;
- o Community groups; and
- o Other forms of Third Sector Organisation.

Proposals need to deliver one or more of the following seven outcomes, which are designed to help build capacity in the Community Sponsorship scheme across the UK. Collaborative proposals are especially encouraged.

1. Training and support for Community Sponsors;
2. Support for Community Sponsors with applications;
3. Connecting people and organisations and opportunities;
4. Increase the awareness of Community Sponsorship;



5. Identify barriers to expansion and find solutions;
6. Support the evaluation to help better understand what works;
7. Secretariat function for a Community Sponsorship Stakeholder Group.

The £1 million fund is available over the next two financial years (i.e £500,000 per year for 2018/19 and 2019/20). An additional £200,000 may also be available to facilitate mobilisation timescales.

There are no minimum or maximum grant awards. The Home Office expects to fund a variety of schemes across the UK.

Applicants need to be able to demonstrate:

- o Expertise in refugee resettlement;
- o Expertise in delivering training and support;
- o An ability to engage with and mobilise a broad and diverse range of community groups including faith groups, and 'whole of society' actors;
- o An ability to secure philanthropic funding to enhance the delivery of the stated outcomes.

The deadline for proposals is **12 noon on Friday 15 December 2017**.

Applicants are required to be registered with the [Crown Commercial Service's online eSourcing portal](#) before applying. Additional information is available at this [LINK](#).

A "Bidders' Clarifications Meeting" is scheduled for the week commencing 23 November. Further details will be available via the Commercial Grants Team (details below).

For more information, visit the [Community Sponsorship of Refugees web pages at GOV.UK](#).

Contact details for the programme are:

The Commercial Grants Team

Home Office

2 Marsham Street

London

SW1A 4DF

Email: commercialgrantsteam@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

Galaxy Hot Chocolate Fund

Grants up to £250 for a wide variety of "warm hearted" projects run by local community groups, schools and charities in the UK and Ireland (scheme scheduled to reopen in November/December 2017)

Advance notice that this popular annual public vote based grant programme is likely to open again over the next 4 weeks. This year it looks as if the maximum grant available may have been reduced from £300 to £250. Although the Galaxy Hot Chocolate website says the programme is currently closed, it's worth



keeping an eye on the website and the corresponding Facebook page (see links below) to see when it reopens to applications.

The [Galaxy Hot Chocolate Fund](#) aims to provide small, one-off grants for individuals and community groups whose projects focus on sporting and leisure activities and community improvement.

Community groups, school groups and charity organisations in the UK and Ireland can nominate their project.

A maximum of one application per person/club/organisation is allowed. Each week, five awards of £250 are given out to individuals and groups to help with their community-orientated programmes. One of these awards will go to the project receiving the most public votes each week, while the other four will be selected by a panel of judges who will judge each entry (and use of an award) based on:

- o The extent to which the proposed initiative will help the local community;
- o The extent of the proposed initiative's reach; and
- o The perceived local need for such hobbies, sporting or leisure activities.

It is expected that around 70 awards will be made in total. A list of previously funded projects is available on the [Galaxy Hot Chocolate Fund website](#).

Employees of Galaxy, their families, agents and anyone else professionally connected with the promotion are not eligible to apply.

To apply, organisations are invited to complete the online application form on the [Galaxy Hot Chocolate Fund's website](#) (once the scheme reopens!).

Applicants will be asked to describe in 200 words or less how the award will be used and why it would be beneficial.

Applications which are not successful in any given week will automatically be carried forward to the following week, although any votes on the website for previous weeks will be discarded.

Applications are considered on a weekly basis while the programme runs. The winners are selected on Monday each week. Entries and votes are taken up to 11:59pm each Sunday.

Further information is also available on the [Galaxy Hot Chocolate website](#) and [Facebook page](#).

Contact details for the scheme are:
Mars Chocolate Drinks & Treats
Tel: 0845 045 0042



The Blue Spark Foundation

Grants up to £5,000 for schools, community groups, clubs, societies or other organisations in England to improve the education and development of children (applications may be made at any time)

The [Blue Spark Foundation](#) is a new charitable trust (charity no. 1167172) that registered with the Charity Commission in May 2016. The Foundation provides grant funding to support the education and development of children and young people for educational, cultural, sporting and other small scale projects.

The Foundation recognises that financial pressures on school and community budgets mean that many worthwhile projects which would help the education and development of children and young people may not get off the ground simply because of the absence of funding.

Grants up to £5,000 are available for small-scale projects which may not take place or only take place on a reduced scale without a Blue Spark grant.

Most grants are for £2,000 or less (please bear this in mind when making an application as the Foundation will only award the amount requested rather than a lesser amount). Very occasionally awards will exceed £10,000.

As the Foundation is just over a year old, it has yet to produce any annual accounts. There is therefore no track record of the type of project funded and the overall level of funding available.

Schools, community groups, clubs, societies and other organisations based and working in England can apply. Individuals and groups of individuals may also apply, although the Foundation points out that such applications are much less likely to secure funding.

The Foundation aims to help children and young people reach their full potential by supporting projects which have the following objectives:

- o Encouraging independence;
- o Developing team working skills;
- o Developing self confidence;
- o Promoting creativity and individuality;
- o Encouraging aspiration;
- o Enhancing educational achievement; and
- o Widening educational horizons.

Particular consideration will be given to projects which the Foundation consider will help the self-confidence, team working skills and future employability of children and young people.

The funding for a project must be crucial to the project rather than marginally incremental to its funding. The funding can be used for:



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- o Educational materials;
- o Sports equipment;
- o Musical instruments;
- o IT equipment;
- o Drama tuition;
- o Music tuition;
- o Art and design equipment;
- o Educational training courses;
- o Vocational training courses;
- o Educational excursions;
- o Competitions;
- o Educational events;
- o Seed funding for enterprise projects; and/or
- o Drama production costs.

Grants can be used for a number of different things, including:

- o Physical assets (such as iPads, sports equipment, or lighting for stage productions);
- o Services or facilities (such as sports coaching or music or drama tuition); or the
- o Provision of experiences (such as theatre visits).

Applications can be submitted at any time via the online application form on the [Blue Spark Foundation website](#).

Contact details for the Foundation are:

Tim Davies

Blue Spark Foundation

Tel: 02086619997

Email: contact@bluesparkfoundation.org.uk



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 | |
|---|---|
| Somerset Association of Local Councils Edgar Hall Somerton Business Park 8 Cary Court Somerton TA11 6SB Telephone 01458 270922 | Society of Local Council Clerks 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>

A date for your diary

Planning Board, Wednesday, 8 November 2017

Starting on 08 Nov 17 at 18:00 for 3 hours until 21:00

[Wednesday, 8 November 2017](#)

This meeting will be held in the Council Chamber, Mendip District Council, Shepton Mallet at 6 pm.

Cabinet, Monday, 13 November 2017

Starting on 13 Nov 17 at 18:30 for 3 hours until 21:30

[Monday, 13 November 2017](#)

This meeting will be held in the Council Chamber, Mendip District Council, Shepton Mallet. The meeting will commence at 6.30 pm.

Cabinet, Monday, 4 December 2017

Starting on 04 Dec 17 at 18:30 for 3 hours until 21:30

[Monday, 4 December 2017](#)



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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.

Standards Committee, Tuesday 5 December 2017

Starting on 05 Dec 17 at 14:00 for 3 hours until 17:00

[Tuesday, 5 December 2017](#)

This meeting will be held in the Council Chamber, Mendip District Council, Shepton Mallet at 2 pm. This meeting has been cancelled.

Full Council, Monday, 11 December 2017

Starting on 11 Dec 17 at 18:30 for 3 hours until 21:30

[Monday, 11 December 2017](#)

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.

Contact details for the committee officers are as follows:

Claire Dicken

claire.dicken@mendip.gov.uk

01749 341341

