

USEFUL CONTACTS

HIGHWAYS

Street lights, pot holes, standing water, footpaths issues and many highway matters can be reported online at:-

www.staffordshire.gov.uk/reportit

It is important that residents report issues so that it is logged with an enquiry number and assigned to a County Council officer for inspection and assessment.

RIGHTS OF WAY

There is a reporting system for issues with the public rights of way, which can be found at:

<https://prow.staffordshire.gov.uk/standardmap.aspx>

BOROUGH COUNCIL

To report problems associated with grass cutting, play areas, fly tipping, street sweeping and name plates:

Street Scene - 01785 619401

Recycling collection - 01785 619402

email: info@staffordbc.gov.uk

Report online at: [https://](https://www.staffordbc.gov.uk/streetscene-service-online-forms)

www.staffordbc.gov.uk/streetscene-service-online-forms

Dogs - dog fouling and stray dogs:

01785 619000

Email: dogs@staffordbc.gov.uk

REFUSE LORRY

The Civic Amenity Lorry parks on Stone Road opposite the Methodist Church from 9 - 11am for the disposal of excess waste .

Dates for 2023 will be on noticeboards and on the parish website when confirmed.

HIGH STREET NOTICE BOARD

If you have flyers for any community events that you wish to be posted up on the Parish Council noticeboard in High Street, there is a tray located in I.Tech in Stafford Street where notices can be left or alternatively send a copy to Councillor Peter Jones who will print it and display it on the notice board.

SUSPECT A CRIME?

Report any suspicious activity you witness to the **police on 101** at the time of the incident. Please obtain as much information as you can, i.e. description of person involved, vehicle registration, make and model. There is also the option to report a crime via Facebook and Twitter, by sending a direct message. Messages will be logged in the same way as a 101 call, and the service is manned from 7am until midnight.

Please still call 999 if it is an emergency and an urgent response is needed.

Eccleshall PARISH COUNCIL



Winter Newsletter 2022
www.eccleshallparishcouncil.co.uk

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS



TOWN WARD

Mr Peter Jones (Chairman)
25 Wheelwright Drive, Eccleshall, ST21 6LB
01785 851381
peter.jones@eccleshallparishcouncil.co.uk

Mrs Joy Jones
25 Wheelwright Drive, Eccleshall, ST21 6LB
01785 851381
joy.jones@eccleshallparishcouncil.co.uk

Mr Gordon Dale
74 High Street, Eccleshall, ST21 6BZ
01785 850124
gordon.dale@eccleshallparishcouncil.co.uk

Mrs Libby Dale (Vice -Chairman)
74 High Street, Eccleshall, ST21 6BZ
01785 850124
libby.dale@eccleshallparishcouncil.co.uk

Mrs Ros Taylor
1 Southlands Court, Eccleshall, ST21 6DU
01785 859068
ros.taylor@eccleshallparishcouncil.co.uk

Mr Ant Reid
47 Hartlands Road, Eccleshall, ST21 6DW
07810 833089
ant.reid@eccleshallparishcouncil.co.uk

Mrs Debbie Hill
Stafford House, 19-21 Stafford Street
Eccleshall, ST21 6BL
07738 059422
debbie.hill@eccleshallparishcouncil.co.uk

Mrs Cherry Ryan-Bloor
34 Overton Close, Eccleshall, ST21 6DA
07813 334472
cherry.ryan-bloor@eccleshallparishcouncil.co.uk

CROXTON WARD

Mr Bryan Delanchy,
5 Highfields, Croxton, ST21 6NJ
Tel. 07837 296472
bryan.delanchy@eccleshallparishcouncil.co.uk

Mrs Ros Langford
Ferndale, Woodwall Green, Croxton, ST21 6PH
01630 620545
ros.langford@eccleshallparishcouncil.co.uk

Mr Stuart Mifflin
Church Cottage
Church Lane, Croxton, ST21 6PG
stuart.mifflin@eccleshallparishcouncil.co.uk

HORSLEY WARD

Mr Stuart Perren
Conifers, Cross Butts, Eccleshall, ST21 6AX
07773 3255331
stuart.perren@eccleshallparishcouncil.co.uk

Mr Chris Wilkins
Elford Rise, Shaw's lane, Eccleshall, ST21 6JB
851429
chris.wilkins@eccleshallparishcouncil.co.uk

Mr Steve Kean
Countryside, Cash lane, Garmelov, ST21 6HN
01785 284450
steve.kean@eccleshallparishcouncil.co.uk

SLINDON WARD

Mr John Leather
Ankerton House, Eccleshall, ST21 6LZ
01785 850888
john.leather@eccleshallparishcouncil.co.uk

County Councillor

Mr Jeremy Pert
Bank Farm, Croxton, ST21 6PE
07740 924659
jeremyp@jeremypert.co.uk

Borough Councillors

Mr Peter Jones (details as opposite)
Mr Jeremy Pert (details as above)

Clerk to the Council

Mrs Stacey Worden
16 Newport Road, Great Bridgeford
Stafford, ST18 9PR

01785 282296
eccleshallpc@gmail.com

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Unfortunately, there has been a small amount of disturbing anti-social behaviour (ASB) in the town throughout the year so far. However, due to private and commercial CCTV some culprits were quickly identified and the police have taken action. Although criminal activity in our area remains relatively low, there are some elements of our expanding community whose behaviour has caused concern. CCTV remains crucial in identifying these individuals and is considered well worth the money in protecting your property and your vehicles from harm. On a lighter note, at the Eccleshall show this summer NHW presented a cheque to Eccleshall First Responders as a gesture towards the excellent work they do looking after our community. The money will be put towards the purchase of a sophisticated manikin used to train personnel in saving lives.

Report provided by the Eccleshall Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator.



Parking offences - who do I tell?

There are two different routes for reporting parking offences and this depends on the type of offence observed.

Obstructive parking such as parking on pavements and obstructing pedestrians?

These offences should be reported to the **Police**—call 101, or send a direct message via Twitter or Facebook to Staffordshire police, which can often be quicker.

Parking on double yellow lines or staying longer than the designated parking times?

This is the responsibility of the County Council and can be reported online at <https://bit.ly/3RM3jsl>. More information can be found at <https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Highways/Parking-and-enforcement/Home.aspx>

COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH

Eccleshall's speed watch group continue to monitor the traffic along all the major roads in and out of the town. Sadly, they have recorded some startling speeds within the 30mph zones, some drivers continuing to ignore the flashing speed indicators located around the town.



Many residents keep expressing their concerns about speeding traffic through the town at certain times of the day, especially during the start and end times of the primary school. Gaol Butts is one of the roads particularly affected at those times. The Stafford Rd, Newport Rd and Chester Rd continue to attract the highest speeds (74mph being the highest so far).

The objective of speed watch is for the benefit and safety of the community, nothing more. Groups are all volunteers prepared to give up an hour a week of their time. It has been reported that people are reluctant to get involved for fear of a backlash. However, rest assured that most drivers have a positive attitude to the scheme and it's only a very small number of drivers who shout abuse or offer rude gestures and the police have a zero tolerance towards anyone who exhibits aggressive behaviour towards speed watch personnel.

If anyone has an hour to spare and would like to assist the local group in their endeavours then please contact Staffordshire Safer Roads Partnership on 01785 232702 or email community.speedwatch@staffordhire.pnn.police.uk for further information.

Report provided by the Eccleshall Community Speed Watch Co-ordinator.

£ PARISH GRANTS £

Each year the Parish Council receives applications for financial support in the form of grants to support their club or organisation.

In the past it has supported sports clubs, social clubs, churches and new groups starting out. This year so far the Council has provided a grant to Eccleshall Mercia Rotary Club towards the defibrillator at the library and supported the Eccleshall Festival.

The council can only consider applications from **organisations** within the parish.

Applications should be made to the Parish Clerk, Mrs Stacey Worden. The application is available online at:

<https://eccleshallparishcouncil.co.uk/finances-and-documents/general-publications/>

EGGLESHELL FESTIVITIES—CHRISTMAS 2022

CHRISTMAS TREES

As usual the town will be decorated with Christmas trees and lights throughout December. The trees and lights will be erected by Eccles Society members and friends on Sunday 27th November. The 25 foot tree in the Holy Trinity churchyard and the 20 foot tree at the crossroads are erected by Woods Farm.



The Parish Council wishes to thank the Eccles Society who will erect the 72 small Christmas Trees in the town and check the brackets, Woods Christmas Tree Farm at Solihull for supplying and delivering all the trees, A.S. Electrical Services for installing the lights on the large trees and Traction Equipment for the cherry pickers.

The decorations on the crossroads tree were made once again by the children at the Bishop Lonsdale Academy.

[The trees are funded by the Eccleshall Parish Council.](#)

CROSS ROAD CAROLS

The lights on the large tree at the crossroads, adorned with baubles decorated by the children from Bishop Lonsdale School, will be switched on to the accompaniment of carol singers on Sunday 27th November.

FATHER CHRISTMAS

Santa on the Eccleshall Rotary Club's sleigh will be at the lych gate at Holy Trinity on Sunday 27th November listening to the children's wishes for presents and giving out chocolate.



Carols around the Christmas Tree

Carollers should meet at the crossroads on **Monday 19th December at 7pm**, armed with lights and warm clothing. Carols will be sung at the crossroads, then at the Millennium Clock and John Pershall Court.

Hot punch will be served in Holy Trinity Church by the Eccles Society, concluding around 8pm with a last burst of singing.

Everyone is welcome

SANTA'S ECCLESHALL TOUR

Santa on the Eccleshall Rotary Sleigh will be touring the town during December. The dates are Saturday 10th, Thursday 15th, Wednesday 21st and Friday 23rd December. **All tours start at 5.45pm and end at approximately 7.30pm**

Do listen out for the music so that you don't miss him!

Santa will also be at the Co-Op on Saturday 17th December from 10.30-4pm

See noticeboard posters for further information and additional visits.

The expected routes are:

Saturday 10th:

Cherry Tree Close, Stone Road, Southlands Court, Meadow Close, The Burgage, Badgers Croft, Hartlands Road, Bishops Court, Redhills.

Wednesday 21st:

Sancerre Grange, Green Lane, Green Park, Linacre Road, Beech Road, Claremont Road, Poplar Close, Caroline Court, Southwell Estate, Spring Hollow.

Thursday 15th:

Romford Meadow, Campion Close, Mallow Close, The Crescent, Cross Butts, Overton Manor, Trinity Road, Oak Road, St Chad's Road, Gaol Butts, Churchfield Road, Usulwall Close, Perle Brook.

Friday 23rd:

High Street, Sheriffs Way, Vicarage Close, The Bell, The Royal Oak, Small Lane, The Eagle, The Kings Arms, The Little George, The Smithy.



2023 CROXTON WELL DRESSING—SAVE THE DATE

The 2023 Croxton Community Well Dressing Festival will take place on Saturday 1st July.

Planning is already underway for this traditional community event celebrating our local environment and showcasing local businesses and community groups.

Further information can be found on the website: croxtonwelldressing.weebly.com

If you are interested in becoming involved in any way or would like further information, please contact Ros Langford on 01630 620545.



All are welcome to the Eccleshall Community Lounge

Eccleshall Parish Council and Eccleshall Mercia Rotary Club welcome everyone to the Community Lounge—a warm space on the first floor of Eccleshall library.

The lounge will be open on Thursdays and Fridays from 12.30-4.30pm between November 3rd 2022 and 25th February 2023.

Free tea, coffee, soft drinks and biscuits will be provided, and visitors are more than welcome to bring and consume their own food.

Our lounge will provide a lovely warm room and the opportunity for a cuppa and a chat during the winter period.

Do pop in and see us!



Give your phone box a new lease of life

The Parish Council has adopted the old BT telephone box located on the Eyeswells by the church, which has been recently refurbished and is ready to be repurposed.

The Ecclesian Society are taking it over the Christmas period and it will be full of festive cheer! Longer term, the Parish Council would be interested in hearing from any local groups who would like to look after it and have a plan for its future use. Book Swap? Information point? Seed swap? There are many ways this can be an asset to our community. Please contact the Clerk at eccleshallpc@gmail.com if you have some ideas and you would like to help.

Parish Public Forum

On the 11th May the Parish Council hosted a Community Forum at Eccleshall Community Centre to which all residents were invited. The event was for residents to meet Parish Councillors and find out more about the 22 local organisations who kindly gave their time to attend. The Council plans to host a similar event on the 24th May 2023 and look forward to meeting you.



COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Parish Council Elections 2023



Parish Councillors are elected on a four year cycle. In May 2023 all of the Eccleshall Parish Council seats are up for election.

The election will be held on 4th May 2023, and this will also be the date for the Borough Council elections.

Eccleshall Parish Council consists of four wards ~ Eccleshall, Croxton, Horsley and Slindon, and there are 15 seats in total. You can choose which ward you wish to represent (you do not have to live in that specific ward).

If you are interested in applying, nomination papers will be available from Stafford Borough Council, probably around March 2023.

For further information on eligibility to stand, information is available on the Borough Council website at:

www.staffordbc.gov.uk/parish-and-town-council-standing-as-a-candidate

In addition to the full Parish Council there are six main committees, Planning, Enhancements, Policy & Resources, Traffic Management, Footpaths and Events. There is also a smaller Staffing sub-committee which meets as and when required. Specific working parties are formed when needed to work on specific projects.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Planning Committee meets every two weeks to consider planning applications in the parish supplied by the Stafford Borough Council. The committee is chaired by Bryan Delanchy and submits its views to the Stafford Borough Council Planning Department.

ENHANCEMENTS COMMITTEE

The Enhancements Committees meets as and when it is required and is chaired by Libby Dale. The committee has a wide remit and is concerned with the appearance of the parish and the delivery of any project that aims to enhance the local area. The committee is also responsible for surveying Council assets and ensuring they are up to a suitable standard. This includes all of the council's benches and noticeboards.

POLICY & RESOURCES

As the name suggests the committee consider all matters financial and policy oriented and makes recommendations to the full council, including the budget. The committee is traditionally chaired by the Chairman of the council, currently Peter Jones.

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

This committee considers all things to do with roads and pavements in the parish, including transport, parking, speeding etc. The committee is chaired by Libby Dale.

FOOTPATHS COMMITTEE

There are over 130 public footpaths in the parish that are the responsibility of the Staffordshire County Council. Unfortunately the Rights of Way department at the County do not have the resources to maintain them all to a good standard. Chaired by Ros Taylor, the committee aims to provide maintenance support with the help of a local footpaths operative, supported by footpath marshals who are allocated paths and report issues as they see them.

EVENTS COMMITTEE

This committee, chaired by Ros Taylor, is responsible for the planning and delivery of all Parish Council events including this years successful Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

Grime Watch

If you know of fly tipping in your area you can report it by calling

01785 619402.

Or email the
Borough Council
at grimewatch@staffordbc.gov.uk

All information will be treated in
confidence.

Eccleshall Parish Council is on Facebook

For updates on meetings, community events, Parish projects, refuse lorry collection dates, upcoming consultations and much more, like us at: www.facebook.com/EccleshallPC

Eccleshall Guide

The Eccleshall Guide is online for all your information about Eccleshall. Guide information can be found at: www.eccleshallguide.org
The 2023 printed edition of the Guide is due out in January 2023

Interested in local affairs?

Why not sit in on a Parish Council meeting and see what goes on?

The Council meets monthly, usually on the third Wednesday evening of the month, in one of the local halls.

Meeting agendas and minutes are all published on the parish council website.

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

Contact Us

Each area of the parish is represented by one or more councillors who would like to hear your views.

The Clerk can be contacted at eccleshallpc@gmail.com or by telephone on 01785 282296.

New Bench to Bench walks brochures available

The Footpaths Committee has produced an updated set of walks designed for those who are looking for short walks around town. The walks are clearly marked with the distances between each bench on the route, which provide plenty of opportunities to rest.

There are two versions of the booklet, one of which has been produced in conjunction with Stafford Borough Council. Copies are available from the library or online at <https://eccleshallparishcouncil.co.uk/local-information/footpaths-and-walks/>



Eccleshall Parish Council continues to support rights of way maintenance with a dedicated footpaths operative, and is grateful for the support of the footpath marshal volunteers who continue to walk the paths and report any issues.

LEFT: A Jacobs ladder installed at Copmere in a joint collaboration with Staffordshire County Council and Eccleshall Parish Council.

Drake Hall—Proposal for New Facilities

As part of the Government's commitment to deliver 20,000 prison places across England and Wales by the mid-2020s, HMP Drake Hall has been identified as a site for development. The prison, situated in Eccleshall Parish, is a women only prison with a population of 293 (Sept 2022).

The Ministry of Justice has developed plans for four new accommodation units, providing 103 new places.

On 27 September, Parish Councillors met with officials from the Ministry of Justice, the prison, and planning consultants to talk through the proposals and have any questions answered. The Ministry of Justice has also written to local residents informing them of the proposed developments.

Details of these plans will be publicly available as part of the planning process. Following registration of the planning application, the Local Planning Authority (Stafford Borough Council) notifies local residents and the Parish Council that the application has been registered and invites comments on the planning application. All comments will be taken into account.

Further information on the proposed new facilities are available from the Ministry of Justice Project Team on PSDenquiries@justice.gov.uk.

LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION ~ Have Your Say

Stafford Borough Council has published the next stage of the Local Plan 2020-2040, called 'Stafford Borough Local Plan 2020-2040 Preferred options'.

This document contains the proposal for a new Garden Settlement, Meecebrook, which is located within the parishes of Eccleshall and Chebsey.

Consultation on the plan will run until 12 noon on Monday 12 December 2022.

This is your opportunity to share your views on the plans so please take the time to respond.

More information on Meecebrook can be found at:

<https://www.staffordbc.gov.uk/meecebrook-new-garden-settlement>

Links to the full consultation documents and how to submit your response can be found at:

<https://www.staffordbc.gov.uk/local-plan>

Working out in the Fresh Air

In March 2023 The Parish Council installed outdoor gym equipment behind the Community Centre and on the Jubilee playing field off Bishops Court.

The equipment includes health walkers, push up bars, a sky stepper, slalom skier and an accessible arm and pedal bike.



Do you need transport getting to medical appointments?

The Eccleshall Voluntary Car Scheme aims to provide transport for people in Eccleshall who have limited or no access to public transport or a private car.

Journeys to doctor's surgeries, Stafford or Stoke hospitals or other medical appointments are undertaken.

To qualify for the scheme passengers must register, but there is no charge for registration.

Each journey will be much less than a conventional taxi, the drivers use their own vehicles and are volunteers who receive a nominal amount to cover petrol.

To apply to join the scheme contact Peter & Joy Jones on 01785 851381 or 07815 419166, email peterwjones@btinternet.com or visit the website at:

www.eccleshallvoluntarycarscheme.org.uk

OTHER COUNCIL UPDATES

Allotments Water Supply

Following issues with low water pressure around the site the Parish Council commissioned work to link the pipe system in a loop to increase the pressure. Happily, this has been a success and the flow is much improved.



Eccleshall Parish Council plan update

The Parish Council forward plan 'Eccleshall The Way Forward' has now been updated and is available to view online at <https://eccleshallparishcouncil.co.uk/finances-and-documents/financial-publications/>. A printed reference copy is available to read in the library.

Pavement Clearance works

The pavements along the Newport Road up to Wootton and along the Stafford Road to Blurtons Lane are scheduled for clearance works during the upcoming winter.

A space to reflect provided at Holy Trinity Church

A joint project is underway between the Parish Council and Holy Trinity Church to provide reflection areas within the churchyard. There will be a bench installed to commemorate the life of Queen Elizabeth II and a cherry tree planted to remember those lost in the Covid-19 pandemic and to give thanks to the tireless work of the keyworkers.

Dog Fouling

The Council is aware of the ongoing issue of dog fouling and continues to explore initiatives to reduce occurrences. Dog fouling can cause serious illness as well as being unpleasant. Any incidences of dog fouling can be reported to dogs@staffordbc.gov.uk. If this information leads to successful identification of the dog owner they will receive a £100 fixed penalty notice.

Celebrating the reign of our Queen

Whilst reflecting on the sad occasion of the death of Queen Elizabeth II, Eccleshall Parish Council was proud to be involved in the Platinum Jubilee celebrations in June. Along with many other fantastic activities arranged by local businesses and organisations, the Parish Council and a brilliant team of volunteers delivered a number of events including the lighting of the Beacon, afternoon teas, a mobile skate park, evening dance and, in conjunction with the Royal Oak and The Ecclian, Eccleshall Big Street Party. A short film and photos are available to view at <https://eccleshallparishcouncil.co.uk/local-information/queens-platinum-jubilee-2022/>



THREE TIERS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

There are 3 tiers of local government in this area and 3 local councils with separate responsibilities, Councillors, and budgets. The main services for each authority are:



Eccleshall
Parish Council



Grass Cutting (at Washpits, Copmere picnic site, Croxton well verges, part of verges at Church St/Castle St, top of Kerry Lane and the Eyeswell footpath)

Jubilee Playing Field (Hartlands Road)

Planning (statutory consultee)

Neighbourhood Plan

Shaws Lane Allotments

Noticeboards, pillar clock and some litter bins (emptied by SBC)

Bus Shelters and benches

Rotational vehicle speed devices

Elford Heath and pool

Croxton Play area

Maintenance of some rights of way (supporting SCC's statutory duty)

Christmas Trees and Lights (with the Ecclesian Society)

Planning Applications, Advice and Enforcement

Local Plan for Stafford Borough

Recycling, bins and waste

Council Tax & Benefits

Car Parking and enforcement

Road Closures, Abandoned Vehicles

Street cleansing, litter & graffiti

Parks, sport & fitness (Beech Rd play area)

Housing & Neighbourhood complaints

Business Rates, Licensing, permits & advice

Environmental Health

Community Safety

Voting & Elections

Tree Preservation Orders

Public Conveniences (and area surrounding, Stone Rd)

Births, deaths, marriages & civil partnerships

Business

Advice, support and care for adults

Children and early years

Care for children and families

Strategic Planning

Education and learning

Health and Social Care

Environment

Libraries and arts

Highways/pavement/street lighting (inc. grass cutting, weeds & highway drains/gully cleansing)

Heritage and archives

Transport

Rights of Way

Telephone 01785 282296

Email: eccleshallpc@gmail.com

Website: www.eccleshallparishcouncil.co.uk

Telephone 01785 619000

Email: info@staffordbc.gov.uk

Website: <https://www.staffordbc.gov.uk/>

Telephone: 0300 111 8000

Email: contactus@staffordshire.gov.uk

Website: www.staffordshire.gov.uk