

# Ufton News

July 2020

## What's on in June

Fri	3	Grey Bin Collection
Tue	7	Virtual Ufton Parish Council Meeting 8.00 pm via Zoom
Fri	10	Blue and Green Bin Collection
Fri	17	Grey Bin Collection
Fri	24	Blue and Green Bin Collection
Fri	31	Grey Bin

## Severn Trent – Hot Weather Letter

Parish Councils have been asked to circulate the following letter from the Chief Executive of Severn Trent, Liv Garfield and the Chief Executive of the Environment Agency, Mike Grimes.

Dear Resident(s)

### Will you help us to save water?

On behalf of the Environment Agency and Severn Trent, I'm writing to brief you on the outlook for water supplies over the summer and to ask for your help to ensure we can meet demand at what is a particularly sensitive time.

Demand for water in the Midlands has increased sharply as a direct consequence of the CV-19 emergency, combined with an exceptionally dry spring. We've seen spikes in usage of up to 40 per cent in some cases.

If the long-range weather forecasts are accurate, we'll have enough water for the summer, despite the exceptional conditions. But the margin of comfort is small and we're therefore taking additional steps to ensure safe, reliable supplies of water for the whole community.

The first thing we're doing is increasing the amount of water we can treat and put into supply. We've recently built the capability to provide an extra 50 million litres a day and will increase this by a further 50 million litres a day in the coming months.

The second thing we're doing is trying to reduce demand to more normal levels. Specific measures include:

- **A comprehensive customer education programme guided by insights from behavioural psychologists;**
- **The offer to make million-pound payments to charities in exchange for customers saving water; and**
- **Working with large water users, such as industry, to reduce their demand while maintaining their ability to operate effectively. We've been very encouraged by the positive response we have received.**

However, as Sir James Bevan, Chair of the Environment Agency, noted: "It is not just the job of the government or the Environment Agency, or the water companies to fix this problem."

### **We're therefore looking for your help**

By specifically asking households:

1. **To not use hoses to water gardens and other outside areas on days when the temperature rises above 22°;**
2. **To not wash vehicles more than once a month between now and September (except for reasons of essential hygiene)**

You can find some really **simple tips about water saving** at <https://www.stwater.co.uk/wonderful-on-tap/save-water/you-can-make-a-difference/> and you can pick up some **free water saving devices** at <https://www.stwater.co.uk/wonderful-on-tap/save-water/free-ways-to-save/>.

Our basic message is simple: there is sufficient water for everyone if we all do our bit by minimising the use of water hungry gadgets like sprinklers and pressure washers.

## **Wasp Control**

Specialists in wasp control Stratford-on-Avon District Council can safely treat and remove nests hassle free.

Wasp nest destruction and removal is charged at £75; this includes a revisit if the first treatment is unsuccessful.

Upon booking we will contact you the same day to arrange your treatment.

Our pest control team also provide treatment and advice for many more pests including:

- **Rodents • Bed Bugs • Carpet Beetles • Carpet Moths • Fleas • Cockroaches and many more**
- **Bespoke contracts for businesses**

To arrange a treatment please call 01789 267575 or email [envhealth@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:envhealth@stratford-dc.gov.uk) or visit [www.stratford.gov.uk/environment/pest-control.cfm](http://www.stratford.gov.uk/environment/pest-control.cfm)

## **Update on the Parish Council's application for funding the cart pond**

We are disappointed to report that our application to Severn Trent for a grant to restore the cart pond has been rejected. We'd asked for £7900 of which the Parish Council had offered to fund a share. They told us that they have already allocated half their funds of £1m) to COVID charities, with very many worthy applications but ours 'showing at lower lever of community Impact than many other applications.

This is our third setback over the past two decades, but we won't give up and will be looking for other sources of funding for this lovely feature of Ufton. Nil desperandum, (or as Churchill said "We'll keep b\*\*\*\*\*ing on"). We will keep you informed.

Cllr John Tayler

## **HS2 Road Closures: Ufton area**

The following are current/future travel disruptions due to HS2 works.

The A425 at Ufton Hill is completely closed until 6th July 2020

The B4451 Bishops Itchington to Deppers Bridge is closed until 13th July 2020

The B4452 from Deppers Bridge to Harbury is closed until 27th July 2020

The B4452 Harbury to the A425 will be closed 3rd July to 10th August 2020

The Bascote Heath Road to the Welsh Road will be closed 27th July to 11th September 2020.

HS2 have stated the Welsh Road will be open during these periods.

No date has been given for the closure of the Welsh Road from the Bascote Heath cross-roads to the canal crossing to complete the works

Access to frontages will be available but please plan your journeys carefully, accepting that things change and works do over-run!

If you experience problems, please direct complaints to HS2 at [www.HS2.org.uk](http://www.HS2.org.uk) and/or to Warwickshire County Council Highways on 01926 410410.

## **Councillor Andy Crump posted this on a local FB site. It has relevance to Ufton:**

LOCKDOWN UPDATE 21 JUNE 2020 with the figures below relating to the stats received end of play on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2020.

## **COVID-19 Update**

The cumulative cases in the county are now 1559 up from 1524 with confirmed cases in Stratford on Avon District at 370 up one from 369 since the previous week, which is very encouraging. Testing is continuing at Stratford College and the Track and Trace procedures are well underway. Out of the 427 SWFT Hospital Beds there are eight cases of COVID-19 and no cases in intensive care. With the updated ONS figures sadly the cumulative deaths across Stratford District are now 161 (an increase of two in the last week) which includes 80 from the care home settings from a cumulative of 789 'all cause deaths'. The cumulative total of all COVID-19 deaths in Warwickshire is now 533 and over the same period there have been 2580 non COVID-19 related deaths in Warwickshire (approx. 1 in 6). Across the

county there have been 202 COVID-19 deaths in care homes settings compared to 754 non COVID-19 deaths in care homes over the same period.

The capacity in hospitals remains good with 2% of beds occupied by COVID-19 patients and 11% with suspected COVID-19 patients There are 34% of beds occupied by Non-COVID-19 patients and a spare capacity of 53% reinforcing that the NHS is very much open for business!

**Southam Market/Wellesbourne Market** – Message from Shane’s Star Fruits – “some good news is whilst we are waiting for the Southam market to re-open, Mark from the Bowling Green Pub has so kindly said we can use the carpark. We will be doing a market stall on a Thursday (council approved). Wellesbourne Market opened in a reduced manner as from 20<sup>th</sup> June 2020.

**Exercise during the lockdown** - I have noticed a significant increase in the amount of people walking & cycling (nationally there is a big demand for cycles), and it appears many people have got the exercise bug. The local Public Rights of Way (PROW) groups have done a great job locally but had to suspend activities due to the virus. Local councillors from several settlements are looking at how cycling can be made easier and safer locally – several public and private sector organisations will need to be involved. It certainly won’t be resolved overnight. I am pressing WCC to bring forward proposed schemes for our area, sustainable transport is a key element of WCC’s Shaping Places Capital programme.

**Open water swimming** - Please do not do this unless using a supervised area – I’ve had reports of people using quarries/pools in this hot weather. It was less than 2 years ago when someone drowned locally using such pools. I do not want that to happen again. Please stay safe

**Economy** - WCC will provide help and support to stimulate Warwickshire’s economy which has taken a hit (like most parts of the country –and Europe) because of COVID-19. Before the pandemic, Warwickshire’s economy was one of the best performing in the country. Naturally, this had to, quite rightly, be put to one side as all efforts were put into protecting, feeding and helping Warwickshire residents.

**Waste Household Recycling** - The online booking system continues to work really well and the sites open include Burton Farm in Stratford and Princes Drive, Leamington Spa: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/hwrc> New booking dates are continuing to be released by WCC but remember a household can only book on visit every two weeks. Whilst the centre in Shipston opens on Monday 22 June there are no plans for Wellesbourne to open in view of the difficulties of implementing social distancing procedures effectively.

**Face Coverings** - In line with the government’s new measures for travelling on public transport, face coverings/masks must be worn from Monday 15th June.



## **BYRNE LANDSCAPING & TREE SURGERY**

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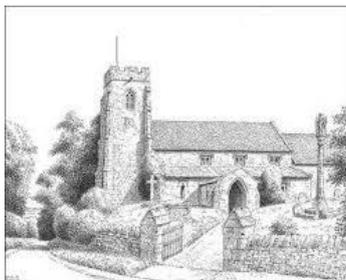
Deadline for submissions for June’s newsletter is **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

Village website  
[www.uftonvillage.com](http://www.uftonvillage.com)

Parish Council Clerk Jackie Chapman  
[uftonparishcouncil@outlook.com](mailto:uftonparishcouncil@outlook.com) 01926 716191

Village Hall Bookings and any other Village Hall queries Mrs G Ingham 612397 [ufton@oldwell.plus.com](mailto:ufton@oldwell.plus.com)

## ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS CHURCH, UFTON



I was over in Ufton yesterday, meeting potential candidates for the incumbent priest role in our parish (more information below). It reminded me what a great village Ufton is and was particularly heartened to see how well the book swap has taken off in the church porch, which was an excellent idea from the villagers who set this up.

This month has brought news of relaxation in daily lives for many, as we slowly drift towards a “new normal”. For many others, we are aware that this time is a struggle in many different ways. If this is you, please know that, despite the church being closed, if you feel you need to talk to someone about church issues or just for a friendly chat or prayer, please give us a call (Adelle & Andy 711967, Marilyn 614125, Ann 613303).

In terms of “normal” church life, it was announced yesterday that from 4<sup>th</sup> July there will be some relaxation as to what is permitted in terms of having worship in church. We are awaiting further guidance for the Diocese which will help the PCC interpret what this could look like for us in Ufton, and we hope to provide an update on when we believe we will be able to resume services in the next newsletter.

In terms of occasional services, weddings will also be permitted from 4<sup>th</sup> July with up to 30 attendees, and we continue to be available to hold funerals. Please do get in touch with us if you wish to discuss any requirements in terms of weddings/funerals/baptisms.

### **Process for appointment of a new vicar**

At the time of writing, we have spent the last two days meeting and interviewing potential vicars, to be shared with Harbury and Ladbrooke, and you may have seen some new faces wandering around the village as part of their familiarisation visits. We are not able to say too much at this time, as there are a number of processes which require to be undertaken before we can announce a successful candidate. However, we hope that we can make an announcement in a few weeks' time. Thank you to those who have been involved, both in person and in prayer.

### **Services and church community**

We did not receive any response to the offer in the last newsletter of running a virtual coffee morning. However, if you have changed your mind, please let us know by emailing [uftonchurch@gmail.com](mailto:uftonchurch@gmail.com) or calling us on 711967.

In terms of services, there are services that can be accessed online (see [www.coventry.anglican.org](http://www.coventry.anglican.org)), a weekly Sunday service is broadcast on Radio 4 at 08.10 and Songs of Praise is on BBC One at 13.15 on a Sunday. We are also able to get you added to the circulation list for Deanery worship emails, which are online services circulated via email. Please get in touch if this is of interest to you.

### **Church contact list - reminder**

As a reminder please email [uftonchurch@gmail.com](mailto:uftonchurch@gmail.com) if you would like to be added to the church email list, which we will use if we need to give any updates between newsletters, particularly information on when services resume. If you do not have email but would like to be contacted in such circumstances, please call us and leave your number (details at bottom of sheet).

*The PCC have an email address: [uftonchurch@gmail.com](mailto:uftonchurch@gmail.com). Churchwardens Andy & Adelle 711967*