

UFTON NEWS



January 2022 Diary

Tues	4	Ufton Parish Council Meeting 8.00 pm VH
Fri	7	Blue & Green Bins
Mon	10	Tai Chi 7.30 pm VH
Tues	11	Sugarcraft 10am – 12 VH
Fri	14	Grey Bin
Sat	15	Men's Breakfast 8 am VH
Sun	16	Private Function 10 am VH
Mon	17	Tai Chi 7.30 pm VH
Tues	18	Sugarcraft 10 am – 12 VH
Thurs	20	Dog Training 6 pm – 8 VH
Fri	21	Blue & Green Bins
Mon	24	Tai Chi 7.30 pm VH
Tues	25	Sugarcraft 10 am – 12 VH
Thurs	27	Dog Training 6 pm – 8 VH
Fri	28	Grey Bin
Sun	30	Holy Communion 11 am VH
Mon	31	Tai Chi 7.30 pm VH

January Parish Council Meeting

At the January Parish Council meeting your Parish Councillors are due to discuss the precept they will be requesting from Stratford District Council for 2022/23. This year's precept 2021/22 is £8970, (2021/22) and this equates to £88.20 per year for a Band D property. The precept covers such things as the streetlighting (provision, maintenance and electricity usage), Ufton Newsletter, village website provision and the provision of a Parish Clerk. All residents are welcome to attend Parish Council meetings.

Queen's Jubilee

As Ufton Hill is a prominent landmark in the area, the Parish Council is considering purchasing a beacon to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee. They are also looking at possibilities as to where the beacon could be sited.

It would be lovely to have a village event to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee, definitely a once in a lifetime opportunity. Please give your thoughts on this matter and if you are happy to help arrange this celebration to the

Parish Clerk and or Parish Councillors by 21st January 2022 so they can be considered at the next meeting due to be held on 1st February 2022.

Police and Crime Commissioner Survey

Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner Philip Seccombe is keen to hear the views of everyone living and working in the county as he looks to set the budget for policing in 2022/23.

He has launched a simple survey to allow people to give their feedback on how much households should pay for policing, as well as finding out their priorities for how this should be spent.

The consultation comes as the Government has confirmed funding is in place to support the continued recruitment of new police officers, which will see Warwickshire Police reach its highest ever total of 1,100 by the end of 2022. Aside from the core central grant from Government, just under half of the police budget is made up from Council Tax contributions, through the Police Precept.

In its settlement announcement, the Government gave Police and Crime Commissioners the flexibility to increase the Police Precept by up to £10 a year on an average Band D property – around 83 pence per month. Mr Seccombe is consulting on a range of options for the Precept to gauge public feedback. He said: "I know that these are not easy financial times for many households and that's why it's important I gather the views of local people and council tax payers as to whether an increase in the precept is justified and if so, what priorities it should be spent on."

"My aim is to seek a fair outcome which keeps taxation levels as low as possible while also protecting local services. However, to do this, I really need people's input so I can best understand where that balance may lie. It will only take a small amount of time to complete the survey and your views will help to shape my draft budget, which I will set out in January. I would encourage everyone who lives, works or studies in Warwickshire to have their say before the consultation closes."

The 'Your Police, Your Views' survey is online until January 17, 2022.
<https://www.warwickshire-pcc.gov.uk/>

Ufton Village Fete – 2022

The fete committee is looking to hold a village fete in 2022. If anyone wishes to help/contribute please contact the Fete Chairperson, Katy Harwar, Tithe Barn Cottage, Southam Road.

Unwelcome Visitors in Ufton

On 16th December a resident returning to their property at @ 9.45 pm disturbed three young men, wearing woolly hats trying to get into their neighbour's property, whilst they were in. They had managed to open a side window. They went off in an estate car which was parked by the farm. Police have been out and are aware.

Please help to keep our small community safe by keeping an eye out and reporting any unusual activity to the Police. (Noting down a description of the person/people, time, date and any vehicle registration number is useful).

Warwickshire County Council #WinterWellness

We know that sudden unexpected costs can create real challenges for residents who are struggling to make ends meet. Help from the Local Welfare Scheme is available for those in crisis, call 0800 408 1448 or 01926 359182 to talk to us in confidence. Go to Warwickshire.gov.uk/facinghardship.

HS2 – Traffic Lights followed by the temporary Closure of Kineton Road

The Kineton Road (B4451) is due to have temporary two-way traffic lights installed from just after the island, by Avonvale Vets to the Southam Rugby Club as from 5th January 2022 for approximately two weeks. This will then be followed by the same section being closed fully whilst a concrete pad is installed.

The concrete pad is necessary to allow construction vehicles to cross the road, without damaging the utilities which are underneath. As soon as the concrete has "gone off" the road will be opened again.

More information is available from
Freephone 08081 434 434
Minicom 08081 456 472
Email hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk

The Invisible Man

I think that I'm invisible
Or so it seems to be
Who gets served last at the bar?
Not him or her but me

It's not an isolated case
It happens all the time
So much so I thought that I
Would put it into rhyme

Restaurants when I'm in a rush
Well, there I've had my fill
The Waitress just can't see me
When it's time to pay the bill

Another thing is motorways
Big lorries are a pain
They don't see me behind them
As they drift into my lane

I don't get cross or blow my horn
As mad as mad can be
I just smile and wave at them
But they won't look at me

Folks can always see my dog
I don't stand a chance
They talk to him and pat his head
But for me there's not a glance

They nod at me as they walk on
They seem to feel the need
To stop me feeling lonely
At the other end of the lead

There are exceptions to the rule
That happen every day
Traffic lights see me coming from
Half a mile away

My faith in human nature's dim
But now I've seen the light
CCTVs are on the ball
And watch you day and night

Cameras are everywhere
A necessity I confess
Today at last I've been observed
A SPEED CAMERA no less!



By an Ufton resident

Warwickshire Police – Rural Crime Team

You can call Warwickshire Police to report crimes against local wildlife, and any such reports will be picked up by the dedicated team of wildlife officers to investigate.

You can also call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 to report such issues, pass information about offenders/criminal gangs and to highlight other areas of rural criminality completely anonymously.

If an offence is in progress, please call 999, or 101 for instances where you don't need the Police immediately. The Police understand sometimes people want to remain anonymous. The Police don't mind how information gets to them, just that it does get to them.

!!New trailer/caravan towing rules!!

As of 16th December 2021, if you passed your car driving test after the 1st January 1997, you're now allowed to tow trailers up to 3,500kg MAM (Maximum authorised mass). This was originally due to come into effect from 15th November but was delayed following concerns from motoring organisations.

The DVLA will automatically update your driving licence record to show that you're allowed to tow trailers. You'll get category B+E added to your driving licence when you get a new photocard driving licence. You do not need to contact DVLA for this to happen.

If you passed your car driving test before 1st January 1997, you are not affected by the change. However, if you've never towed a trailer or caravan before it is strongly recommended you undertake some basic training before hitching up.

It's also vitally important you know the specifications of your towing vehicle. Just because your licence now allows up to 3,500kgs to be towed, it doesn't mean your vehicle can legally tow that weight. Ensure you check the manufacturer's weight plate or vehicle handbook and correctly match the trailer/caravan weight.

Men's Breakfast 8.30am Saturday 15th January 2022 in Ufton Village Hall

We hope you all enjoyed the festive season and that you will be able to celebrate New Year's Eve in an unrestricted way - Boris permitting of course - and it is in a similar vein that we invite you to our first event of 2022.

We are delighted that we shall kick off the New Year with a Speaker from "one of our own", namely Mike Gaffney whose Talk is entitled Southam United Charity.

Chef Roger is a very busy man (this was his only free day in January) so we are delighted that he will be offering us his incomparable 'Full English for a Fiver' once more, but with the inevitable cautious mantra "first come, first served". The Waiting List kicks in at 30 so let Barry know you'll be coming as soon as possible either on 01926 811254, 07768 175682 or champagnebuff@gmail.com

Happy New Year!



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Village Website www.uftonvillage.com

Deadline for inclusion of items in February's Ufton News, Saturday 25th January 2022



Upcoming services

30th January – 11:00 – communion service in village hall led by Rev Ann Mulley

Update on Fete monies – following recent request for clarification

In 2007 a Special Fete Meeting unanimously decided that 10% of the Net Income from the Fete should be put aside for specific village purposes. The Minutes are silent on who should decide how the money should be spent, but traditionally it has been the decision of the organising committee at their post-Fete "Wash up" meeting.

Cheques for £150, £160 and £150 were given to the Ufton Youth Community Fund in 2007, 2008 and 2009. Friends of Ufton Church received £140 in 2010 and the Village Hall received £223 in 2015 and £92 in 2019. No cheques were issued in the years not mentioned, but in 2013 the Ufton Youth Community Fund was closed and £490 generously returned to the Fete fund; to that were added donations from the 2012 and 2013 fetes which enabled the £1,100 purchase of a marquee which has been in use at every fete since.

Fete fund monies are held within the church's bank account but are recorded on the Balance Sheet in the annual Financial Statements of St Michael & All Angels as Designated Fete Fund. The balance available in the Fund at 31 December 2020 was £1,229 and no requests have been received since. We asked prior to covid if there were any new ideas for use of the monies, some suggestions were made but there was no further offer to take these forward to fruition, so the money remains available for specific village purposes.

Message from Rev Andy

In 1519 the Spanish explorer Cortes led an expedition to explore and conquer Mexico; however, he faced determined opposition by the local tribes who managed to board and sink all his ships except one. Realising that remaining ship could cause his men to panic and fight over who could return, he had that last ship scuttled. There was now no way to turn back – they had to go forward, and they had to succeed.

That's a bit like us today at the end of 2021. Whatever that year may have held for us its now over, and there is no way back. We can't undo any action, we can't unsay any word. Before us is a New Year, and it can be full of hope and promise if we so wish.

Because God offers us plenty to look forward to, but so often we have a fear of facing the unknown. Back in Cortes time, mariners had limited maps available to them. Each of these maps had a line drawn mid ocean which marked the extent of the known world, beyond which was simply written the words 'here there be dragons'. Maybe for us COVID has been that dragon which came out of the unknown.

There will be challenges ahead, and there will be surprises, and we have seen much of that in the past few years. There will be change, because that is a unavoidable part of human life, and there may be loss and sadness, but there will also be joy, and laughter and excitement and growth. The important thing to remember at the beginning of a New Year, is that if we have put our trust in God, given him the reigns of our life, then he knows our destination, what will be involved, and how long it will take. And he will be right there alongside us, as we move into 2022.

Goodbye from Andy and Adelle

The end of 2021 brings with us a goodbye from our formal involvement with the church in Ufton, having moved to Southam back in 2019 it felt like the right time. Wishing our church family lots of love and all the best for the future.

Contact us on uftonchurch@gmail.com

Vicar – Rev Andy contactable on 01926 714295