



Steeple Morden Parish Newsletter July/August 2023



Editorial

The blossom this year has really surpassed itself; checking photographs taken in previous years, the roses have never looked so good, hopefully whatever rain we do get doesn't completely destroy the flowers.

Following my post of Anthony Browne's rather negative views of the South Cambs. Council's 4day week plans, which upset one or two people; on Page 2 you will find the reasoning behind the continuation of the 4day week. County Councillor Sebastian Kindersley kindly sent some figures which endorses the reasoning.

Quite a few events listed this month, Open Studios, Summer Fete, Football Festival and Kite Festival. There are numerous events arranged for children over the summer holidays from Tennis Coaching, Football School, and various events at Wimpole Hall Farm. There are nature walks arranged by the wardens of Royston Heath, and some of the other nature reserves in the area have open days. Most of these events are listed on-line.

Desma

Eventt

Fri 30th June – An evening with Sarah (p10)

July

Sat 1st, 2nd, 8th, 9th, 15th & 16th – Anna Pye Open Studio (p4)

Sat 8th July – Summer Fete – SM Primary School (p4)

Fri 14th & Sun 16th July – Community Play (p4)

Tues 18th July – Literary Lunch with Rachel Meller (p6)

Aug

Sat 5th Aug – Litfest –Football & Music (p10)

Sat 5th Aug – Bark in the Park (p8)

Sat 6th Aug – Royston Kite Festival (p8))

Sept

Sun 3rd Sept – Cream Teas (p6)

Editor

Desma Goddard Email: newsletter@steeplemordenpc.org.uk

Steeple Morden Parish Council List of Councillors as at May 2023

CLLR Jeremy CLAYTON (Chair)
jeremy@steplemordenpc.org.uk
01763 853855

CLLR Keith AUSTIN
kieth@steplemordenpc.org.uk
01763 852023

CLLR Nick BADGER
nick@steplemordenpc.org.uk
01763 852191

CLLR Malcolm BIRD
malcolm@steplemordenpc.org.uk
01763 852469

CLLR Mark CARROLL
mark@steplemordenpc.org.uk
07971 975146

CLLR Oliver PARSONS
oliver@steplemordenpc.org.uk

CLLR Nicola SHARKEY
nicola@steplemordenpc.org.uk

CLLR Sean TRAVERSE-HEALY
sean@steplemordenpc.org.uk
01763 853843

CLLR Celia UPCHURCH
celia@steplemordenpc.org.uk
01763 852193

DISTRICT CLLR MRS Heather WILLIAMS
cllr.williamsh@scambs.gov.uk
07885 774775

COUNTY CLLR MR Sebastian KINDERSLEY
skindersley@hotmail.com
01767 651982

Parish Council Website:
www.steplemordenpc.org.uk



[GO TO WEBSITE](http://www.steplemordenpc.org.uk)

Clerk to the PC: Sally Walmesley
clerk@steplemordenpc.org.uk

Four Day Week

Following Anthony Browne's negative views on the South Cambs Council deciding to continue with a four day working week, included below is the reasoning behind the South Cambs decision.

‘At the Cabinet meeting on 15 May 2023, **Cabinet members agreed to extend** the trial for 12 months after independently-analysed data showed the first trial had been a success.

The Bennett Institute for Public Policy at the University of Cambridge was asked to independently review the Council's data from the initial three-month trial, to ensure it was analysed without any risk of bias. They analysed data from 18 different key areas, covering performance in Planning, Housing, Transformation, Human Resources and Corporate Services and Finance.

The data shows:

- Nine out of the 16 areas monitored show substantial improvement when comparing the trial period from January to March to the same period in 2022.
- The remaining seven areas monitored either remain at similar levels compared to the same period last year or saw a slight decline.
- The Bennett Institute noted however that not a single area of performance fell to a concerning level during the trial.

A four-day week is when people deliver 100% of their work in 80% of their contracted hours for 100% of their pay. We think a four-day week will help us attract and keep talented colleagues. Not being able to fill vacant posts – or switching between agency staff to cover them – is both costly and disruptive to services for residents. (Cont ...p3)

NEWS FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

The meeting is listed every month in the Village Garage Shop window, on the Notice Board at the Recreation Ground, and in near the station. A copy of the full minutes from the Council Meetings may be obtained by contacting the Parish Clerk, Sally Walmesley, Redwood Lodge, South Street, Litlington, Royston SG8 0QR. Telephone 01763 852137 or e-mail clerk@steeplemordenpc.org.uk Minutes can also be viewed on the Steeple Morden Village Website www.steeplemordenpc.org.uk and at the Village Garage Shop.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be on 10th July 2023

For example, when case officers change during the process of a planning application, it can cause delays and frustration because a lot of context and institutional memory is lost. The trial is also about testing whether we can improve the health and wellbeing of colleagues.

Four-day weeks require everyone to become more productive – so that we can do all our work in 80% of our contracted hours. It's not about doing less work. It's about working smarter and being more productive while we're at work, with the benefit of having extra time off. It's a 'reciprocal deal' between the Council and colleagues.

It is important to note that our opening hours during the trial will be maintained so that they are at least the same as they were before the trial. The Council will remain open as usual and will not simply be closing for one day per week during the trial. You can continue to [contact us](#), as you have always been able to.

If you have any questions about the trial, or would like to make a comment about the trial arrangements, use the contact details below. If you would like someone to get back to you, please remember to leave your email address.'

Contact Details: communications@scambs.gov.uk

County Councillor Sebastian Kindersley – provided some further information.

' As a taxpayer I am happy the Council has already saved £300k in agency placements this year with another £700k predicted. This is happening because the recruitment and retention of Council officers has been made much easier as the 4DW is viewed as a substantial positive by them despite having to do 100% of the job in 80% of the time. I'm also happy that the Bennett Institute for Public Policy at the University of Cambridge has independently audited the 4DW and found that all service levels have remained stable or improved since the trial began. And lastly I am happy that over 89% of officers have found their working week so much improved that they want the trial to be permanent. The world of work has transformed utterly over the last few years and we should be proud that our District Council is leading from the front to the benefit of residents, employees and taxpayers '



ANNA PYE

Artist Printmaker Tutor

Cambridge Open Studios
2023

July 1st, 2nd,
8th, 9th, 15th, 16th
10am to 5pm

Original hand pulled
lino cuts and mono prints
Home textiles Cards

3 Station Road
Steeple Morden Royston Herts
SG8 0NN

www.annapye.com
www.camopenstudios.com

COMMUNITY PLAY

The Morden Players are looking for actors of all ages, 12 years and up, to take part in PALS, a brand-new short play for this autumn, 2023. No experience needed, just enthusiasm!

To see a script contact Sarah Harrison novel@sarah-harrison.net

01763 853171 07976657504 or FB messenger

To get involved do join us at the Pightle (scout hut) Bogs Gap Lane, Steeple Morden SG8 0PR on Friday July 14 at 7.30pm or Sunday July 16th 2.30pm

We'd love to have you on board - look forward to seeing you!

**Saint Peter & Saint Paul Church
Steeple Morden
Dairy for July/August
www.shingaychurches.co.uk**

Sun 2nd July 10.00am Holy Communion,
Litlington
Sun 9th July 10.00 Group Communion,
Abington Pigotts
Sun 16th July Family Service, Steeple Morden
Sun 23rd July Group Communion, Guilden
Morden
Sun 30th July Group Communion, Litlington
Sun 6th Aug 10.00 Group Communion,
Wendy
Sun 13th Aug Group Communion, Steeple
Morden
Sun 20th Aug Group Communion, Abington
Pigotts
Sun 27th Aug Group Communion, Guilden
&&Morden
PS: Always check venue and time with church
noticeboard

And Tuesdays

Morning Prayer at Litlington Church,
10:00am

- 4th July 1st August
- 11th July 8th August
- 18th July 15th August
- 25th July 22nd August

followed by tea, coffee, and
biscuits.

Come, join and have a chat.

Café Church

**Café Church will be open from 9am
on the following Fridays –**

7th, & 14th, July

**Everyone is welcome for
tea, coffee, home-made cakes,
toys for the children
and chat**

**Guilden Morden Congregational Church
Diary for July/August**

www.guildenmordencongregationalchurch.org

If you would like to have a chat with Tony, he is hosting
an "Open Church" every Monday morning in the Chapel
between 9.30am and 11.30am

Sunday 2nd July **10.30am** Café style service
Croissants and coffee
Monday 3rd July **10.30am** Men's Guild
Tuesday 4th July **14.00pm** COGS
Wed 5th July **9.00 – 11.00am** Baby and
Toddlers Group
Sunday 9th July **11.00am.** Joint service at
Litlington
Wed 12th July **9.00 – 11.00am** Baby and
Toddlers Group
Sunday 16th July **10.30am** Joint service with St
Mary's at the Chapel
Wed 19th July **9.00 – 11.00am** Baby and
Toddlers Group
Sunday 23rd July **12.00 noon** Prayer walk and
picnic, meeting at the Chapel at
12 noon
Wed 26th July **9.00 – 11.00am** Baby and
Toddlers Group
Sunday 30th Aug **10.30am** Communion service in
the Chapel
Wed 2nd Aug **9.00 – 11.00am** Baby and
Toddlers Group
Sunday 6th Aug **10.30am** Café style service
Croissants and coffee
Monday 7th Aug **10.30am** Men's Guild
Wed 9th Aug **9.00 – 11.00am** Baby and
Toddlers Group
Sunday 13th Aug **11.00am** Joint service at
Litlington
Wed 16th Aug **9.00 – 11.00am** Baby and
Toddlers Group
Sunday 20th Aug **10.30am** Joint service with URC
Ashwell in the Chapel. Theme
"Share your story"
Wed 23rd Aug **9.00 – 11.00am** Baby and
Toddlers Group
Sunday 27th Aug **10.30am** Communion service in
the Chapel
Wed 30th Aug **9.00 – 11.00am** Baby and
Toddlers Group

Other group meetings:

Bridge Club – Mondays 19.30pm

Knit and Natter- Alternate Tuesdays at 10.00am

Local History Group- Wednesday 2nd Aug 15.00pm

Home group Zoom meetings Wednesdays 20.00pm ,
Contact Emily for details emilymwilkinson@doctors.org.uk

Anyone wishing to book the rooms for social activities
contact Gerry Watkins 01763 852869

Steeple Morden Parish Litter Picks Schedule 2023
All events start at 2pm and last just 60 “magic” minutes

Zone 1:	Odsey Meet by Zaheer’s carpark	Saturday 9 September 2023
Zones 2 and 3:	Cheney Street from Litlington Road to Brook End to include The Green Cheney Street from Brook End to Hay Street Junction to include Russell Close and Jubilee Way etc Meet by the Litlington Road end of The Green	Saturday 23 September 2023
Zones 4 and 5:	Station Road from allotments to Ashwell Road to include Ashwell Road and Windmill Close etc Station Road and Hay Street to Craft Way to include Craft Way Meet by the Station Road and Ashwell Road intersection	Saturday 7 October 2023
Zones 6 and 7:	Hay Street from Craft Way to Trap Road /North Brook End Trap Road/ Bogs Gap and Brook End Meet by Parish Noticeboard on the rec	Saturday 21 October 2023
Zones 2-6	Whole village sweep Meet by Parish Noticeboard on the rec	Saturday 11 November 2023
Zone 1:	Odsey Meet by Zaheer’s carpark	Saturday 25 November 2023

Please email SMLitterpick@yahoo.com with your full name and which of the events you can attend.

CREAM TEAS
in aid of Church Funds

Sunday 3rd September
2.30pm – 5.00pm

Hill House, Cheyney Street, Steeple Morden

Tickets: Adults £5.00
Children 4 – 12 £3.00

From: D & G McKee 852380 or on the Gate

18th July 2023 @ 12:15 pm - 2:15 pm

Literary Lunch – Rachel Meller

The Ballroom, Old Bull Inn, Royston 56 High Street, Royston, Hertfordshire

Literary Lunch with Rachel Meller Our next Literary Lunch author is Rachel Meller, who will be talking to Jude Simpson (our poet-in-residence) about her recently published book *The Box with the Sunflower Clasp*.

Tickets £15
www.tickettailor.com

Free Wi-Fi around Recreation Ground buildings

The Parish Council runs a free Wi-Fi service in and around the buildings on the Recreation Ground. The Cricket Pavilion, the Reading Room, the Village Hall and the Bowls Club are all covered.



The Wi-Fi in these areas is provided free of charge for public use by residents of Steeple Morden and for visitors to our village.

- To use the Wi-Fi simply select the network SSID: **SMPC_Community**
- No password is required.
- Please use sensibly and responsibly.

If you have any problems send an email to: webmaster@steeplemordenpc.org.uk



Public EV Charge points operational on Recreation Ground



The Parish Council is pleased to operate two EV Charge points on the Recreation Ground. These charge points are provided for public use by residents of Steeple Morden and for visitors to our village.

The pricing is currently 49p per kWh.

Please use responsibly:

- Do not park in the charging bays unless charging
- Please treat equipment with care and respect
- Check charge status and remove car quickly when charging complete
- Do not drive off tarmac area and chew up grass

If you have any queries about the EV Chargers in the village please email: webmaster@steeplemordenpc.org.uk





Royston Kite Festival

The Kite Festival on Therfield Heath will be held on Sunday 6th August.

However, this may be the last time it takes place at this location. The Rotary Club of Royston who have organised the event for the past 30 years are looking for an alternative venue for next year.

The decision to move comes after a long period of constrictive discussion with the Conservators of the Heath much of which is a site of Special Scientific Interest.

The festival has raised approx.. £100,000 for local charities. We are hoping to find a suitable site for the future.

Bark In The Park
Family Fun Day & Dog Show

A Day of Fun and Adventure for the Whole Family

5th August 2023
 Guilden Morden Rec, SG8 0JF

More Information:
www.petmunchuk.com



Steeple Morden Cricket Club CCA Junior 3 West

After a very successful 2022 year SM Cricket Club are now in CCA Junior 3 West League.

Fixtures for 2023

22 nd April	Ventnor CC v Steeple Morden 1 st XI	
30 th April	Steeple Morden 1 st XI v Whaddon	
6 th May	Steeple Morden 1 st XI v Cottenham 11	Cancelled
13 th May	Cambourne v Steeple Morden 1 st XI	Cancelled
20 th May	Longstowe CC v Steeple Morden CC	Lost by 19 runs
27 th May	Steeple Morden 1 st XI v Madingley	Won by 9 wks
3 rd June	Steeple Morden 1 st XI v Cambourne	Lost by 5 wks
10 th June	Harlton v Steeple Morden 1 st XI	Lost by 31 runs
17 th June	Steeple Morden 1 st XI v Milton 111	Won by 4 wks
24 th June	Steeple Morden 1 st XI v Stapleford	
1 st July	Steeple Morden 1 st XI v Longstowe	
8 th July	Milton v Steeple Morden 1 st XI	
22 July	Cottenham 11 v Steeple Morden 1 st XI	
29 th July	Steeple Morden 1 st XI v Harlton	
5 th August	Madingley v Steeple Morden 1 st XI	
19 th August	Steeple Morden 1 st XI v Cam Kerala	
26 th August	Stapleford v Steeple Morden 1 st XI	
2 nd Sept	Cam Kerala v Steeple Morden 1 st XI	
10 th Sept	Steeple Morden 1 st XI v Guilden Morden (1.30pm)	

All matches start at 1.00pm



Save the Children Summer Lunch

Friday 21st July

12:00 – 2:30pm

At 99 High Street, Guilden Morden

Tickets £9.00

Debbie Louch 07710690450 & Steeple Morden
Shop, or Cash at the Door.



30th June 2023 @ 7:30 pm - 10:00 pm

[An Evening with Author Sarah Harrison](#)

Meldreth Village Hall Elin Way, Meldreth

An Evening with Author Sarah Harrison Home-Start invites you to an evening with author Sarah Harrison (a.k.a. 'The old bat in the hat')

"Laughing at life, love, and chiefly..."

Tickets £20

Email events@hsrsc.org.uk



LITFEST: FOOTBALL & MUSIC

Litlington based LitFest is striving to host simply the best live football tournament and music festival around Royston this Summer.

The event on Saturday 5th August has a packed programme. Kick off at 10.30am with teams competing to be LitFest Cup Champions. Music from 2.45pm with performances by Daniel Lumley, Joshua Zulu, Ri Lou and DJ Luke Richards.

An event for the whole family



Contact Names, Numbers and E-Mail Addresses for Organisations and Groups in the Village



Organisation	Contact Name	Phone Number	E-mail
SM Newsletter Editor	Desma Goddard	01763 852287	newsletter@steeplemordenpc.org.uk
First Responders	Nick Badger	01762 852191	nickmbadger@yahoo.co.uk
First Responders (co-ordinator)	Wayne Cox		waynecox79@yahoo.co.uk
Primary School	Tracey How, Head Teacher	01763 852474	office@steeplemorden.cambs.sch.uk
Village College	The Principal Ms Vickey Poulter	01763 242344	office@bassingbournvc.net
SS Peter & Paul Church	Associate. Priest Revd Ann Bol	01223 871058	RevAnn801@gmail.com
GM Cong. Church	Sandy Watkins	01763 852869	sandy@inteserv.co.uk
SM Village Hall Bookings	Diane Knight	01763 853073	viguersk@aol.com
Scouts, Cubs & Beavers	Keith Austin	01763 852023	keith@bogsgap.co.uk
Brownies	Debbie Fisher	01763 852811	debbie-fisher@hotmail.co.uk
Guides	Liz Haigh		steeplemordenguides@gmail.com
Allotment Society	Nettie Traverse- Healey	01763 853843	nettieth@outlook.com
Smarties Pre-School and Out of School Club		01763 852888	smartiesmanager1@gmail.com smrtiesoosclub@gmail.com
Cricket Club	Fraser Daws	01763 853008	fraser.daws@btinternet.com
Football Club	Pete Summers	07709258359	
Morden Magpies Youth FC	Shelley Bainborough	07778181334	dudshell@hotmail.com
Bowls Club (Sec)	Anthony Johnson	07423 436283	williamsj300@outlook.com
Tennis Club	Fiona Coverdale	01763 853325	steeplemordentennis@yahoo.co.uk
Waggon & Horses		01763 853311	
Morden Players	Jenny Elder	01763 852557	jennyelder@sky.com
First Thursday Club	Ann Thorp	01763 852848	annthorp35@icloud.com
Royal British Legion	Patricia Covington	01763 852982	alb@mypostoffice.co.uk
Mobile Wardens Scheme	Geoff Harper Tracy Adams Claire Barnett	01763 853845 07841025107 07841025107	mobilewardenscheme2021@yahoo.com
WI	Joyce Stackhouse	01763 852087	joyce.stackhouse@icloud.com
Neighbourhood Watch			Cambs Police: www.cambs.police.uk
Social Car Scheme	Hazel Smith	01763 852602	hcsmith@clara.co.uk

STEEPLE MORDEN VILLAGE HALL



Steeple Morden Village Hall is available for hiring for Parties, Wedding receptions, club and social activities

*It comprises: Tables, Seating for 120, Bar, Kitchen, Cooker, Fridge, Stage, Parking. There is also limited Crockery & Cutlery
Projector and screen available and Induction Loop Equipment – ask our booking clerk for more details.*

For bookings and prices please contact:

Diane Knight

33 Cheyney Street, Steeple Morden, SG8 0LR

Tel 01763 853073 (please don't phone between the hours of 6 - 7 p.m.)

email: viguersk@aol.com

www.steeplemordenvillagehall.co.uk

Mobile Library

Stops in VILLAGE HALL between 10.15-11.00am.
The next calling date is Tuesday 4th July &
Tuesday 8th August 2023



The Village Wheelchair

There is a manual wheelchair available for short term use by anyone in the village. For more information and availability please contact Trish at the Garage Shop

Don't forget you can view this issue and back issues of the Newsletter online; you can also subscribe to receive notification of when the newsletter is available on www.steeplemordenpc.org.uk

Contributions sent to the editor prior to the newsletter deadline will be printed in the next available edition.

The deadline for September edition is 12 noon on August 17th 2023

Contact details for the editor are at the bottom of the first page of the Newsletter

DESIGN. PRINT. FINISH.
the **PRINTWORKS**



01763 852579
sales@print-works.com

  @makingprintworkforyou