

# Parish Press

Dec 22/Jan 23 | Creech St Michael | Creech Heathfield | Langaller | Ham | Adsborough | Coombe

## HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

Free activities for Somerset children, eligible for free school meals, are on offer this December through the Happy Healthy Holidays Somerset project. They run from 19 to 23 Dec. Eligible children can be signed up to a maximum of 4 activity days via [www.sasp.co.uk/happy-healthy-holidays/](http://www.sasp.co.uk/happy-healthy-holidays/). To book parents need a code from their child's school.

## VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS ONLINE

It is now possible for organisations and individuals to book the village hall for events and meetings by going online at [www.csmvillagehall.org](http://www.csmvillagehall.org). Simply open the events and calendar tab to find the Hallmaster booking system. Organisations using the hall always welcome new faces. If you require more information phone Margaret Gover (Booking co-ordinator) on 07516 397269 or 01823 977848.

Scan the QR code to find out more about the Parish Council



## FOLLOW US

To stay up to date with the latest news from the Parish Council and the community follow us on social media.



On behalf of Creech St Michael Parish Council, I wish everyone a peaceful and joyful Christmas.

**Annabelle Peters**

Chair Creech St Michael Parish Council

## GLORIOUS GIFTS GALORE

Christmas is fast approaching with Creech village hall now holding produce and craft markets every Saturday until 17 December. The highlight, however, will be the special Christmas Market on Saturday 10 December across three sites when the usual stalls will be joined by more than 40 others selling a wide variety of festive season crafts and gifts including jewellery, cards, glass and knitted items. Shoppers will be able to take in the full range by visiting the village hall, the Baptist church and The Bell Inn. The special market is jointly organised by the Village Hall Committee, the Baptist Church and the Parish Council.

## South West Enterprise Fund Training & Employment Support Grants

Training and Employment Support Grants up to £500 are available for individuals aged 16 to 30 currently living in Somerset, who are entering or are currently in training (for example a college course), or an apprenticeship, or starting work after a period of unemployment, and need some help with the cost of essential things such as travel, work clothing, laptop, or equipment. Apply by Friday 3 February 2023 for a decision in early March. Applications available from the Somerset Community Foundation website [www.somersetcf.org.uk/](http://www.somersetcf.org.uk/)

## STAY WARM THIS WINTER

If you need somewhere to stay warm and you enjoy the company of other people, here are the spaces that are available this winter in the Parish.

**Village Hall** - Monday 10am - 12pm

**Baptist Church Life Cafe** - Friday 2pm - 5pm

**Baptist Church Parents & Toddlers** -  
Wednesdays 12pm - 2pm

**Parish Church** - Wednesdays 9am - 6pm

# PROGRESS WITH FOOTPATHS

It has been a year of steady progress in upgrading footpaths in the Parish to make it easier for walkers to navigate. A number of shiny new metal gates have been installed to replace old wooden stiles. This work will continue in 2023. A team of Somerset County Council (SCC) employed wardens and volunteer co-ordinators are responsible for monitoring and the upkeep of some 9,000 paths, known as rights of way totalling 3,808 miles (6,129 km) in the county. The Creech St Michael Parish has a number of well used paths although some were unfortunately cut off with the building of the M5.

Also on the horizon, is a new volunteer to help cut back overgrown vegetation on paths. He has taken a SCC organised health and safety course to use mechanised machinery and is due to start work shortly.

Problems with paths can be reported via the Somerset footpaths website [roam.somerset.gov.uk/roam/map](http://roam.somerset.gov.uk/roam/map)



Photo by Annie Spratt on Unsplash

Creech St Michael Parish Council meetings are normally held at Creech St Michael Village Hall and start at 7pm. Members of the public are welcome to come along and contribute their views on any matter relating to the Parish. Each meeting starts with a 15 minute open public session, at which anyone is welcome to speak.

## Upcoming Meetings

Monday Jan 9th 2023 | Monday February 6th 2023 | Monday March 6th 2023

## COUNCILLOR IN PROFILE

Diane joined the Parish Council in May after moving to the area last year. Wanting to serve the local community she quickly found a role suited to her talents and qualifications through planning applications. Before moving to Somerset she served four years on Wroughton Parish Council in Wiltshire where she was active on the planning committee. Her career in estates development, asset management and present role as Property and Trust Officer for the United Reform Church, as well as her training as a qualified chartered surveyor, makes her a good fit for dealing with parish planning matters.



She is currently helping to set up a working group to include people from the Parish who may have an interest in planning matters. Although the Parish Council may only get few planning applications a month some can involve a lot of work. This includes assessing the impact on the wider community on issues such as over-development, the environment, ecology and the local economy as well as talking to interested objectors and supporters about the impact of plans.



The Parish Council funds a Youth Programme that is run in partnership with Somerset Community Youth Project (CYP). The weekly sessions are held at Creech St Michael Village Hall, for young people from across the community and at the Rec Park during the summer months.

The project, led by experienced youth workers and supported by local volunteers, provides a mix of activities, including team sports, cooking, tennis, arts and craft sessions, movie nights, dancing, archery and canvas painting. In the run up to Christmas the group are hoping to visit Flip Out, a trampoline venue in Wellington.

The project aims to encourage the young people to become more involved in their community and to act as positive role models for their peers.

Everyone is welcome to join the sessions, which are free to attend and run every Thursday between 6.30pm and 8.30pm. More information about the Community Youth Project can be found on their website [www.cyp.me.uk](http://www.cyp.me.uk)