

Parish Update

For September Parish Meetings

As summer draws to a close it's worth reflecting on the wonderful community spirit displayed in South Kesteven. At the start of summer, residents across the district celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with lots of wonderful events drawing people together as only Her Majesty can.

In July, thousands of school children and members of the public turned out to welcome the Queen's Baton Relay to Grantham, putting the district in the national spotlight as part of an historic event.

Finally, I'm delighted that South Kesteven District Council supported the 2022 Stamford Diversity Festival which brought a splash of colour and the feel-good factor to the town and surrounding area.

Investment continues

I'm delighted to see how well demolition work at the former Cummins site in Stamford is going. The creation of St Martin's Park in its place is a flagship development project for SKDC and our partner, Burghley Estates, that will provide a designated commercial area; mixed-use area; retirement village; range of residential properties, including affordable homes; and areas of green and open space.

I am also proud to say that this high-quality, well-designed and sustainable development has recently been shortlisted for a Brownfield Award 2022.

HelloSK puts the whole of South Kesteven in your pocket

Supporting our business communities is a key priority for SKDC and we have launched a HelloSK app designed to provide to point consumers towards local businesses as they continue their recovery from the economic impact of the pandemic and face up to new challenges presented by the rising cost of living.

We are doing all we can to help revitalise high streets across the district and encourage residents to shop locally. The app also has information about local events and venues to visit - and you could benefit from exclusive offers.

I would encourage you all to download the free app and make the most of the area we live in.

Support for Ukraine

As part of our continued support for the people of Ukraine, SKDC marked Ukraine Independence Day on August 24th. It is heart-warming to see that 144 households across South Kesteven have warmly welcomed refugees into their homes since the conflict began six months ago.

As well as SKDC flying the Ukraine flag, supporting the Sunflowers for Ukraine campaign and lighting buildings in blue and yellow, it was wonderful to see families across the district visit Stamford Arts Centre to attend a special screening of 'Ruthenia: Restoring the Nation's Code', directed by Ukrainian local Natalia Yakovleva. Hosted as part of Stamford Diversity Festival, it was another fantastic opportunity for communities to come together.

Shortlisting begins for SK Community Awards

I am delighted that shortlists have been drawn up in all seven categories for the SK Community Awards 2022, ahead of a presentation night in October.

Three nominees in each category will be invited to what will be a fantastic celebration of community goodwill. Nominations were received from across the district, and each highlight just how special the unsung heroes of South Kesteven are.

The importance of green spaces

Green spaces are vitally important for residents of South Kesteven. They contribute to the health and happiness of local communities, and we continue to invest in them wherever possible.

It has been a real honour to see that this year all three of Grantham's parks have been awarded Green Flag status – the international benchmark for quality. They are wonderful places, and I would encourage everyone to make the effort to visit them.

Meanwhile, South Kesteven's Best Kept Villages of 2022 have been announced. Ropsley and Welby were awarded first place with second place being awarded to Allington and Stubton and finally, Barrowby and Witham on the Hill in third place.

A huge amount of effort goes into keeping our villages looking their best. These awards are our special way of recognising those who have gone above and beyond, and everyone who plays their part in this villages should be proud of their achievements.