



Sandwell Community Information & Participation Service

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General Meetings

We are currently looking at how we can increase attendance at our General meetings now restrictions have been lifted. Last month we held a Jubilee themed General meeting, we also had guest speakers Jayne Salter Scott and Paul Hazel who gave a presentation about the new Metro Hospital in Smethwick and how it will affect established hospitals like City and Sandwell.

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Here are some pictures of the meeting and Jubilee room decorations

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**SCIPS 2022
AGM**

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The next General meeting will be on 19th July, why not come and join us and meet up with other Sandwell tenants and residents and find out what's going on in the Borough .

Do you have any suggestions for future speakers?

Do you have any issues that stop you attending?

Can we help or reassure you in anyway?

Congratulations.....



Special Olympics Sandwell receives The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service.

Special Olympics Sandwell, a group of volunteers based in Sandwell, West Midlands, have just been awarded The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service. This is the highest award a local voluntary group can receive in the UK and is equivalent to an MBE.

Norma Hyde, the Chair of Special Olympics Sandwell, on behalf of the Committee, says " I am absolutely delighted that our group's work has been recognised with this great honour".

Well done Norma and the team !!!

Congratulations also go to.....



Richards Flatley who was awarded the Platinum Champions Award for volunteers

Together with the Royal Voluntary Service President, HRH The Duchess of Cornwall, and in partnership with The Big Jubilee Lunch, the Platinum awards were given to celebrate outstanding volunteers across the country who are making a difference every day.

Thousands of people aged from 16—101 from all over the UK , supporting a range of causes were nominated for the award. The judging panel was presided over by The Duchess of Cornwall.

Well done Richard !!!

Digi-Comm Click & Chat Training



SCIPS staff have just completed the Digi-Comm Click & Chat Training at community centres in Wednesbury and Tipton. Pictured are some of the participants that took place in the training at Jubilee Park Community Centre.

Participants said

"a very enjoyable experience to sit with others of a similar computer intelligence and not feel inferior"

"well presented and SCIPS staff were a joy and helped me when I needed assistance and help"

Training at next centre will be starting soon

Tenant & Leaseholders Scrutiny Group

The new Tenant and Leaseholder Scrutiny group held their first meeting on Saturday 4th December. Since then, the group have met on a total of 8 occasions and developed rapidly into a cohesive and supportive group.

They have developed their Terms of reference, Code of Conduct and Standing Orders, appointed a Chair and 2 Vice Chairs and agreed a nominee to the Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Panel (SNACS).

They received presentations on the SMBC Housing service from senior officers, and from these presentations narrowed down 7 areas they wished to look at further. They then received presentations from the key SMBC officers in these 7 areas.

During May the group had 3 intense sessions on consecutive Saturdays, the first of which was attended by Gillian Douglas, Director of Housing who gave an overview of her role and was available to answer questions from the group.

These 3 sessions were specifically looking at the scrutiny process, and in the second of these sessions the group chose the 4 areas they wished to scrutinise over the subsequent 12 months. These are Call Centres, Home Checks, Building Management and Responsive Repairs.

In the final session, the group scoped out how they would scrutinise their first topic – Call Centres, and decided on which methods they would use to test the service. Going forward, the group will be meeting regularly every month with additional meetings where required as agreed as part of their work programme. They certainly have a busy year ahead, and are looking forward to providing reports and recommendations to the SNACs panel.

Here is how some members celebrated the Platinum Jubilee

Jubilee Community Centre



SCIPS meets
MP Shaun
Bailey



Two of our
Digi-Comm
ladies



Baggie
Bird
joined in
the fun



Well done to
the Centre's
management

Continued

Over at Hamstead Village TRA



Sue Chair of Hamstead Village TRA



Len Committee Member

Over in Wednesbury the Mayor & his consort pictured with Her Majesty



The next big event for SCIPS is our 2022 AGM.

Connecting Communities
"Working together for a better brighter future"

The AGM will take place on the 17th September 2022 @

The National Metalforming Centre in West Bromwich. Car parking is available and lunch will be provided.

There will be 2x £25.00 prize draws

in the morning and 2x £50.00 prizes draws in the afternoon. You must be present to have a chance to win.

Our afternoon session is for members only. Look out for your paperwork coming out in August.

Why not stand for Board, each year we have a number of positions available from 1yr—3yrs to join the Board.

This is a chance to come along and see the work that we do on your behalf and network with other members of SCIPS

Sandwell Community Information & Participation Service Ltd



NMC Venue
37 - 47 Birmingham Road
West Bromwich
West Midlands
B70 6PY

0121 544 1230
Fb: @sandwellscips



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