

Section 106 success: we get £116,000

Barratt Homes are contributing £181,000 for community facilities in Stony Stratford from the next door Hayes Mews development. We hoped for all of this money for our rear extension project but Milton Keynes council decided to receive bids from four other groups: the bowls club; the football club; the Greek Orthodox Church; and the Russell Street Day Nursery.

We all made presentations to the town council who made recommendations to Milton Keynes Council and then three of us (YHC, RSDNPA, GOCMK) made presentations to the council's Development Control Committee on 15 September. This week we received written confirmation of their decision as follows:

1. That the sum of £116,000 be allocated immediately to York House Centre.
2. That the sum of £15,000 be allocated immediately to the Greek Orthodox Church for renovation works to Swinfen Harris Hall
3. That the remaining sum of £50,000 be ring-fenced for a period of 12 months from the date of the decision, for Russell Street Day Nursery Parents Association to allow further discussions on the location of a reopened Nursery in Stony Stratford and the preparation of a business plan to demonstrate the viability of any reopened facility.
4. Should the reopened nursery prove to be unviable, the ring-fenced sum should also be allocated to York House Centre....

We have £116,000 with the possibility of £50,000 more by next September if the nursery proves to be unviable. We are talking with our Architect about our options, applying for further money from grant aid organisations. We hope to submit a planning application within the next few months and if all goes well then we could complete by next Christmas.

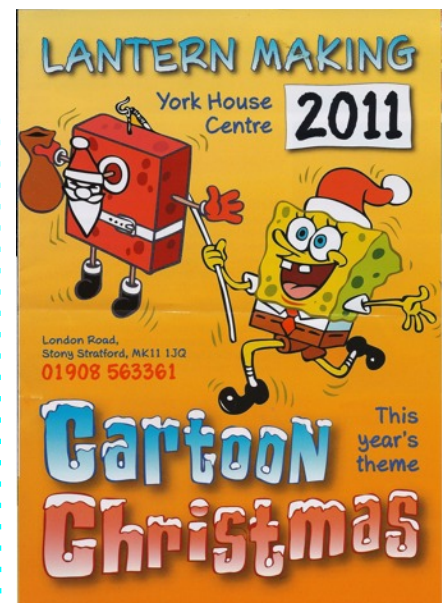
Meanwhile Barratts are completing Hayes Mews, getting the small area of woodland ready to transfer to the council including removing some trees overhanging York House and clearing a route for a path to our front door.

Big Draw 2011



Neptune was our central character, surrounded by an underwater world of such imagination and fascination that each participant had to add their touch of creativity. Children's illustrator Jonny Boatfield was our artist. He produced walls of wonderful characters to colour and add to. There was humour, talent and lots of brainfulls of ideas. Pure joy for everyone!

Our Big Draw 'Drawing Water' theme was a fabulous success with 500 people attending. Many came, went home and came back again. The buzz of happy concentration and laughter lasted the whole day and the Big Draw Crew were still buzzing so much at clearing up time that there was even enough energy for some dancing and singing.



Join us at York House. Workshops are in November:
 Saturday 12 & Sunday 13
 Saturday 19 & Sunday 20
 10am to 4pm. There is a cafe
 Lantern Making is for the
WHOLE COMMUNITY and all
 ages and abilities are welcome.

London Road Stony Stratford Milton Keynes MK11 1JQ
 01908 563361

www.york-house.org.uk
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York House Centre (Stony Stratford) is a charitable company limited by guarantee. Registered in England and Wales no. 6283685. Registered charity no. 1122220. Registered office at London Road Stony Stratford MK11 1JQ

7th
Cock&Bull
beer festival

24&25 February
2012

noon to 11pm
York House Centre



SEVEN UP! Not a drink you are likely to find at the 7th Cock & Bull Real Beer Festival. You will, however, have the chance to taste some 20 real beers (many from local-ish brewers), some real (made with apples) ciders (two of which are from Milton Keynes), as well as Fairtrade wines, juices and soft drinks.

We'll be offering hot food, and cool musical entertainment again, and it's FREE to enter!

Volunteer bar staff always welcome for short or long shifts. email Ken at jukeofstony@btinternet.com

Lantern Procession
on Saturday 26th November 2011

- 3.15pm Lantern makers meet at York House Centre to collect lanterns. Refreshments will be available to buy
- 4.15pm Procession leaves York House
- 4.45pm Procession arrives in Market Square for the countdown to the switching on of the Christmas lights



24 Feb to 4 March

Stony Stratford's first festival of food and drink. Sponsored by Stony Stratford Business Association, celebrates the joyful world of food and drink.

Stony Stratford Festival! Is simmering nicely, with a couple of dozen events already confirmed: themed food nights, a Neil Diamond buffet, food&drink quizzes, exhibitions, demos, wine tasting, organic produce sale, and so on.

York House Centre will be hosting some special events during the week: the 7th Cock & Bull Real Beer Festival (see elsewhere in this newsletter); the launch of the local Fairtrade Fortnight (at the beer festival); a photo exhibition (yes, you've guessed - the theme is food & drink); a special youth club event; and a seed-swap afternoon which is definitely all about heritage and rare varieties of vegetables, flowers, fruit and such.

www.stonystratford.gov.uk for all the news about confirmed events. To put something on, email clayton@cockandbull.org.uk or leave a message with Well Past It in Timor Court, Stony Stratford.

Britain in Bloom

Stony Stratford won best small town and gold in the Thames & Chiltern Region; and went on to win silver in the RHS UK finals. Milton Keynes also won silver for a large city. Our community gardens won an 'It's Your Neighbourhood' award

AGM 2011

We held our AGM on 15 September. 18 members and guests came. They approved the trustees report and the annual accounts, reelected Cathy Woodward, Amanda Box, Stephen Ratcliffe as directors/trustees and appointed Hartwell LLP as auditors.

Our youth workers Nic and Tim then gave a brilliant presentation of the youth clubs's activities.

The trustees subsequently appointed Kan Daniels as Chair, Stephen Ratcliffe as vice Chair and Mick Moutrie as Treasurer.

news from york house
November 2011

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