

Whatton-in-the-Vale Parish Council

March 2008

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

All residents are invited and encouraged to attend the annual Parish meeting to be held at Jubilee Hall on Monday 19th May 2008 at 8pm.

Who can believe it's nearly a year ago since this council was elected! We've worked diligently to action the requests of local residents and to effectively represent our Parish within the wider community. We're pleased that more of you are contacting us on a more frequent basis and that some of you have made the effort to attend our council meetings to raise issues that are important to you – a community can only exist through active participation. That's why we would like to see as many of you as possible attend this annual meeting and we look forward to updating you fully, then.

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman:

Greg Redford

01949 851597

17 Burton Lane

Members:

Ray Dawson

01949 850493

19 Conery Gardens

Ernest Parsons

01949 851261

34 Conery Gardens

Vikki Harper

01949 851723

The Old School, School Lane

Barbara Harris

(Vice-Chair)

01949 850117

Sarum House, Sunbeam Street

Carole Key

01949 850087

41 Cottage Avenue

Malcolm Seagrave

01949 851067

5 Riverside

WHATTON IN THE VALE
PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mike Elliott,

19/21 Main Street

Keyworth, Nottingham, NG12 5AA

Phone: 0115 937 6506

E-mail: elliottnews@btconnect.com



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JOIN THE ANNUAL FUN DAY CELEBRATIONS

The annual Whatton and Aslockton fun day is to be held on July 12th 2008 and EVERYONE keen to raise funds is invited to participate in what will be a great local event.

Organisations, sports teams, churches, associations, groups, and even private individuals are encouraged to participate; fund raising can take any form you choose from stalls, quizzes, games, field events – the list is as long as your imagination!

Have some fun and raise money for your cause.

For further information please contact Ray Dawson on 01949 850493 or Gerry Nerney on 01949 850614

ACTION AGAINST ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Nearly two hundred people attended the Public Meeting on Saturday, 15th December 2007. As a direct result of that meeting a number of initiatives have been started.

A Local Area Group (LAG) has been formed, an initial meeting was held on the 10th January 2008. The meeting was attended by Inspector Jeff Heywood Local Area Commander Rushcliffe South, PC John Kneale, Local Beat Officer, Gregg Redford, Chair of Whatton-in-the-Vale PC, Brian Crawford, Chair of Aslockton Parish Council and Richard Sharpe, representing Aslockton Community Association and coordinator for the group.

The objectives of the Group are:

- to provide community engagement with the police
- to establish and prioritise local issues and
- to monitor the progress of local issues

With this newsletter is a form from the Nottinghamshire Police, the purpose of this is to obtain your views on policing priorities in our community. Please complete this form and help us and the police to develop a cohesive plan. Please return the form to either:

- Cranmer News, Main Street, Aslockton
- Whatton Jubilee Hall, Church Street, Whatton-in-the-Vale (Coffee Mornings and Friday PM and evening at the moment)
- Greg Redford, 17, Burton Lane, Whatton-in-the-Vale (there is a box on the left hand side gate post)

Police patrols in both Aslockton and Whatton-in-the-Vale have been increased and during the next couple of months PC John Kneale will be performing foot patrols in both communities. The foot patrols will be publicised to give residents the opportunity to voice their concerns directly to PC Kneale.

GET NEIGHBOURLY WITH A NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME

One way for residents to fight back against anti-social behaviour is to establish small Neighbourhood Watch schemes. Just a few willing participants from households in your street is all you need because training and support materials will all be provided. Ideally, lots of small groups throughout Whatton work best.

If you and some of your neighbours are interested in setting up a scheme, please contact Greg Redford on 01949 851597.

POLICE CONTACT NUMBERS

Crime in progress or an emergency	999
Report a crime or incident	0115 9455999
PC John Kneale (Duty hours only)	07753 309746

AN UPDATE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

The wheels of bureaucracy turn slowly but persistence eventually triumphs. Thanks to the dogged persistence of Councillor Ernest Parsons, those overgrown and dangerous trees around the green have finally been cut back! And while we're talking about persistence, often our voice is not enough to persuade the Borough and County Councils to take action on specific issues. We need your voice to support ours. If there are footpaths that you consider dangerous, or roads that are in real need of repair, anything that you feel strongly about; then write us a letter. It really does help support our case!

PRECEPT 2008/9

Your Parish Council is funded almost entirely by the Parish Precept. The precept makes up part of the Council Tax charged to residents of Whatton-in-the-Vale, alongside the charges levied by Rushcliffe Borough Council, Nottinghamshire County Council, Combined Fire Authority and the Nottinghamshire Police Authority.

In setting the precept for 2008/9 the Parish Council has had to consider a number of factors:

- advice from the District Auditor as to the level of the general reserve;
- the level of the Playing Field reserve
- the need for a Capital Reserve
- maintaining and improving services to our residents

To meet these requirements the precept for 2008/9 has been set at £10,855, the budgeted expenditure for 2008/9 is shown below.

Admin (Audit Fee, Salaries, Insurances, Subscriptions and Admin expenses)	£4,205
Newsletter	£100
Grass Cutting	£1,800
Playing Field	£1,750
Grants	£800
Reserves & Provisions	£2,200
TOTAL PRECEPT	£10,855

An analysis of the Reserves and Provisions is given below:

Election Reserve	£200
Playing Field Reserve	£500
Capital Reserve	£500
General Reserve	£1,000
TOTAL	£2,200

Whilst we appreciate the precept for the coming year does represent a relatively high percentage increase, we did start with a very low figure in 2005/06 and to a large extent we are playing 'catch-up'. Based on the Band D rate we estimate that Whatton-in-the-Vale Parish Council will rank 29th out of the 55 Towns and Parishes in Rushcliffe Borough (number 1 being the highest cost).

Newsletter

Do you find this Newsletter useful and informative? Are there issues that you would like to raise or see covered?

Please let us have your views.

Write to: Mike Elliott, Clerk to the Parish Council, Whatton-in-the-Vale Parish Council, 19/21 Main Street, Keyworth, Notts NG12 5AA

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Whatton-in-the-Vale Parish Council,
19/21/ Main Street,
Keyworth, Notts. NG12 5AA

BITS AND BOBS

The Parish Council is keen to involve local residents in its work and at each meeting has an item on the agenda to permit public participation. Any item of village concern can be raised at this point and members of the council will be happy to comment or the arrange for an item dealing with the particular matter to be placed on the agenda of the next meeting.

A decision has been taken by the council to seek Quality Council status. There are nine such councils in Nottinghamshire, including Bingham, Radcliffe on Trent, Cotgrave and Normanton on Soar in Rushcliffe. To gain such a status the council has to have a fully accredited and qualified clerk. Our clerk is also clerk at Radcliffe on Trent and has the necessary qualification.

Rushcliffe Borough Council member Mrs Jackie Marshall is to present the Parish Council with a cheque for £250 from her Members' Fund. The money is going towards the expenditure being met by the Parish Council in connection with the playing field/play equipment development project.

A cash grant of £260 has been agreed by the Parish Council to the Parish Church to help towards the cost of churchyard maintenance. And the council has also agreed to make a grant of £150 to allow the Rushcliffe Barn Owl Project voluntary group to service three nesting boxes sited in the village and which in the last nesting season four Owl chicks were reared. The sponsorship grant covers all three boxes for three years.

"Untidy but no safety defects" was the comment from Notts County Council on the condition of the pavement around The Gables property on Church Street after the Parish Council asked them to inspect the area because of its concerns for pedestrians.

The Parish Council has agreed to take over the maintenance responsibility of two map lecterns which Groundwork Greater Nottingham are erecting in the village.

The standard of workmanship in dealing with pot holes on Conery Gardens has been criticised by the Parish Council. A letter has gone to Notts County Council expressing disappointment at the work that has been carried out.

Notts County Council has been asked to make good the damage they caused to grass verges when they carried out work on the old A52 bridge, and to rectify a possible problem of having left exposed wires near to a gas valve.

Playing Field Update

The order for Phase One of the playing field development has been placed with Proludic Limited. The selection of the equipment for both Phase One and Two has been made after consultation with parents and children in the two parishes. The location of the equipment has been discussed with local residents and advice has been taken from the Nottinghamshire Police Service.

Phase One provides facilities for the 6—11's and a second area for the 11 plus age group.

The equipment is phased for installation in mid-March. The total cost of this phase of the project is £22,000 which has been funded by the Big Lottery Fund through the Rushcliffe Play Partnership.

A bid is now being prepared for Phase Two, the under 6's. This phase will provide a comprehensive array of play equipment at a cost of £22,236. £7,000 of funding has already been allocated by Whatton-in-the-Vale and Aslockton Parish Councils.

Essential repairs works to the Pavilion will be underway in the next couple of months. The committee are currently investigating alternatives for a replacement for the existing pavilion.

Rights of way problems

Individual Parish Councillors have received a number of complaints about the state of a number of Right of Ways (footpaths) in our Parish. The Parish Council is in contact with the County, but like most of these issues the number of complaints received by them seems to be the governing factor. Please help solve this problem by complaining about the footpaths to: Gareth Hudson Rights of Way Officer, Nottinghamshire County Council, Trent Bridge House, Fox Road West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 6BJ
You can also report problems on-line at: www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk