



# Whatton Village News

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July 2010

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## **EMERGENCY! ...**

### **Parish council joins with Notts County Council to produce report aimed at assisting in times of emergency**

**Whatton-in-the-Vale Parish Council has agreed to support a move by Notts County Council to produce an emergency plan that would be used in the village in case of a serious incident such as a major fire, road accident or conditions brought about by severe weather.**

The parish council has agreed to cooperate with the county whose aim is to produce a similar plan for every parish and town in the county. It would be stored in its entirety at County Hall, West Bridgford, while the individual ones for each parish would be held in the village concerned.

The county says the emergency plan will be split into seven sections covering communication; resources within the community; skills within the community; vulnerable groups in the community; temporary places of safety; and supporting organisations' contact details.

A spokesman for the county says the plan is an important document for the parish, a view shared by Cr Gregg Redford, Chairman of the Parish Council.

'We have readily agreed to take a part in the work necessary to draw up the plan and agreed that it could be invaluable to the parish in the time of a major emergency', he says.

# CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT

## Introduction

The 2009/2010 financial year was my third year as chairman; I would like to thank my fellow members for their help and support during the last year. All members approach their duties as parish councillors with professionalism and commitment and they deserve a vote of thanks for the work and effort they have put into their council responsibilities during the past year. We are fortunate in having the services of our qualified Clerk, whose wealth of experience has once again been of substantial benefit to the council.

## Communications and community engagement

Your parish council continues to recognise the importance of communication, involvement and transparency in the work of the council and we continue to build on the initiatives introduced in the previous years of this council. As I reported last year:

- Every meeting includes an open session where members of the public can voice their concerns or suggestions on issues affecting the parish.
- We continue to publish the *Whatton-in-the-Vale News* to keep residents informed about the work of the parish council and issues affecting the parish.
- The parish council's website [www.whatton.org](http://www.whatton.org) or [www.whatton.org.uk](http://www.whatton.org.uk) is updated on a regular basis and a contact form is available online for you to bring any matter affecting the parish to the notice of the parish council.

I would encourage residents to attend at least one parish council meeting per year. The dates for the forthcoming meetings are published on the website and in the *Whatton Village News*.

## Precept and budget

We published the 'headline' precept figure for 2010–2011 in the March edition of *Whatton Village News*. The precept is the parish council's only source of income and in setting the precept we have to consider a number of factors:

- Advice from the District Auditor as to the level of the council's General Reserve.
- The need for a Capital Reserve. We have continued to build the reserve further by allocating £500.
- The current financial situation.
- The need to maintain and where possible improve services to our residents.

A number of costs have increased, not the least an increase of £600 in the grass and verge maintenance programme. Despite the increase in costs, the outcome for 2009–2010 was better than anticipated and the precept for 2010–2011 was set at £10,035.

We will continue to lobby Nottinghamshire County Council for a contribution towards the cost of the work we undertake in maintaining the verges within the 30 mph limit.

## **Planning**

The local planning authority is only obliged to ‘take note’ of our comments or objections. We take planning applications very seriously and encourage residents to attend our meetings when planning applications are discussed. Where we object to planning applications we have to do so purely on established planning grounds.

## **Playing field**

The parish council jointly owns the playing field with Aslockton Parish Council, and in May 2006, signed a deed of dedication with the National Playing Fields Association (now Fields in Trust), effectively creating a trust and ensuring that the playing field remained a recreational facility in perpetuity. Whatton-in-the-Vale Parish Council and Aslockton Parish Council are the sole trustees, and day-to-day management of the facility is devolved to the Whatton and Aslockton Playing Field Committee, to which the parish council has a right to appoint two members.

The council resolved to appoint three of its members to form a ‘joint’ trustee sub-committee with three members from Aslockton Parish Council. Application was made to the Charity Commission for the Whatton and Aslockton Playing Field Trust to be registered as a charity. The Charity Commission confirmed on the 7 April 2010 that the application had been approved.

The parish council supported the ‘Help for Heroes’ event on the playing field. The event raised in excess of £11,000 for the charity.

## **Green and verge maintenance**

Following the clearing of the wide verge on the Grantham Road by Nottinghamshire County Council, the parish council had added that area and the area around Whatton Bridge to the schedule. The parish council essentially maintains all the roadside verges within the 30 mph area of the parish. We continue to lobby Nottinghamshire County Council for a contribution towards the cost.

## **Public rights of way**

The parish council does not have many powers in respect of rights of way; they are owned and maintained by the Local Highways Authority (Nottinghamshire County Council). The parish council has resolved to survey all the public rights of way in the parish. Councillors Redford and Seagrave will undertake the survey during 2010–2011 and produce a report for the parish council to consider.

## Power of Well-being

As reported in my report last year, Whatton-in-the-Vale did meet the criteria for adopting the 'Power of Well-being', save for the training of parish councillors in its use.

Six councillors (one being absent through illness) attended the training session. All the criteria being met, the parish council adopted the Power of Well-being on the 21 September 2009.

Whatton-in-the-Vale Parish Council was the second parish or town council in Nottinghamshire to adopt the power.

## Improved rail services from Aslockton Station

East Midland Trains announced an improvement to the timetable from 13 December 2009. The improved timetable was the result of an intensive campaign by Whatton-in-the-Vale and Aslockton Parish Councils and individual residents. Your parish council took the lead role in the analysis and development of the report on the results of the survey that was conducted by both parish councils. East Midlands Trains confirmed that the decision was greatly influenced by the quality and professionalism of that report.

GR Redford Chairman

## Annual return for the year-ended 31 March 2010

Description	Receipts and payments		Variance on prior year	
	2008/2009	2009/2010	Amount	%
Balances brought forward	£6,311.47	£2,757.25	(£3,554.22)	(56.3)
Annual precept	£10,705.00	£10,705.00	£-	25.7
Total other receipts <sup>1</sup>	£26,208.86 <sup>1</sup>	£2,467.65	(£23,741) <sup>1</sup>	(90.6)
Staff costs	£3,240.00	£3,510.00	£270.00	8.3
Loan interest/Capital repayments	0.00	0.00	£-	0.0
Total other payments <sup>2</sup>	£37,228.08 <sup>2</sup>	£7,029.71	(£30,198.37)	(81.1)
Balances carried forward <sup>3</sup>	£2,757.25 <sup>3</sup>	£5,390.19	£2,632.94	95.5

<sup>1</sup>Total other receipts for 2008/2009 include £22,957 grants in respect of children's play equipment on the playing field.

<sup>2</sup>Total other payments for 2008/2009 include £26,424.94 in respect of the purchase of children's play equipment for the playing field.

<sup>3</sup>The Balance carried forward for 2008/2009 of £2,757.25 is net of a figure of £2,265.09 for VAT Input tax for which a claim for refund has been made to Her Majesty's Customs and Inland Revenue and was refunded in 2009/2010.

# Budget for 2010–2011

	Total	Revenue Expenditure	Reserves and Accruals
Audit Fee	£350	£350	
Salaries	£3,200	£3,200	
Postage/Telephone	£110	£110	
Printing	£90	£90	
Subscriptions	£220	£220	
Meeting Expenses	£180	£180	
Insurance	£440	£440	
Chairman's Fund	£25	£25	
Misc. Expenses	£100	£100	
Newsletter/Website	£100	£100	
Grass Cutting Costs	£2,500	£2,500	
Playing Field Costs	£1,000	£1,000	
Grants and Awards	£1,000	£1,000	
Election Cost Reserve	£100		£100
Playing Field Reserve	£-		£-
Capital Projects Reserve	£500		£500
General Reserve	£130		£130
	£10,045	£9,315	£730

Bank Interest Received	(£10)	(£10)	
<b>Precept Required</b>	<b>£10,035</b>	<b>£9,305</b>	<b>£730</b>

## Analysis of Reserves

Reserves	Brought forward from prior year	Allocated in Budget	Total for Budget Year	Target
Playing Field Reserve	£800	£0	£800	£-
Election Reserve	£600	£100	£700	£800
Capital Projects Reserve	£1,000	£500	£1,500	£2,000
General Reserve	£2,990	£130	£3,120	£9,305
<b>Total</b>	<b>£5,390</b>	<b>£730</b>	<b>£6,120</b>	<b>£16,605</b>

## Policing and Neighbourhood Watch

A new website has been launched called Rushcliffe Community.

Residents of Rushcliffe Borough can contribute to making their community safer using their own home PCs on a new web-based crime alert system.

This new website brings the traditional Neighbourhood Watch scheme into the 21st century by allowing community members to contribute without having to attend meetings or patrol streets. It's simple to use, highly secure and free and can provide warnings about local criminal activity and prevention advice by email, text or phone. It also allows members to supply information to the police about suspicious activity in total confidence and discuss local issues online.

The website address is:

<http://www.rushcliffecommunity.co.uk>

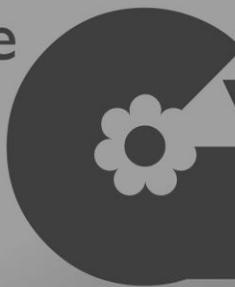
You need to register to use the full facilities of the site.

A 'virtual' Neighbourhood Watch scheme for Whatton-in-the-Vale has been set up. Please join it and play your part in keeping our community safe.

Peter Ainley, Crime Reduction Manager for the Rushcliffe Borough area of Nottinghamshire Police based at Bingham Police Station says:

*'Neighbourhood Alert allows you to be part of a virtual Neighbourhood Watch group but remain hidden if you prefer to. It's about people in Rushcliffe looking out for each other through being better informed about what's going on where they live and work and contributing without having to attend meetings, patrol in pairs or sit curtain-twitching. It has been proven to reduce crime and antisocial behaviour in other areas where it operates already and we want as many people in Rushcliffe as possible to get involved and help keep crime to a minimum. We can send out details of current trends to anyone who wants to get involved'.*



The  Whatton & Aslockton  
**VILLAGE**  


*Saturday 10th July 2010*

from 1pm at  
Whatton & Aslockton Playing Fields

**There's something for everyone...**

- Children's Entertainer • Sheep Race •
- Bouncy Castle & Inflatable Slide • Tug of War •
- Horticultural Competition • Photography Competition •
- Fancy Dress Competition • Dog Show • Stalls •
- Evening entertainment from 6pm •

...and much more

**why not come and join us  
and make a day of it!**



## **GALA GARDENS SHOW**

**ENTRY FEE 50p PER CLASS**

**ALL ENTRIES MUST BE ON SITE BETWEEN 9.30 am–  
10.30 am FOR JUDGING AT 11.00 am.**

### **CHILDREN**

To be judged 6 years and under and 7–12 years

**Class 1:** A monster made from fruit and/or vegetables

**Class 2:** A decorated paper plate

**Class 3:** A plant in a recycled container that may be decorated

### **OPEN FLORAL ART**

**Class 4:** 'A country basket' – an arrangement of flowers, foliage, fruit and/or vegetables (accessories may be used)

**Class 5:** A modern arrangement using a maximum of five flowers

### **OPEN FLOWERS (MUST BE HOMEGROWN)**

**Class 6:** A single scented rose in a stem vase

**Class 7:** Three roses – any variety in a vase

**Class 8:** A spray of floribunda roses in a vase

**Class 9:** A container of garden flowers, not formally arranged

**Class 10:** A container of foliage, not formerly arranged, may include flowering stems

**Class 11:** Six stems of sweet peas

### **HOMEGROWN PRODUCE**

**Class 12:** A plate of four potatoes

**Class 13:** A plate of four tomatoes

**Class 14:** A plate of any soft fruit

**Class 15:** Five sticks of rhubarb with tops removed



## GALA GARDENS SHOW

ENTRY FORM TO BE COMPLETED BY ALL ENTRANTS.

YOU MAY ENTER AS MANY CLASSES AS YOU WISH.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE NO: \_\_\_\_\_

CLASS NOs. ENTERED: \_\_\_\_\_

AGE (CHILDREN ONLY)

PLEASE TICK: 6 and under \_\_\_\_\_

7 to 12 \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENTRY FEE PAID \_\_\_\_\_

ALL ENTRIES MUST BE COLLECTED AT THE END OF THE AFTERNOON – **NOT BEFORE**. THE COMMITTEE ACCEPTS NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR BREAKAGES.



The **G** Whatton & Aslockton  
**VILLAGE**  
**GALA**

*Saturday 10th July 2010*

from 1pm at  
Whatton & Aslockton Playing Fields  
with evening entertainment from 6pm

**why not come and join us  
and make a day of it!**

# WHATTON AND ASLOCKTON PLAYING FIELD TRUST – ANNUAL TRUSTEE REPORT 2009–2010

## Introduction

This is the second year of the new committee structure and in broad terms it has been a successful year. The individual elements of the playing field activities are provided in more detail below, but in general the committee has met its objectives IN 2008/9.

The playing field is lucky in having a proactive and dedicated committee whose members not only give their time freely to attend and contribute to our monthly meetings and thus the overall management of the field, but many also contribute to the practical maintenance of the facilities.

## Play equipment

Last year saw the completion of the play equipment project with the installation in February 2009 of equipment for the under 6's. The playing field now has a full range of equipment to cater for toddlers to teenagers.

The work of the Play Equipment Committee is ongoing in looking for funding to increase and enhance the play equipment in the future.

## Sports areas

On behalf on the committee I would like to thank our ground managers for their work in ensuring that all our playing surfaces remain 'playable'. Both of our ground managers, Bob Crawford (football season) and Richard Lambourne (cricket season) give their time to ensure that our playing surfaces remain in the best condition possible.

In the year we hosted 60 football games on the senior (11-a-side) pitch, 20 each for Aslockton Cranmers Football Club (the Under 12's and Under 11's), Greyhounds Football Club and Whatton United Football Club. In addition, we provided facilities on the two junior pitches (7-a-side) for 50 games to be played by the Aslockton Cranmers Under 8's, Under 7's, and Under 6's football teams.

Whatton and Aslockton Cricket 1<sup>st</sup> 11 played 20 games, with a further 12 being played by the Second/Junior 11. Youth cricket was also played during the year.

## Pavilion

The interior of the pavilion was improved during the year, thanks to the help from a number of volunteers. On behalf of the committee I would like to thank those volunteers for their commitment and effort.

## **Fun day**

The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Fun day took place on the 11 July 2009. Unfortunately, the promised Fun Fair did not arrive and the attendance was lower than previous years. Nonetheless, the event did raise £277.61. Those who did attend had an enjoyable day.

For 2010, the Event Committee is widening the scope of the event and it has now been renamed the VILLAGE GALA and it will include a wider range of activities and attractions.

## **Help for Heroes**

Whetton and Aslockton Playing Field Committee hosted the 'Help for Heroes' event. The use of the field's facilities was donated to the event at no charge. The event raised in excess of £11,000 for the Help for Heroes charity.

## **Ground**

Temporary repairs have been made to the potholes at the entrance to the ground and two trees have been felled on the southern boundary.

Additionally, an order has been placed for the clearance of the 'old' play surfaces, the removal of the old swing and the clearance of the southwest boundary area of the field. It is expected that the work will take place in the first half of 2010.

## **Forward projects**

### **Play equipment**

As was stated previously, the Play Equipment Committee will continue to examine opportunities for developing the range of the play equipment.

### **Pavilion**

The Pavilion Committee will continue to examine options for replacing the current pavilion.

### **Charity status**

The Charity Commission has confirmed the application for registration as a registered charity on the 7 April 2010.

## FOOTPATH NEWS

A number of complaints have been received about both the width and condition of Whatton footpath 13 (the one that crosses the 'Fish Ponds' field from Dark Lane to the bridge over the Smite).

The footpath is overgrown and due to its narrow width and the fact that horses are kept on both sides of the path makes it difficult to use.

The issue of the width of this footpath has been raised with the 'Rights of Way' team at Nottinghamshire County Council previously.

The condition of the footpath has been raised again with the Nottinghamshire County Council.

## UPDATE FROM THE PLAYING FIELD

### Committee membership

The Annual General Meeting took place on the 19 May 2010. Terri Warham and Barbara Harris had already indicated that they did not intend to stand for re-election. There was only one proposal for election to the Committee.

The Committee for the coming year is:

Mansfield Barker\* – Aslockton (appointed by Aslockton Parish Council)

Bob Crawford – Aslockton (appointed by the Greyhounds Football Club)

Brian Crawford\* – Aslockton (appointed by Aslockton Parish Council)

Ray Dawson\* – Whatton-in-the-Vale (appointed by Whatton-in-the-Vale Parish Council)

Martin Hallam – Orston (appointed by Aslockton Cranmers Football Club)

Richard Lambourne – Bingham (appointed by Whatton & Aslockton Cricket Club)

Gerry Nerney – Aslockton (elected)

Gregg Redford\* – Whatton-in-the-Vale (appointed by Whatton-in-the-Vale Parish Council)

\*Members of the Trustee Committee

At the meeting following the AGM, the officers were appointed as follows:

Chairman – Gregg Redford

Vice Chairman – Brian Crawford

Treasurer – Ray Dawson

Secretary – no proposal – position remains vacant

The Committee thanked Barbara Harris and Terri Warham for their service; in particular to the provision of Stage Two of the play equipment.

## Site clearance

The old playing surfaces, the old swings and the area along the southern boundary (by the cottage) have now been cleared.

All the areas have been cleared, refilled with soil, levelled and seeded with grass. The area on the southern boundary is now available for parking.

The total cost of the clearance was £1,300 and has been met from the General Reserve.

The committee would like to thank Bob Crawford, who arranged and managed this project.

## Damage to play equipment

A bolt was removed from one of the children's swings (it is thought deliberately). The swing has now been repaired. We will be contacting the manufacturer to obtain a number of 'spare parts' to allow us to repair the equipment as required.

The committee would like to thank Ray Dawson for repairing the damage.

## Race night

A Race Night was held on the 6 June 2010 with the object of raising additional funds for the Village Gala. Mansfield Barker organised the event. It was disappointing that the sports clubs did not show support for the event and a number of people who had purchased tickets did not attend. Approximately 50 people did attend the event and it was an enjoyable evening.

The event raised £308 towards the costs of the Village Gala.

The committee would like to thank Mansfield Barker, Bob Crawford, Ray Dawson, Gerry Nerney and Gregg Redford for their contribution to the success of the evening.

## Village Gala

The Event Committee continues their work on arranging the Village Gala.

A lot of work has been put into organising and arranging the event. Volunteers are required to assist in the setting up on Saturday morning, manning the trust facilities during the event and 'taking down' on Saturday night.

## Bits and bobs

Rushcliffe Borough Council has approved revised plans for the development of the White Villa site on Dark Lane. The plans show permission for eight dwellings with garages and vehicular accesses.

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Cr Gregg Redford has been re-elected chairman of the Whatton-in-the-Vale Parish Council for a further year in office, with Cr Mrs Barbara Harris again taking on the role as vice chairman.

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Parish councillors did not object to a planning application by Mr N Bajwa for use of part of an existing building at the Elton Road Farm on Grantham Road as an MOT testing station.

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The council was told that the Whatton-in-the-Vale and Aslockton Playing Field Association was now a registered charity.

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Whatton and Orston parish councils may join together to support an affordable housing scheme. A survey in Whatton taken by the Midland Rural Housing Association showed there was a need for two such properties in the village, a figure that would not warrant an independent scheme. But joining with Orston could provide the necessary figure to support a scheme going ahead.

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The parish council has so far not been successful in finding suitable land to fulfil a request for allotments to be provided in the village. They are currently asking Rushcliffe Borough Council to try to assist by making land available.

## PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Chairman  
**Greg Redford**  
01949 851 597  
17 Burton Lane

Vice Chair  
**Barbara Harris**  
01949 850 117  
Sarum House, Sunbeam Street

**Ray Dawson**  
01949 850 493  
19 Conery Gardens

**Ernest Parsons**  
01949 851 261  
34 Conery Gardens

**Carol Key**  
01949 850 087  
41 Cottage Avenue

**Malcolm Seagrave**  
01949 851 067  
5 Riverside

**Vikki Harper**  
01949 851 723  
The Old School, School Lane

Clerk to the Council: Mike Elliott, 19/21 Main Street, Keyworth,  
Nottinghamshire. NG12 5AA. Telephone: 01159 376 506  
e-Mail: [elliottnews@btconnect.com](mailto:elliottnews@btconnect.com)

## PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

Residents who have access to the internet are reminded that the Parish Council now has its own website <<http://www.whatton.org>>.

The website is intended to complement *Whatton Village News* and is updated on a regular basis.

Minutes and agendas are available for download starting from the October 2008 meeting.

The site also includes a simple 'contact us' form where residents can bring matters of concern to the attention of the Parish Council.

*Whatton Village News* is published on a quarterly basis by Whatton-in-the-Vale Parish Council and is delivered free to all households in the parish.

Comments and suggestions about *Whatton Village News* should be sent to: The Clerk, Whatton-in-the-Vale Parish Council, 19/21 Main Street, Keyworth, Nottinghamshire. NG12 5AA