



Whatton Village News

September 2009

Volume 3

Issue 3

Neighbourhood priority survey

Included with this edition of Whatton Village News is a 'Neighbourhood priority survey'. Your parish council is committed to working with the Nottinghamshire Police Service and other partners to determine policing priorities for the parish. We need your help in establishing those priorities. Please complete the enclosed survey and return to:

The Chairman,
Whatton-in-the-Vale Parish Council,
17, Burton Lane,
Whatton-in-the-Vale, Nottinghamshire.
NG13 9EQ

Jubilee Hall – forthcoming events

The Jubilee Hall Committee are organising the following events for the rest of 2009

Ceilidh	Saturday 10 th October	7.30pm
Quiz Evening	Saturday 31 st October	7.30pm
Family Disco	Saturday 21 st November	6-10pm
Christmas Fair	Monday 30 th November	7.30pm
Christmas Coffee Morning	Friday 4 th December	10am- 12noon
Christmas Carol Concert	Sunday 13 th December	3pm

Success for local rail campaign.

Jim Bamford – Rail Officer – Nottinghamshire County Council

In December 2008, East Midlands Trains cut the number of trains that called at Aslockton, sparking a considerable outcry from local residents. Local people, Aslockton and Whatton Parish Councils, and the County Council all took up the issue in an attempt to persuade East Midlands Trains to reverse its decision.

A large petition was quickly drawn up and presented to the County Council, showing the keen interest in the local train service. And a very detailed survey was undertaken of the usage and requirements that local people had of the rail service. As rail officer for the County Council I get to see quite a lot of surveys undertaken by various consultants about the demand for rail services. The survey for Aslockton, undertaken by Aslockton and Whatton Parish Councils, compares very well with any that I have seen. It contains a wealth of really useful information, and was extremely persuasive in making the case that more trains should stop at Aslockton.

The issue was taken up by County Councillor Martin Suthers, who requested that the County Council press very vigorously for reinstatement of the former level of service. As a result, the Council made a formal request to East Midlands Trains for 8 additional trains to call. The Council made it clear that it thought EMT had got it wrong by cutting the service last December, and that it would be in EMT's commercial interest, as well as in the interests of local people to re-instate the stops that had been withdrawn. It was made clear that getting restitution of these calls at Aslockton was a top priority for the Council, and that we would not be letting the matter drop!

The Council's experience is that East Midlands Trains is genuinely open to considering representations made to it. I am very pleased to report that in this case East Midlands Trains has listened to the representations and has agreed that, as from 13th December 2009, there will be 8 additional trains per day calling at Aslockton;-

- Additional trains will arrive from Nottingham, and depart for Grantham at 07.53, 11.01, and 19.01, and
- Additional rains will arrive from Grantham, and depart for Nottingham at 09.01, 13.01, 15.01, 18.01, and 22.01.

Please note that, although this re-instates the same overall number of trains as before, they are not at exactly the same times as previously. It is hoped that, as well as catering for travel into Nottingham, the new trains will cater better than previously for travel to and from Grantham and beyond. In particular, we hope that the 07.53 to Grantham, and 17.45 back from Grantham could cater for any commuters into Grantham, and the two morning trains to Grantham and the evening returns could, with their connections at Grantham, cater for days out to places further a field.

East Midlands Trains announced these extra trains for Aslockton at a public meeting in the village on 29th June. East Midlands Trains has undertaken to run these additional trains for a period of two years, from December 2009 to at least December 2011. As long as the trains have generated enough additional patronage, East Midlands Trains will continue to run these trains after December 2011. Aslockton's current service is used by around 18,000 per annum, and East Midlands Trains says that another 15% = 3000 passengers per annum are needed to make the additional trains permanent.

Once it has started, the County Council will in 2010 be promoting the enhanced service. We hope local residents will find it useful and will make good use of it.

Parish Council adds new areas to the Grass cutting programme

Following the decision of Rushcliffe Borough Council to 'reclaim' the maintenance the green on Green Walk, the released capacity in the Parish Councils grass cutting programme is now being used to cut the wide verge on Dark Lane. Members agreed to monitor the performance of the Borough's cutting operation to ensure that the quality of the maintenance remains to the standard set by the Parish Council's programme. Residents are asked to contact the Parish Council if they feel the cutting of the area on Green Walk is not up to standard.

Following the clearing by Nottinghamshire County Council of the wide verge on the south-side of Grantham Road, maintenance of that area will be added to the programme on a four weekly cycle. The area around Whatton Bridge and the north-side of Grantham Road has also been added to the schedule and those areas will be maintained on a two weekly cycle.

Area	Responsibility	Maintained by
Main Street/Grantham Road to Orston Lane	Nottinghamshire County Council	Parish Council
Verge around Ivy Row Green	Nottinghamshire County Council	Parish Council
The Green (Ivy Row)	Parish Council	Parish Council
Whatton Bridge	Nottinghamshire County Council	Parish Council
The Green (Dark Lane/Grantham Road)	Nottinghamshire County Council	Parish Council
Dark Lane (east verge)	Nottinghamshire County Council	Parish Council
Cottage Ave / Smite Close	Nottinghamshire County Council	Parish Council
Beverleys Ave	Nottinghamshire County Council	Parish Council
Green Walk	Rushcliffe Borough Council	Rushcliffe Borough Council
Grantham Road	Nottinghamshire County Council	Parish Council

Help for Heroes event – a success

The celebrity cricket match between a team from Whatton and Aslockton Cricket Club and the Emmerdale All Stars proved a great success. The event also included a giant tombola, stalls and music provided by the Sleaford Salvation Army Band and the Carrington Jazz Quartet.

The event was organised by Peter and Angela Berry in aid of the Help for Heroes Charity. Whatton-in-the-Vale Parish Council supported the initiative from the outset and Whatton and Aslockton Playing Field Trust hosted the event.

Tents and logistic support was provided by 168 Pioneer Regiment – Royal Logistic Corp TA lead by WO2 Norman Le Marechal. 1936 (Newton) Squadron Air Training Corp under the leadership of Flt. Lieu. Jodi Hudson provided traffic and gate management as well as regular ‘clean-up sweeps’ of the site during the event. Peter and Angela’s ‘army of volunteers’ (too numerous to mention individually) contributed greatly to the success of the day.

Nottinghamshire County Council provided highways support and the sound system. Publicity and printing support and a special refuse pick-up were provided by Rushcliffe Borough Council.

The occasion raised in excess of £10,600 for Help for Heroes.

Bits and Bobs

Bits and Bobs start here

More Bits and Bobs

More bits and bobs start here.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATES

The meeting dates are subject to change; additional meetings may be arranged if required. Formal notices of meetings are posted on the two Parish Council notice boards – one on Grantham Road (by the bus shelter) and the second on the junction of Cottage Avenue and Dark Lane. Minutes of previous meetings and agendas are also posted on the notice boards. Copies of minutes and agendas are also available for download from the Parish Council website <<http://www.whatton.org>>.

Each meeting has a fifteen minute open session to enable residents to raise issues of concern.

All meetings are held at the Jubilee Hall, Church Street, Whatton-in-the-Vale.

The future meeting dates are:

Monday 2 nd November 2009	-	7:30 pm
Monday 14 th December 2009	-	7:30 pm

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 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.

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Chairman

Greg Redford
01949 851 597
17 Burton Lane

Carol Key
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41 Cottage Avenue

Vice-Chair

Barbara Harris
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Sarum House, Sunbeam Street

Malcolm Seagrave
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5 Riverside

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19 Conery Gardens

WHATTON-IN-THE-VALE

PARISH COUNCIL

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34 Conery Gardens

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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.
NG13 5AA