

Christmas Lights 2019

GIVE US YOUR FEEDBACK

HELP US TO MAKE THIS YEAR'S LIGHTS BIGGER & BETTER

Please complete the questionnaire below and return it to the Parish Office.

Please circle your response with **1 = poor, 5 = very good**

How did you rate the 2019 Christmas Lights throughout the villages?

1 2 3 4 5

How well was the switch-on event communicated to you?

1 2 3 4 5

How appropriate do you think that the venue was for the switch-on?

1 2 3 4 5

How appropriate do you feel that the timing for the event was?

1 2 3 4 5

How do you rate the standard of the refreshments on offer?

1 2 3 4 5

Was the entertainment provided adequate?

YES / NO

Were you aware of the Christmas Lights Competition?

YES / NO

Please add your own comments:

TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Plans for the Twinning Association's visit to Rimbach, in October 2020, are now being prepared. A preliminary booking has been made for the outward journey on Saturday 24th October, 2020, using the Dover/Calais ferry, stopping overnight in Leuven. The return trip is planned for 30th/31st October, 2020, stopping overnight in Bruges and taking mid-day Eurotunnel train.

A programme of visits and events during the week are still being planned and we have suggested to our hosts in Rimbach the following possible places for visits: BASF/John Deere factories, Asbach cognac distillery at Rudesheim, and town visits to Darmstadt, Weinheim, Speyer and Heidelberg.

The cost will be £360 per person (plus a single room supplement of £80 for both overnight stays).

Anyone interested in joining the visit should contact Christine Hill (Tel. 808194). Please note, numbers are restricted by the number of seats on the coach.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Full Council:

2nd April, 7th May (Annual Meeting)

Civic Amenity Dates:

4th April; 2nd May and 6th June 10:00 - 12:00

Green Drinks:

7th April, 5th May, 2nd June
Sports and Social Club from 7:30 pm

Plastic Free Shopping:

15th April, 20th May, 17th June
Lamb and Flag 11:00 am to 12:30 pm

Memorial Hall Coffee morning:

14th April, 12th May, 9th June - 10:00 am to 12:00

Memorial Hall:

AGM 22nd May - 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm
Open Day - 16th May

WI: 9th April, 14th May, 11th June

Memorial Hall 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Community Lunches:

7th April, 5th May, 2nd June
St. Michael and All Angels 12:00 - 3:00pm.

Haywood Society:

22nd April, 20th May, 17th June
Sports and Social Club: 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm

RNLI Dinner: 25th April

Brocton Hall Golf Club 7:00 pm - 11:00 pm

LITTLE LAURA

As mentioned previously, the various events organized by the Council and the Youth Council in 2019 have been raising funds for Little Laura, a charity raising funds for children with special needs in memory of Laura Thomas from Great Haywood. Laura was tragically killed in a road traffic collision in July 2013 at the age of 20. Laura worked hard and dedicated her working and spare time in caring for disabled children.

On 6th February, Cllr Wendy Wells was delighted to hand over a cheque for £941.15.

Thank you to everyone who helped raise these funds by supporting our activities during the year including:

The Youth Council's Arts Festival in April; The Youth Council Music Showcase and Council Music Festival in July; The Youth Council's stall at the Flower & Vegetable show in September; and The Switch On event in November.

The Council would also like to thank the refreshment stands for their generous donations.

Both the Council and the Youth Council will again be raising funds to support Little Laura in 2020.



Twinning Association: AGM 18th May Sports & Social Club 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Afternoon Tea: 28th June
Memorial Hall 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Further details for the above can be found on the Community Calendar on the Council website:

http://www.colwichparishcouncil.gov.uk/Parish_Events_Calendar_6291.aspx



Colwich Parish Council

INCORPORATING WOLSELEY BRIDGE, COLWICH, GREAT HAYWOOD & LITTLE HAYWOOD

NEWSLETTER

Spring 2020 No. 103

CLOSURE OF LITTLE TIXALL LANE

In 2013, Seabridge applied for planning permission to build houses on Little Tixall Lane behind Marlborough Close. Despite much opposition from across the parish the Borough Council gave permission, in January 2015, for the development. Amongst the conditions for this approval was that the proposed access road, which County Highways deemed safe and acceptable, be built onto the A51 and that the new development must remain connected by road to Great Haywood.

In recent years, Lovell Partnership took on development for the project and, after a campaign by some residents, the proposition was made to close Little Tixall Lane to motorised vehicles from beyond the Marlborough Close junction. This closure prevents direct access into Great Haywood and stops through traffic between Little Haywood and Great Haywood.

Following a Parish Council Planning meeting, at which the Lovell Partnership was present, the Council concluded that the proposition was not acceptable for a number of reasons. It would result in the new development being cut off from Great Haywood, contrary to the original permission, thus, in effect, being in open countryside. Some residents welcomed the idea of not increasing traffic on the Lane. However, the consequences for the inhabitants of Little Haywood are unacceptable due to the increased traffic on the very narrow Coley Lane. Moreover, removing vehicular access along Little Tixall Lane seriously affects access for the farming community around Far & High Coley. Furthermore, the closure would see an increase in local traffic either travelling along Main Road or using the new A51 junction, to access the Allotments, for instance. Since then we have consistently opposed the proposal.

In April 2019 Lovell Homes applied for a variation of the Planning permission and despite opposition this was again granted. It was only as this application progressed that the Parish Council became aware that the County Council had agreed to the closure of Little Tixall Lane. The County Council had not, formally, consulted the Parish Council or kept it informed in any way. The then Chairman of the Parish Council informed villagers of the County Council's decision in the Autumn Parish Newsletter. We wrote to County Highways stating that we felt they had not acted in accordance with Highways legislation in not consulting the Parish Council. The response was that they did not have to take the Parish Council's views into consideration. The only concession was a commitment from our County Councillor to keep Little Tixall Lane open until the development commenced.

It would seem that the point has now been reached when the developers are preparing to build. We have been given early sight of the proposed notice of the intention to close Little Tixall Lane on 6th April in order to commence the A51 access.

The Parish Council is extremely disappointed that it has not been able to bring about a more effective outcome to the matter in line with the majority views of residents. We will continue to do all that we can to assist those who are affected by these decisions. We would welcome views as to whether there are any further actions that residents would like us to consider regarding the Lane once the link road is completed and the development commenced. We remain particularly concerned about slow moving and/or stationary vehicles attempting to turn right onto the new link road from the A51 and vice versa.

Phil & Ian

LENGTHSMEN DUTIES

The days are gradually lengthening and signs of new growth are everywhere. The Lengthsmen will soon be returning to summer hours to take in, amongst other things, the grass cutting duties (a full list of areas is on the Council website). Last summer, the Lengthsmen went an extra step by collecting grass cuttings and tidying up edges of grassed areas in order to help Colwich and Little Haywood's entry in the "In Bloom" competition, of which they won a Gold award. Following positive comments this will now be the way of working going forward throughout the Parish. The never-ending task of keeping down weeds throughout the Parish will also continue,

where possible without the use of herbicides as this is more environmentally friendly. Weedkiller will need to be applied in larger areas, such as the car park at the Jubilee Playing Fields and also at the two Main Road junctions, Great Haywood and Colwich. General maintenance of the toilet block building will also be carried out in the coming months; the guttering needs serious attention and there are a few tiles that need replacing. A new pedestrian entrance to the JPF is also planned. If you notice anything around the Parish which may require the Lengthsmen's attention then please let the Parish Office know or speak to us direct.



Chairman: Wendy Wells

E: wendy.wells@colwichparishcouncil.gov.uk

Clerk: Michael Lennon

E: clerk@colwichparishcouncil.gov.uk

Parish Office: St Mary's Road, Little Haywood, ST18 0TX

T: 01889 882665

facebook www.facebook.com/Colwich Parish Council



www.colwichparishcouncil.gov.uk

COUNCIL TAX

Colwich Parish Council must avoid setting a budget which might breach the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014. The Council has, therefore, applied a cost of living increase across its budget heads for 2020/21. The Council has also made an allowance for the revised pay scales which will be issued in due course from the National Joint Council for Local Government Services (NJC) taking into account statutory increases in the Living Wage effective from April 2020.

The Council continues to refine how it accounts for the works it undertakes, not least since the recruitment of the lengthsman. Previously, a large proportion of the Council's expenditure was paid out to contractors e.g. grass cutting or maintenance at the JPF. These tasks are now undertaken by the lengthsman which has seen an increase in Staffing costs but a decrease in Administration costs. The Council is also looking at different ways to engage with residents not least building on the Music festival held last July as well as funding events to commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE Day.

ADMINISTRATION

The Council is expecting increases to its legal bill in 2020/21 as it looks to purchase small pieces of land. Areas include the hedge bordering Millers Croft; the land required for the Memorial Hall - Doctors link path; and a Garden of Remembrance.

Community Engagement includes the quarterly Newsletter.

The Events budget will build on last year's Music Festival and Christmas Lights with additional funds being allocated to grow the Music event and to fund the VE Day Commemoration weekend.

The Parish Maintenance budget head has reduced this year. We have not added further to the Surgery link path as we currently have just under £50,000 in an earmarked reserve.

The Council has once again met its commitment to hold a £5,000 budget earmarked for Green Infrastructure. An agreement in the year has seen the Council establish an account with Roseacre so as to support Colwich Parish in Bloom enabling them to purchase and plant bulbs etc. in line with the Council's Green Infrastructure Plan.

	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Administration	76,682	17,139	23,275
Staffing	85,839	99,537	105,800
Community Engagement	150	2,446	3,400
Events	0	3,140	4,000
Parish maintenance	2,152	16,883	12,020
Footpaths	158	0	500
Green Infrastructure	158	158	158
Mill Lane	0	0	0
Parish Centre	6,016	4,250	9,385
JPF	6,887	9,864	14,100
Allotments	1,389	1,698	0
Grants/Donations	3,170	500	3,800
Earmarked Reserves	6,935	0	0
Totals	190,587	157,457	178,280
VE Day			1,250
Music festival			1,250
JPF Drainage			15,000
Totals			195,780

The Council has set additional funds aside to make improvements to the Parish Centre including new toilets and better office storage areas.

Funds have been allocated to maintain and improve the JPF. An additional £15,000 has been added to improve drainage, not least in the car park, so as to make it more useable. A full survey of the drains is planned and the funds will be used to undertake any works recommended by this survey.

The Council will once again have a small grants programme to support local community groups. This programme will be launched by the Chairman at the Parish Assembly in May.

In total the budget for 2020/21 has been set at £195,780 including £5,485.85 Central Government Grant, the first such increase in a number of years, giving a charge to parish residents of £190,294.15. The Council's tax base (the number of Band D equivalent properties in the parish) has increased again

this year from 1,812.53 to 1,841.71. This has resulted in a **1.1% decrease** on the individual charge per household compared to the 2019/20 level. The rates for 2020/21 will therefore be £103.32 per Band D property; £91.84 per Band C and £80.36 per Band B.

VOLUNTARY TRANSPORT SCHEME

We are most grateful to the four new drivers who have recently joined us. However, we still need more drivers and volunteer co-ordinators. If you think you can help please call 07398 725066 and leave a message. Alternatively you can call Linda on 801962 or Geraldine on 802358.

Thank you

SAVE THE DATE!

75th Anniversary of VE DAY

IMPORTANT 2020 BANK HOLIDAY INFORMATION

On 7th June 2019, the UK government announced that they will be moving **EARLY MAY BANK HOLIDAY**

From **MONDAY 4th MAY** to **FRIDAY 8th MAY**

This is to coincide with the 75th Anniversary of V.E. Day
This applies to England, Wales and Northern Ireland

For further information please visit <https://www.gov.uk/bank-holidays>

Following the announcement that the Bank Holiday Monday for 2020 has been moved to Friday 8 May, Colwich Parish Council has been working in partnership with local groups to arrange a Bank Holiday celebration here in the village. Everyone involved has been working hard putting together a programme of events to offer something for everyone.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

Friday 8th May
Jubilee Playing Field
2.00 p.m. Picnic in the Park
Bring a picnic, bring your family, bring your friends. Children's entertainment and games
7.00 p.m. Live Music with the Rat Pack
Put on your dancing shoes.
Food available to purchase; bar available
Dress 1940's themed –
optional but appreciated for both events.

Saturday 9th May
Little Haywood Village Hall, Chilwell Avenue
10.00 a.m. Coffee and Cake morning
including a Traditional Homemade Cakes competition Entry forms available on the day for Children up to 14 years and 14 years and over. Judging will be at 10.30 am.
1.00 p.m. Come along and bring your cake or just turn up for a cup of coffee or tea.
Colouring will be available for the children.

Great Haywood Memorial Hall
7.00 p.m. Film Night
'A Royal Night Out' feature film.
Tickets available from the Memorial Hall

Sunday 10th May
St Stephens Church, Great Haywood
4.00 p.m. Evensong
All are welcome to a church service commemorating VE Day.

Great Haywood Memorial Hall
5.00 p.m. Rededication of the Twinning Plaque
Children from our local schools will be singing a selection of appropriate songs.

Keep a look out on Facebook, the Parish Council website, the noticeboards for further updates. Help us spread the word and encourage everyone to come along and have some fun.



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

As the Chairman of Colwich Parish Council, I should like to invite you to the Parish Assembly to be held on **Thursday 21 May 2020** at Anson School, Great Haywood. Thanks go to Mr. Edward Howard for kindly agreeing to allow us to use the school hall.

Please use the Memorial Hall car park for this event, and please take care when crossing the Main Road.

As is customary, the evening will commence at 7:00pm with a MEET YOUR COUNCILLORS event.

We offer our congratulations to Cllr Roberts and his family on the safe arrival of a grandson.

Cllr Wendy Wells

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS 2019

Christmas 2019 is rapidly fading into the past but before we say farewell to it totally, we must announce the results of our first ever Christmas House Decorations competition. Judging of this event came too late for the results to be included in our Christmas Newsletter but we didn't want to miss the opportunity to congratulate our winners and thank all those who entered raising funds for Little Laura. Judging took place on the evening of 15th December when three judges braved a cold wet evening to visit all the entries. The judges put forward a recommendation to the Full Council meeting of Thursday 19th December when the final decision was taken and the results announced. The Parish Council would like to congratulate everybody who decorated their houses throughout the villages for the festive season, there were truly some amazing displays. Unfortunately, not everyone entered the competition and so we were not able to include all the lights in our deliberations. Nevertheless, we had very worthy entrants and excellent winners.

LOCAL BUSINESSES:
HAYWOOD HEATING SERVICES
Trophy and certificate presented at the Events Committee meeting of 16th January 2020.

PRIVATE HOUSES
Winner: MR & MRS HILDRETH
of Hawkesmoor Drive, Little Haywood.

2nd place: Mr & Mrs Davies-Hill
of The Uplands, Great Haywood.

3rd place: Mr & Mrs McAuley
of High Chase Rise, Little Haywood.

Trophy and certificates were presented at the Full Council Meeting on 19th December 2019.

Once again, thank you to everyone who participated. This year we hope to run the competition again and would encourage everyone to get into the competitive spirit and help us to raise even more funds for our charity of the year Little Laura. Full details of the competition and how to enter will appear in the autumn Newsletter arriving late September 2020.



Above left: Second place Mrs & Mrs Davies-Hill

Above right: Third place Mr & Mrs McAuley



Left: Private Houses winner, Mr & Mrs Hildreth



Right: Local Businesses winner, Haywood Heating Services

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS 2020

The Christmas Events Committee have not been slumbering since the lights were turned off. Planning is already well underway for 2020. This will be the 3rd year that we have undertaken to light up our villages and hold a 'Switch On' event for the Christmas festivities. We started small in 2018 with the 'Switch on' event being held in Trent Square, Great Haywood with a second tree lit up outside the Parish Office in Little Haywood. We expanded the event in 2019 by installing more lights including a Christmas tree in Colwich and lights on St Mary's Road and the Jubilee Playing Fields. In 2019 we centred the 'switch on' event around the Parish Office in Little Haywood which gave us the opportunity to close the lower section of St Mary's Road and invite some food and alcohol outlets to provide refreshments – again raising funds for Little Laura through their generous donations.

Firstly, we would like to offer a very big apology to the residents of Great Haywood. The lights on the Christmas Tree in Trent Square went off just before Christmas. For some reason, that we are still unsure of, the power supply failed and despite efforts on Christmas Eve to rectify this we were unable to do so. Fear not Great Haywood folk, more lights are planned for your village this year.

Working on our small beginnings, we would like the 2020 'Switch On' event to be bigger and better than our two previous efforts. Initial thoughts are that we hold the event at the Jubilee Playing Field. This would offer the opportunity to have more stalls and attractions without having to close a road. However, planning is very much in its infancy and dependent on several factors, not least being the projected improvements to the Jubilee Playing Field carpark.

The Parish Council is open to suggestions from all villagers as to how you would like this event to progress. For this reason we are circulating a 'feed-back' sheet that can be returned to the Parish Office or which can be completed on line by going to:

www.colwichparishcouncil.gov.uk

So far only one definite decision has been made: SWITCH-ON DAY will be SATURDAY 28th NOVEMBER 2020