



NEWSLETTER

Spring 2014

No. 82

FINALLY – STAFFORD'S LOCAL PLAN IS NEARING COMPLETION 5 YEAR HOUSING BANK SATISFIED

- **THESE TWO ARGUMENTS HAVE BEEN USED OVER THE PAST YEAR BY DEVELOPERS TO SECURE APPROVAL FOR HOUSING APPLICATIONS.**
- **THEY WILL NO LONGER HAVE THAT PRIVILEGE.**
- **THEIR APPLICATIONS WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE REGULAR PLANNING SCRUTINY THAT WAS PREVIOUSLY APPLIED.**

THE PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN IS PROGRESSING WELL. WE SHALL PRODUCE A SUMMARY OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES FOR YOUR APPROVAL TO BE DISTRIBUTED AFTER EASTER.

THIS WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A CONSULTATION WEEKEND WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE OVER THE 3rd AND 4th MAY.

THE PARISH MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE GREAT HAYWOOD MEMORIAL HALL ON **SATURDAY 3rd MAY AT 7:30 p.m.** WHERE WE WILL PROVIDE FEEDBACK ON THE QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES AND MAKE THE DRAW FOR THE FREE SHUGBOROUGH TICKETS.

The full and complete report will be available in the Autumn and then forwarded to Stafford Borough Council, as soon as their own plan is adopted, for their examination before we seek YOUR final approval.

ROGATION SUNDAY (Cllr Cooper)

Date for the Diary – this year's annual Parish Rogation walk will be on Saturday 25th May. Make a note in your diaries and watch the Parish Notice boards for details nearer the time.

GREAT HAYWOOD MEMORIAL HALL

Can you help the Hall? A volunteer Treasurer is required from May. Would suit a person wishing for a small community activity. Please call Rosie on 07842 013548.

GREAT HAYWOOD VILLAGE SIGN

Tom Wain, who built the "Colwich" village sign last year (Newsletter Autumn 2013, No. 80) has done it again with a wonderful "Great Haywood" sign on the verge next to Roseacre Nursery. If you have been inspired by Tom's work then why not contact the Best Kept Village team to see how you could help to make our villages look better than ever.

JUBILEE PLAYING FIELDS

We would like to invite local young people, interested in the options for the new play and sports equipment at the JPF, to a meeting with our sports provider over the Easter Holidays. Please contact the Clerk if your son or daughter would like to attend.

New Parish Logo

Cllr Cooper

The Parish Council has adopted a new logo, which will soon appear on our correspondence and other communications as well as the website etc. There are several reasons for this, the main one being that unfortunately the Council didn't register the copyright for the previous one (designed by Keith Butler) which we have used for a number years, allowing it to be used by anyone, thus giving the impression that third parties were commenting and/or acting on behalf of the council!

The new design is intended to be modern with bold colouring making it easy to reproduce in colour or monochrome. The shield based design has a green background to reflect our rural location. Added to this are the four major communication links through our Parish – each with a junction and represented by:

- **THE RED LINE** - The junction of the A51 and the A513 at Wolseley Bridge
- **THE BLUE LINE** - The junction of the Sow and Trent Rivers by the Essex bridge
- **THE YELLOW LINE** - The junction of the Trent & Mersey Canal with the Staffordshire & Worcestershire canal in Great Haywood. (Yellow because of the historical wealth that was generated by the canals)
- **THE GREY LINE** - The steel line of the railways which have the major junction at Colwich.

These are intertwined around the Stafford knot.

Let's hope that the council doesn't have to modify the design in the future with a black line cutting across it to represent the proposed HS2 development, which the council continues to oppose!

At the top of the shield, there is of course the familiar and much loved Essex Bridge and below is the option to use the logo with a surrounding wreath of oak leaves to represent the large area of Cannock Chase that our Parish includes.

Although the bulk of our parish population lives within Colwich and the Haywoods, there are other outlying settlements including Wolseley Bridge and Bishton, etc. So the new design includes the motto "**Many Villages, One Community**" to reflect this. It was originally intended that the motto would be in Latin, but after further consideration, and in support of the up to date image, it has been agreed that it should be displayed in English!



A British Empire Medal for Cllr Anne Clendon

Cllr Mrs Gibson

We are delighted to announce (just in case you haven't heard) that one of your Parish Councillors was awarded the British Empire Medal in the New Year's honours list, for all her work in this parish. Anne came to live in the Haywoods in 1962, and became involved with St Stephen's Church and the Women's Institute. It is the WI which was responsible for the first Haywood's Carnival. This was the basis on which the Haywoods Flower and Vegetable Show began and it has gone from strength to strength ever since. WI members started the Best Kept Village Committee, helping to win the JCB Caring Community Award in 1993. More recent awards, under Anne's leadership, are the silver gilt awards in 2011 and 2012 for Colwich and Little Haywood and the silver award in 2012 for Great Haywood in the "Britain in Bloom" competition.

Anne has always been heavily involved with our community whether as Chairman of the Parish Council or organist at St Stephen's in Great Haywood and at St Mary the Virgin in Colton. She also started the Essex Players – the modern equivalent of which is the Haywood Players. She is involved with both "Victim Support" and "The Campaign for the Protection of Rural England" – the list of things she takes on is endless!

We are sure that you would like to join us in congratulating Anne on this richly-deserved award.

CHAIRMAN'S REFLECTIONS

Help us to help you...

Notwithstanding the divergence of opinion on the Parish Council some of the residents have justifiably complained about the publicity notifying you about the proposed development presentations we have held in the Memorial Hall and Village Hall at Great and Little Haywood. It is an issue that requires a remedy and I will outline the methods the Parish Council are considering as a solution to this problem.

The existing method of displaying advertisements in the notice boards is proving inadequate as the majority of the residents drive rather than walk past the boards. We can, therefore, only reach a minority of the villagers and must rely on those reading the notices to convey the information to their neighbours and friends. We must, however, continue to advertise meetings in the notice boards to meet our legal obligations.

Important information is also displayed on the "Colwich Parish Council" website and Facebook page. We are considering introducing an "Important Notice" web page which will automatically be displayed before you navigate elsewhere on the website. In effect, if you store the website in your favourites, you will only have a couple of clicks and the Important Notice Board will be displayed.

A number of attendees at the recent presentations offered to distribute

information leaflets in their local neighbourhood. The Parish Council could undertake the printing of the leaflets and delivering them to the distribution points which should provide a speedy and effective method of circulating urgent information to our residents. We have so far got about 20 people who have provided their email addresses to help out but we need so many more.

If you are willing to help send an email now to clerk@colwich.staffslc.gov.uk and say "Yes, I will deliver leaflets in my street"

We have also taken note of the suggestion to compile a resident's email address list. This list will be another important weapon in the armoury of the Clerk to communicate information to the residents which they can distribute to their neighbours and friends.

Please add your email address to our database by emailing the clerk at clerk@colwich.staffslc.gov.uk with the message "Please add this email address to your database".

You will all be delighted hear that Stafford Borough Council have now reached their 5 year housing-bank target with the result that developers will not be able to use this argument for planning approval in future applications, as they did in the "Greenacres" application.

There are still two outstanding planning applications for major



Cllr. Paul Gilbert

developments in the Parish. The Moore Family Trust application is one of them. It has been "called in" and, as soon as we have a date for the planning meeting at Stafford Borough Council we will publicise the relevant date and time. It will have significant influence on planning committee members if you attend the meeting to demonstrate your opposition.

I am grateful to my fellow members on the council for their support for the proposal to engage the services of an experienced planning barrister to guide and represent the Parish Council with the two, remaining, major planning applications. The advice we receive may prevent the approval of the applications and will certainly guarantee that should the Borough Council fail to follow procedure, as they did in the "Greenacres" application, then we shall be in a position to challenge that decision.

Please help us to help you by keeping in touch by providing your contact details.

Tom and Brenda English Cllr Mrs Clendon

We were all very sad to see Great Haywood Post Office in Trent Lane, close and hear that Brenda and Tom were retiring after being joint Post Masters for 15 years. Fortunately the Post Office is now re-located in the Village Spar Shop on the cross-roads at Mill Lane/Little Tixall Lane/Main Road.

Brenda and Tom were always friendly, helpful and an important part of our Village Life; their afternoon reception in the Sports and Social Club was wonderful.

On behalf of everyone - Thank you, Brenda and Tom.

BEST KEPT VILLAGE

The Haywoods BKV and Colwich & Little Haywood in Bloom Committees are very grateful for the generosity of the Parish Council in purchasing a new Planter to be located on the grass outside Abbey Wall on the junction of Mill Lane and Main Road.

The Best Kept Village competition starts 1st May - please help by litter picking/preparing hanging baskets/clearing the bottom of walls and hedges outside your garden, and getting rid of weeds.

DOG FOULING

This is a big "THANK YOU" to all the dog owners who pick up their dog's "poo" There are just 2 or 3 irresponsible people who do not pick it up, and I would say to them ---LOOK OUT--- the BKV people are working with the Borough Council dog wardens who can issue a £75 Fixed Penalty Notice or a fine of up to £1,000.

SPEEDING

Important information: The speed limit over The Butts, and throughout the villages, is 30 mph.

Please be aware of your rights when overtaking stationary vehicles - you can only proceed when the road ahead is CLEAR. Please "give way" if the obstruction is on your side.

Motorists - check your front and back lights please, too many are faulty.

TREES

It has been noticed that trees are being illegally cut down along the canal. The Tree Preservation telephone number is 01785 619539. Please report any tree felling you see. Trees are wonderful, living things and most important to our environment.

Cllr Mrs Glendon

COLWICH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

(NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN CONSULTANT)

Colwich Parish Council is really grateful for the huge amount of information contributed by hundreds of residents from all of the villages and settlements across the parish. Work is now starting on the production of the Colwich Neighbourhood Plan which will direct future development in the area. We are not formally closing either the questionnaire or the on-line Youth Survey because the information is proving so valuable. If you have not yet done so, you can still contribute by going to our web site, www.colwich.info, click on Neighbourhood Plan and go to 'Consultation'. Younger residents, between 11 and 17 years of age, can still fill in the Youth Survey by going to <http://questionpro.com/t/AKh8BZQWVm> and they will be eligible for the prize draw to get vouchers worth £75, £50 or £25.

The Neighbourhood Plan Committee is busy analysing the returns, carrying out research and considering how to respond to your views. Its results will be distributed as a 4 page leaflet in April so that you can see what the Committee is considering in order to address the issues that you have raised.

The Neighbourhood Plan is about YOUR VILLAGES, YOUR FUTURE and we want you to have YOUR SAY. You can do this at the consultation weekend arranged for the 3rd/4th May or at the Parish Meeting that will take place at 7:30 pm in Great Haywood Memorial Hall on Saturday 3rd May.

Great War Commemoration

Mr Robbie and Cllr Mrs Clendon

Are you related to anyone whose name is on the villages' war memorials? Do you have any photographs or any other memorabilia associated with them? Would you like to provide a display commemorating anyone in your family from the period of the Great War? If so, we would love to hear from you as we plan our centenary commemoration. If you can help in any way, please contact David Robbie at davrob38@btinternet.com or telephone 881794. Thank you.

There is to be a 1914/18 Afternoon Tea, on Sunday the 8th June, at Little Haywood Village Hall, in aid of "Help the Heroes", assisted by the BKV. Tickets £5.00 from Angela on 01889 883007 or Anne on 01889 808214. Please dress in World War One type costume, if possible.

POT HOLES: To report pot holes please call 0300 111 8000.

BAG COLLECTION DATE: Wednesday 23rd April 2014.

SKIP DATES: 12 April, 31 May, 21 June and 19 July.

COUNCILLORS: Please contact the Clerk if you need contact details for your local Parish Councillor.



Chairman:

Cllr. Paul Gilbert

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Clerk:

Michael Lennon

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