



Colwich Parish Council

INCORPORATING WOLSELEY BRIDGE, COLWICH, GREAT HAYWOOD & LITTLE HAYWOOD

NEWSLETTER STAFFORDSHIRE IRONMAN 70.3

If you aim at nothing you will hit the target every time.

I live in Little Haywood and have competed in many Ironman events abroad and in the UK. This one was going to be special. I was attempting the full distance and my wife was doing it as part of the relay team. Our families were out supporting everyone.

The inaugural "Staffordshire Ironman 70.3" is a multi-discipline event. It joins a distinguished list of locations from around the world, which have hosted these events. It started with over a mile swim in the crystal waters of Chasewater, followed by a 56 mile cycle around the beautiful countryside, surrounding the village. The race was topped off with a half marathon around the boundaries of the villages and finished in the majestic setting of Shugborough.

As the starting gun sounded, the rain and grey clouds disappeared. Over 1900 athletes of various ages, sizes, abilities and nationalities competed to finish the day with a smile. An army of local volunteers helped them to achieve their dreams by supplying endless amounts of water, food and encouragement.

The athletes were treated to amazing sights as they ran through the Haywoods. All around the running course was a sea of cheering, smiling faces. The local support for the athletes rivalled any European event I have done.

At the finish line at Shugborough Hall, the buzz around the camp was about the Haywood Hill of noise!

I finished with a big smile and so did my wife's relay team. At the end of the day, our collie dog rounded us up to the local pub, where we all celebrated in style.

Karl, Christine & Maverick (the dog) Tyson



IRONKID SHOWS PROMISE

As the Ironmen and women raced around Shugborough, our very own Ironkid was born in the form of Dara Greene (6) from Great Haywood, who completed the 1km course for year 1 and 2 children at Shugborough on Saturday 13th June. Coinciding with his 10m swimming and Bikeability level 1 awards in the 2 weeks prior, he is a true Ironman in the making.

Amanda Greene



Dara Greene after the Ironkid event

Autumn 2015 No. 87

COLWICH AND LITTLE HAYWOOD VILLAGE HALL

The hall is now nearly 25 years old and has been showing its age. Major upgrades have been carried out with the help of recent grants from **AWARDS4ALL**.

The gas heaters in the main hall have been replaced with more efficient fan assisted gas heaters. No expensive pilot lights! Neon strip lighting units, which required scaffolding for a tube change, have gone and we now have cost efficient LED panels. Rot had got into the main window frame and this has been replaced with wood effect UPVC.

Work is continuing and in September 2015 the floor will be re-laid with wood effect plank tiles, and a new porch entrance will be installed to match the main window.

The hall is used regularly by local clubs and societies and is now a very popular and safe venue for children's parties. Photographs on the hall website show that it is a superb venue for wedding receptions and similar celebrations.

Despite being physically and financially sound, the hall is in urgent need of new committee members who can assist in the management of this very useful village facility.

Colin Birchenough (Chairman)
01889 882887

B.K.V.

The Haywoods Best Kept Village / Colwich and Little Haywood in Bloom Committees would like to announce the following results from the 2015 Stafford Community Council B.K.V. competition:

Great Haywood were awarded a joint third with Gnosall, and Little Haywood were awarded a Highly Commended Certificate.

As secretary of both committees, I would like to say how much I have appreciated all the hard work and effort everyone on both committees have put into both villages, and personally, I have felt that Great Haywood and Little Haywood have looked fantastic. We have not yet received the Judges' Reports, and we are looking forward to reading them with interest.

We are awaiting the results of our entrances into the Heart of England in Bloom /Neighbourhood Awards, and these will be announced in the next Newsletter.

Anne Clendon,
Secretary, B.K.V. committees.

Colwich NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN



The Neighbourhood Plan has now reached an important stage. The formal consultation has been very successful with lots of really useful comments received about the draft Plan.

The Neighbourhood Plan Committee has looked at the changes which need to be made to the Plan in the light of your comments. It will now be presented to Colwich Parish Council and hopefully they will give the go-ahead for it to be formally submitted to Stafford Borough Council for checks and further consultation.

If Stafford Borough Council is satisfied that it has been done correctly and that we have responded to your wishes then it will go to an independent examiner who will check that the Colwich Neighbourhood Plan:

- has regard to national policy,
- contributes to the achievement of sustainable development*,
- is in general conformity with the strategic policies in the Plan for Stafford Borough,
- is compatible with human rights requirements,
- is compatible with European Union regulations.

We may need to change a few things in the light of the examiner's comments and then comes the final step – the referendum. You will all be asked if you agree that the Colwich Neighbourhood Plan should be the basis for decisions about development in the Parish. We would obviously want you to vote 'yes' because the Plan has been written to meet your needs and wishes.

If you do vote 'yes' then, apart from the formal adoption procedure, we have a Colwich Neighbourhood Plan that will guide developments up until 2031.

You will see that we still have a little way to go but at each step the Neighbourhood Plan gains more 'weight' and is increasingly able to influence planning decisions in the Parish.

**sustainable development is “Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own” needs.”* (Brundtland Commission)

THE MOORE FAMILY TRUST APPEAL (Shenley Cottage Site)

The latest Moore Family Trust appeal has been rejected by the Planning Inspectorate on technical grounds and on concerns about local infrastructure. The technicality in question had to do with land ownership and whether every person who owns the land was prepared to join in a legal agreement. One person was NOT prepared to join in this agreement and this was the main reason why the appeal was dismissed. HOWEVER, this issue has apparently now been resolved and so the Moore Family Trust has felt free to put in a new planning application.

The Moore Family Trust was a trust set up originally to protect the interests of the Moore Family who owned a significant proportion of the land between Great Haywood (GH) and Little Haywood (LH). It was appealing against the rejection of the latest of three applications to build 60–65 dwellings and to include the provision of 3.27 hectares of public open space.

How did the appeal go?

The Planning Inspectorate took many things into account before rejecting the appeal, including “whether or not any impact of the development on local infrastructure would be adequately offset” and “the effect of the proposal on the setting of the two nearby Conservation Areas: Colwich and Little Haywood, and Great Haywood and Shugborough”.

Local infrastructure improvements to compensate for the impact of the development

This refers to the provision of 30% affordable housing, on-site open space, education payments, enhancement of open space facilities and the impact on Cannock Chase. The Inspectorate was not satisfied that “the effect of the development on local infrastructure would be adequately off-set”.

The setting of the two nearby conservation areas

This refers to the “desirability of preserving” the character and appearance of the Conservation Areas. While the Inspectorate acknowledged the character of GH, LH, Anson Row and the long wall alongside Main Road and Shenley Cottage itself, it also says that the proposed “development would not have a significant effect” on these features.

Stafford Borough Council (SBC)

SBC put forward three reasons for refusal but then withdrew two, regarding the agricultural value of the land and the development's potential effects on remnants of ridge and furrow ploughing.

Colwich Neighbourhood Plan

Hopefully the Planning Authority won't even be considering the Moore Family Trust's latest application until after our Neighbourhood Plan has been submitted and they will therefore attribute more weight to it this time round.

Councillor Sylvia Gibson

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - SUMMER 2015

As the Chairman of your new Parish Council, on behalf of all my fellow Councillors, I'd like to start by thanking you for your support in the May election. I'm thrilled with the make-up of the new Council which has an excellent cross section of skills and representation from across our communities.

At the first meeting, I expressed my own vision for the new Council which I want to be **cohesive**, with everyone **working together** for the betterment of our community. I also want it to be a Council that is **connected to the community**. Hence in this Newsletter, there's a leaflet for you to keep, showing your councillors details for both wards. *By working together, the council can do a lot, but with your support and help wherever possible, we can do so much more.*

We have already noted public concerns over the prospect of development alongside the railway line, fronting on to Mill Lane and close to the A51. Had development gone ahead it might have included provision for a **large playing field** and **new Health Centre**. *However, the Council still holds the aspiration to facilitate a new health centre and sports facility, and negotiations for the former on several locations are continuing.*

In a similar manner, I can confirm that the Council has removed its interest in the **Zion Chapel** and associated land. It is now down to the chapel's neighbours, owners and other parties to determine its future. Let's hope it is a positive outcome.

Unfortunately, the Council has had to end its **legal challenge** to the development at the back of **Marlborough Close**. We were advised by our legal team that we now had a potentially less than 25% chance of success and we were looking at 5 figure costs, so we determined that this was not a proportionate use of public funds.

On a more positive note, we have been able to discuss the layout and detailed proposals for the land behind **The Ring** with the developer, Miller Homes. I for one was



Councillor Andy Cooper

impressed with their response to the council's suggestions and concerns. Furthermore, we are in close negotiation with some landowners between **Colwich and Wolseley**, who are keen to establish some form of community area for people who need varying levels of care; from learning difficulties to simply getting old! We will share more detail with you when the proposal is developed further. We will however continue to oppose major developments which the vast majority of you are against. And where we fail to stop them, we will endeavour to negotiate the best outcome for our Parish.

The Council intends to hold a strategy planning meeting in the near future, so that we can take stock of our present position and then look ahead at potentially new projects over the next few years. So, if you have any ideas for the Parish, then please let one of us know.

On a final note, it is good to see the **new equipment** on the **JPF** being put to good use by the young people of our Parish. I've heard a lot of positive feedback from parents on how their youngsters are enjoying the facility. Unfortunately, the JPF has been subject to recent attacks of vandalism. As a consequence, your council has had **security cameras** installed to act as both deterrent and to identify those responsible for damage.

Councillor Andy Cooper

TWINNING ASSOCIATION

In October, we will have nearly 30 visitors from our twinned town of **Rimbach** visiting the area. The relationship between the two villages is maintained by a group of hard working enthusiasts who form our **twinning association**. Their limited funds are raised mainly through activities such as pub quizzes etc. with a *very small proportion* coming from public bodies. Our visitors are given accommodation as guests in the association members' homes. During their visit, our friends from Rimbach will be treated to a whole range of activities from visits to JCB and the Crich Tramway Museum to shopping in the Bull Ring. If you are interested in getting involved or indeed have ideas as to how the twinning relationship can be developed please let us know.

Councillor Andy Cooper



THE SCARECROWS ARE COMING!

It is hard not to smile when you see a scarecrow. Especially one like Basil, who made his first appearance two years ago in Great Haywood for an "Open Gardens" display. Since then he has been living in a garden quietly awaiting his next public appearance. Rumours have begun to spread around the village that a mass gathering of scarecrows is to take place for the Harvest Festival at St Michael's Church. Basil will definitely be there over the first weekend in October (2nd to 4th). He hopes to be joined by scarecrows representing schools, clubs, societies, churches, businesses, individuals and local farmers.

For further details, please contact
Pam (883610) or John (802358)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Skip at Jubilee Playing Fields:

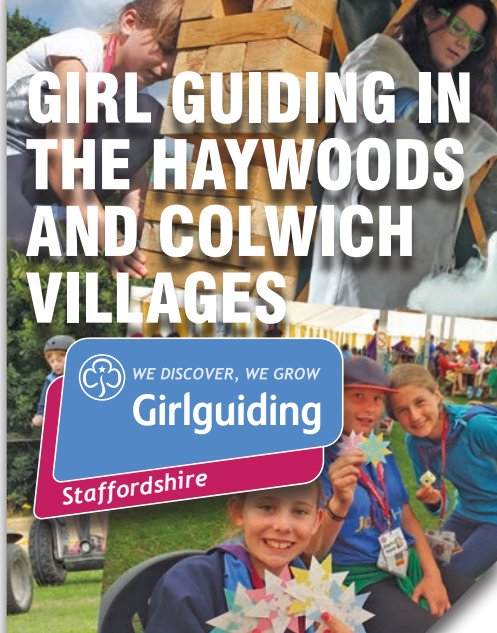
10th October;

7th November;

28th November.

OPEN MARKET Great Haywood Memorial Hall

Saturday 7th November
10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.



Senior Section Ranger Guides – age 14-25

The **1st Colwich rangers** have become more involved in our community, fundraising for the Donna Louise Trust, Katherine House Hospice and others. The majority of the 10 member group are Young Leaders for our Brownie, Rainbow and Guide Groups. Each year we camp and weekend in London. We are currently planning a 2 week trip around Europe by train. We believe in supporting the community and also receive support from our community, from cake making, litter picking, helping to support other local groups and each year we plan and deliver a Christmas service. *Look out for our Autumn Coffee morning.*

Girl Guides – age 10-14 years

The **1st Colwich Girl Guides** have a full packed programme with something for everyone to enjoy. Recent activities included exploring all aspects of chocolate for their 'chocolate badge' including a visit to Cadbury World and a variety of different cultural events from Chinese New Year, The Holi Festival and St Patrick's Day. The group went canoeing and to 'Go Ape'. Going on numerous camps, they experienced outdoor cooking, craft and

archery and on one recent international camp they met guides from all over the world.

Ellie Koszak – Young Leader

2 Groups - Brownies – age 7-10 years

Over the past year, the **1st Great Haywood Brownies** has had a visit from a fire-fighter to teach the girls all about fire safety, several outings around the village including to Shugborough, around the canal and wooded areas for different activities. The girls had meetings about different cultures within the girl guiding organisation and used recyclable materials to make fairy costumes for a competition.

'Fluffy Owl' Beth Peake.

The **1st Colwich Brownies** have a range of different activities which we do all year round as well as focusing on one of the brownie badges. For their Circus badge, the girls took part in a circus work shop in summer 2015 to learn new tricks and then put on a show to share with family and friends. This year's brownie pack holiday had a *Frozen* theme.

Lauren Muir – Young Leader

2 Groups – Rainbows – age 5-7 year

1st Colwich and **1st Great Haywood Rainbows** have had a fantastic year with an especially adventurous summer term. We have been out and about trying new things, having afternoon tea and being designers for the day. Working towards our 'Let the Magic Guide You' Badge we tried lots of Herbal Teas in our Tea Tasting day. We have also been busy building our very own Fairy Garden. The biggest event of our term was the 25th Anniversary of Rainbows at Trentham Gardens where we went to India, Mexico, and Sweden then London to meet the Royal Family... all without leaving Trentham. Best of all we sang songs from all our favourite Disney movies including *Frozen*.

'Rainbow Hedgehog' Victoria Jenkinson



Local cycling heroes Team Spirit have just completed their latest "Tower to Tower" (Blackpool to the Eifel) challenge to raise over £4,000 for Birmingham Children's Hospital, bringing their total to over £20,000. The main team consisted of Dave and Rich Weals, Pete Corbett, Phil Salwey who covered 525miles in 5 days! They had extra support riders and crew during the UK stretch, but were self-supporting with panniers adding to the load for the last 2 days. With the extra weight, little sleep on the ferry crossing and a strong head wind, the last 132 miles proved to be the hardest. The team finally reached the Eifel Tower in Paris at 9:50pm, Wednesday 9th September.

You can still donate via:

www.justgiving.com/teamspiritchallenge2tower

STOP PRESS...

IT'S DOUBLE GOLD!!!!

We have just heard that both Villages in our Parish have achieved **GOLD** in the Heart of England in Bloom competition, and the Red Lion has achieved Silver Gilt. A huge congratulations to all involved. With more volunteers next year, let's go for the top slot in the Best Kept Village as well!

To join Girl Guiding in The Haywoods or Colwich, or to be a helper please contact Alison Flower on 07753 304583



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