

Colwich Parish Council

INCORPORATING WOLSELEY BRIDGE, COLWICH, GREAT HAYWOOD & LITTLE HAYWOOD

NEWSLETTER RADIO CONTROL MODEL AIRCRAFT

For many years our local community has been home to the Kilnhurst Model Flying Club (KMFC) located on Far Coley Farm. The Club is affiliated to the British Model Flying Association (BMFA), who regulates the sport on behalf of the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA). The BMFA provide the Club and individual members with the appropriate liability insurance in the event of an incident. The Club meets on the first Monday of the month at the Lamb & Flag on Main Road.

Recent months have seen much publicity nationally surrounding the use of multi rotors or "drones", as they are commonly called. It is important the legal restrictions and conditions of use are understood before flying.

The consequences of a pilots actions could have serious implications:

- A pilot is legally responsible for the safe conduct of each flight. Failure to comply could lead to criminal prosecution
- Before each flight check your unmanned aircraft is not damaged and ensure it is working in accordance with the suppliers user manual

CANALS

Some of the Best Kept Villagers have been busy trying to tidy-up the canal pathway through the Haywoods which is a mammoth task. The Parish Council have passed on to us information from the Canal & River Trust which may be of interest to other people who could help maintain our local canals. Fortunately our canal paths are in

- You must keep the unmanned aircraft within your sight at all times
- You are responsible for avoiding collisions with other people or objects, including aircraft. DO NOT endanger people or property
- Keep your distance. It is illegal to fly your unmanned aircraft:
 - over a congested area (streets, towns and cities)
 - within 50 metres of a person, vehicle, building or structure, or over groups of people at any height
 - Consider rights of privacy. If you take aerial photographs you may breach privacy laws
 - use of an unmanned aircraft for any kind of commercial activity requires 'permission' from the CAA or you could face prosecution visit: www.caa.co.uk/uas

If you'd like any further information about the club, or you'd like to arrange to visit the flying field at Far Coley Farm then please get in touch with Mike on mobile 07792030562

"BE SAFE - BE LAWFUL - BE DRONE AWARE - BE INSURED".

Cllr Steve Payne

fairly good order, but there is always tons of litter to be "found". The Trust are looking for volunteers to assist in this task. Further details may be found by visiting *enquiries*. *centralshires@canalrivertrust.org.uk* - *facebook.com/canalrivertrust* - or freephone 0800 47 999 47. Anne Clendon, Secretary Haywoods BKV Committee

Summer 2016 No. 90



CRICKET AT SHUGBOROUGH

Cricket has been played at Shugborough for many years and there were many matches arranged as part of the social activities of the Anson family. The cricket ground was first laid out in 1861, close to the Hall (where the visitors' car park is now) and the Tower of the Winds was used as the 'pavilion'. There is a photograph (available from Staffordshire Past Track online) from 1912 showing the 3rd Earl of Lichfield with his Cricket XI at Shugborough. The team included K.S.Ranjitsinhji 'Ranji' the ruler of the state of Nawanagar in India, who played for Cambridge University, Sussex and England (15 caps).

There was also a Shugborough Cricket Club formed by villagers that played its matches on that pitch. In 1900 it was struggling to survive and unable to fulfil its fixtures due to a lack of players. With the help of some good batting by Mr. Boote from the Abbey, however, and from friends outside the village, it managed to play three matches, with one win, one draw and one. Its Secretaries included village postmaster James Stanley in 1896, Fred Pownall, a village schoolmaster in 1904, Charles Mayhew in 1912 and the vicar, Rev. George Bruton, in 1916.

The club played there until 1963, when it moved its matches to the sports facility of Staffordshire County Council, which leased most of the Estate from the National Trust. In 2013 Club formed a relationship with nearby Milford Hall Cricket Club and in 2015 the Shugborough side started to play competitive, rather than just friendly, fixtures when they entered the Stone and District League under the name of Shugborough MH. Mr Dave Robbie

Why have a Neighbourhood Plan?

The **Localism Act 2011** brought wide-ranging changes to the planning system in England. It introduced a legal provision under which local communities, led by parish councils, could develop **Neighbourhood Plans**. Similar to the Local Plan produced by the Borough Councils, Neighbourhood Plans have statutory weight, so that they are considered in the determination of planning applications.

There is a very rigorous process to establish them to ensure that they are accurate and have followed due process and conform to the National Policy Planning Framework (NPPF) and the Local Plan.

In 2011, Colwich Parish Council decided it would undertake the development of a Neighbourhood Plan. This work was led by the Parish Council's Neighbourhood Plan Committee complemented by a number of residents who were co-opted to bring additional expertise and experience together with a Neighbourhood Plan Consultant. Additional support and assistance has been provided by officers of Stafford Borough Council, the Staffordshire Wildlife Trust and *Locality*.

Over the years, research and surveys have been undertaken to build up the necessary evidence. This **Evidence Base** was used to develop the **vision** and/or **aims** of the plan which in turn were used to develop the formulation of **policy** proposals and site allocations etc. that go into the Plan.

The vision for our Parish:

The villages and hamlets that make up the Parish will continue to be separate, quiet and peaceful settlements in unspoilt countryside. Its residents will have services that meet the needs of their physical and social well-being.

What is in the Plan?

It is fair to say that a significant aspect of the Plan (nearly 100 pages long) is of course what residents want to see regarding future developments, *but that isn't the only aspect!*

In outline, the Plan comprises:

- A Summary section and introduction with a section describing the planning context.
- A detailed description of our neighbourhood area covering a whole range of issues from the AONB (Cannock Chase) to transport, environment, history, economy and community, etc.
- A description of how we engaged with our community during the development of the Plan

- The resulting Vision and Objectives to address those issues
- Details of the Policies and proposals that support the Vision and Objectives covering *Economy, Transport, Communities, Environment, Infrastructure* and finally *Local Monitoring and Review*
- Potential site allocations that could be used to support the Plan

Housing

When you look at other villages elsewhere across Staffordshire, that do not have Neighbourhood Plans, you realise just how lucky we are in comparison. Settlement boundaries are being fixed with a presumption against development outside these boundaries. Key Service Villages have had their quota of developments and Stafford Borough Council is not keen to increase this quota

After many local consultations and a further consultation on the emerging Plan by Stafford Borough Council, the Plan underwent independent examination by a government inspector which has now been completed successfully and the Plan amended to reflect the comments received. The final stage is for a public referendum of all the local government Electors in our Parish on:

15th SEPTEMBER 2016

Providing there is a vote in favour by more than 50% of those who vote, the Colwich Neighbourhood Plan will become part of the Development Management Plan for Colwich Parish, giving us a significant voice in what does or doesn't happen within our Parish.

As residents:

You have been involved in the Plan, surveyed about the Plan and consulted about the Plan

IT IS <u>YOUR</u> NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN It is therefore important that YOU VOTE IN FAVOUR of your Neighbourhood Plan. A large turn out in favour would give real solid backing to the plan.



The Key Issues raised

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

It's hard to believe that more than a year of this Council's term has passed already, and how much we have achieved over this period.

The old deteriorating and potentially dangerous small children's play equipment on the JPF has been replaced. The supplier was appointed (*Play & Leisure* a British supplier based in North Wales) following consultation with users at the JPF and a presentation to the full council by their representative in May. We apologise for any inconvenience that was caused during the installation due to the area being fenced off for safety reasons.

The proposal to install a small section of play equipment for the toddler age group on The Green at Oldfields has been shelved for the foreseeable future. This decision was taken following a consultation session with some local residents whose opinions were canvassed on the matter. As we have often repeated, the Parish Council is keen to make sure we take on board residents' opinions on any major issues on which we embark. We will continue to seek an opportunity to fill this gap in play equipment provision for Great Haywood, and would invite suggestions from residents. If you have any ideas, please forward them to the Clerk.

The subject of communication has taken a step up in priority and as suggested in the previous Newsletter, we have started holding monthly 'surgeries', the first of which took place in April. These surgeries are attended by two or three Councillors and they provide an opportunity for one-to-one discussion on issues, concerns and ideas you may have. We will continue to hold these monthly to see if they bring specific benefit (excluding May due to the Annual Parish Assembly and August as this is when many people go on holiday). Generally they are held alternatively between Little and Great Haywood with the exact location and time published through the usual means. However, I would always encourage you to contact a councillor or the Clerk directly if you have a more urgent requirement.

Recently, our local Facebook pages have been used by a minority of people to vilify individual councillors, the Clerk and general council activity. Whilst I whole-heartedly approve of sensible debate (from which we can often find opportunities to improve) I do not condone the bullying tactics being used by some. I for one (like our Clerk) will not



respond to comments made by this means. Councillor contact details are on the website.

We are also close to resolving our website issues by opening up a new site in the near future. This is an exciting move forward as it will enable the Clerks to directly access the site (instead of via a third party) to communicate all manner of issues from sharing documentation to providing a facility for local voluntary organisations to publish information.

There has been a lot of reaction to the news that the National Trust is taking back control of the Shugborough Estate from Staffordshire County Council later this year. Our own local Great Haywood football team (which is over 40 years old) uses the playing fields on the estate, but because of the way these changes were communicated from the County, the team was facing closure due to the lack of time to find a home around. However, after discussion with the local NT management team, I can report that we have agreed that the team can use the facility for the 2016/17 season. This will give them and the Parish Council time to find them a new home.

I believe the proposed long-term changes by the NT for Shugborough, recently presented to the Parish Council, will be positive, raise visitor numbers and benefit our Parish. We hope to be able to share more on this subject in the future.

The Neighbourhood Plan (outlined in this edition) is running into the final stretch. In our last Newsletter, we had hoped that we would be looking at holding the referendum for the Plan in May. Unfortunately, following a meeting between our Clerk, myself and Borough Council officials, it was decided that this was not possible. The main constraints were timing clashes with other elections, approval by the Borough Council Cabinet and of course the school summer holidays. Consequently, we have agreed the date of **September 15th** for this important local event. In terms of the future of our Parish and its combined villages, this is probably the most significant event for decades and will help determine many factors for our area as the enclosed information outlines.

We are often hearing of other parishes who haven't completed or even started their plans and are being hit by major developments and infrastructure changes which they don't want and are virtually powerless to stop. *It is now time for you - our fellow residents to play a significant part.* We need a good turnout for this vote and for it to result in a resounding approval for the plan. Failure will leave our Parish vulnerable to even more development.

Councillor Andy Cooper

STOP PRESS:

The video recording of the criminal damage caused to the youth shelter at the JPF on the evening of 25th June 2016 has been passed to Staffordshire Police for action. Staffordshire Police are already making enquiries into the vandalism on the afternoon of 1st May 2016. The Parish Council will not tolerate acts of vandalism against Council property.

HAIR TODAY, GONE TOMORROW!

Great Haywood teen and ex pupil of Anson Primary School, Tom Dunn, raised \pounds 1,200 for charity by shaving off his long locks. Tom completed the challenge in the reception area at Walton High School.

Tom said "I started growing my hair in primary school. Over the years it has divided opinions but it has always made me unique. I feel now it is time to move onto another stage of my development and hopefully I will have raised lots of money by having it all shaved off for a good cause".

The money raised has been shared between the Lewy Body Society and Marshlands special school. Tom's lost locks were not wasted being donated to the Little Princess Trust, a charity which provides wigs and hairpieces for children who suffer hair loss due to cancer treatment.

Tom's grandfather was transformed by Lewy Body disease, a disease that combines dementia and Parkinson's, from a man who travelled the waterways in his narrowboat, visiting Great Haywood many times to see his grandchildren, to a shadow of his former self.

Well done Tom!

CHASE YOUNG FARMERS...

A charity youth club for ages 10 to 26, based in Great Haywood but cover a large area of central Staffordshire, who meet every week to do fun activities and fund raising. CYF are looking for village events to attend, and can always bring their star attraction... the sheep! Please contact Frances Wright; Chairlady on 07980 855845.

CLLR STEPHEN PAYNE

I am 61 years old and have lived in Little Haywood for 36 years. I am married with two grown up daughters who are both lucky to live in the Haywoods. My children attended Colwich Primary School and my granddaughter is due to start Colwich Primary School this September.

I am a keen gardener and fisherman with a passion for protecting our village life and countryside to the best of my ability. My background is in Retail Management although I have many and varied jobs throughout my career. I was elected on to the Colwich Parish Council in May 2015 and have enjoyed the experience of trying to make a difference.

CLLR ALAN DOEHREN

My wife and I have lived in Great Haywood for almost 50 years. I retired 5 years ago after a career in Sales Management and now spend most of my time working as a volunteer for various community organisations. I am Treasurer for the Memorial Hall and the Great War Commemorative Committee and have been a Trustee of the Sports and Social Club for over 25 years. My wife is a committee member of the local BKV Group, the Katharine House Support Group and the Flower and Vegetable Show and I spend some of my time helping with her activities. This has been my first year as a Parish Councillor and I feel incredibly privileged to be serving the community in this way.

STOP PRESS:

In the near future, there will be a local housing needs survey conducted in the Parish. This is so that we can check if local people's needs are being met. The survey will be carried out by Stafford and Rural Homes.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY Skip at JPF: 13th August; 10th September and 8th October.

Chairman: Clerk: Parish Office: Cllr. Andy CooperE: andy.cooper@colwich.staffslc.gov.ukMichael LennonE: clerk@colwich.staffslc.gov.ukSt Mary's Road, Little Haywood, ST18 0TXfacebook.www.facebook.com/colwich.clerk

www.colwich.info

NEW BIN FOR GREAT HAYWOOD

Last year I approached the National Trust seeking permission for a bin to be installed on Coach Lane (between St Stephen's Church and Anson School). After lengthy negotiations with the National Trust, St Stephen's, Anson School and Stafford Borough Council it was agreed that a freestanding bin could be installed near to St Stephen's Church. Stafford Borough Council agreed to supply the bin, at a cost of approximately £150 to the Parish Council, and to empty it as part of their round in the village.

Cllr Adam Billingsley

YOUTH COUNCIL STEERING GROUP

Young people, from a variety of age groups and backgrounds, have come forward to assist the Council in considering how to engage with the younger members of the Parish. These young people attended a meeting of the Council's Young People Committee on Thursday 23rd June when they were formed into a Steering Group, which met on Thursday 30th June, to take forward this important task. The Council is very grateful for these volunteers: Archie; Tom; Natasha; Tolly; Reuben; Fran and Ellie as well as Jess and Tom.

Further volunteers are welcome. The group is open to children from Year 6 to Year 12 who either live in the Parish; attend school in the Parish or attend/volunteer with a community group in the Parish.