



BREWOD & COVEN PARISH COUNCIL with Bishop's Wood & Coven Heath

Newsletter

March 2016

Your Councillors:

Bishop's Wood:

Jan Jeffries (Chair) 01902
851831
Mary Sambrook
01785 841398

Brewood:

David Evans 851326
Anne Holmes 850611
Kevin Kearney 850336
Wendy Sutton 851682
Richard Taylor 850594
Mac Webb MBE 850671

Coven:

Moira Alden-Court
703528
Janis Bradshaw 791435
Janet Carr 791443
Richard Dakin 850938
Vacancy
Glen Sibley 790059

Coven Heath:

Linda Tomkins (Vice Chair)
786008

District Councillors:

Joyce Bolton 851079
Brian Cox 01785 840482
Anne Holmes 850611
Wendy Sutton 851682

County Councillor:

Mark Sutton 851682

The scheduled meetings of the Parish Council for this quarter are:

10 & 31 March 14 & 28
April 12 & 26 May.

Council meetings are held
at 7.30pm in the Council
Chamber, 35 Stafford
Street, Brewood and
include a 15 minute public
participation session at the
start of each meeting,
members of the public are
encouraged to attend.



The Queen's 90th Birthday

On 21st April 2016, Her Majesty the Queen will celebrate her 90th Birthday and, in recognition of this wonderful milestone, Beacons will be lit that night across the United Kingdom, Channel Islands, Isle of Man and the United Kingdom Overseas Territories, marking this unique moment in history.

There are many different types of Beacons, for example wood fuelled Beacon Braziers on top of tall wooden posts; gas fuelled Beacons which were made for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on 4th June 2012 and VE Day last year, all of which could be re-lit for this event to save costs, or you may wish to build and light a traditional Bonfire Beacon.

The event can be as big or as small as you wish to make it. The taking part is the most important thing, sharing this joyous occasion with the Queen that evening. You may even wish to consider working in partnership with your local media, finding someone in your local community sharing their 90th Birthday with the Queen on 21st April 2016, with the view to them having the honour of lighting your Beacon that night, providing you with a nice pre-event media story, as well as some lovely photographs on the night.

It is envisaged that the Beacons will be lit early evening and the exact lighting time will be published nearer the day. If you are a community organization, we would encourage you to take part in this once in a life time opportunity, by lighting a Beacon on 21st April this year. If you do wish to take the lead, the Parish Council has the 'Guide to Taking Part' available as an electronic or paper document. The booklet gives step-by-step guidance on how to proceed. To date over 220 Beacons have already been confirmed in the United Kingdom and we do hope that you will want to join with your local community and participate in this once in a life-time opportunity, providing a fitting 'tribute' to this special milestone in the Queen's life.

In Brief, Other Events to Celebrate the Queen's Birthday:

Mr and Mrs Oakley of Church Farm, Old Coach Road will be hosting a garden party for Bishop's Wood residents on 5th May.

St Mary and St Chad Church, Brewood will celebrate by holding a tea party and exhibition. (See page 4).

On June 11th there will be a fun-day at the Rainbow Inn, Coven and a garden party at St Paul's vicarage. Afternoon tea will be held at the Church on the Common for Coven Heath residents.

Full details will be posted around villages in due course.

Clean for the Queen.

An initiative to clean up Britain in time for the Queen's 90th Birthday celebrations has been announced. It will involve litter picking and other clean-up initiatives. If you would like to take part you can visit: www.cleanforthequeen.co.uk for further information.



Dog fouling continues to be a problem.
Please report it to South Staffordshire
Council on **01902 696200**.

IF YOU REQUIRE THIS NEWSLETTER IN LARGE PRINT PLEASE CALL 01902 850809



Staffordshire Casserole Club

Mark Sutton our County Councillor has asked us to promote the Staffordshire Casserole Club scheme to our residents.

The Staffordshire Casserole Club is a community-led, food sharing project, commissioned by Staffordshire County Council. The project connects people who love cooking and want to play an active role in their community with older neighbours who would appreciate a home cooked meal delivered every now and then.

The Casserole Club aims to:-

- Tackle social isolation and loneliness.
- Help older people to enjoy freshly prepared food.
- Strengthen connections between the generations within communities.
- Provide a flexible way for people to volunteer their time and skills locally.

The Casserole Club delivers meals to its 'diners' and an opportunity to make a new friend. A diner is someone over the age of 55 who receives a home-cooked meal from a cook.

People can register to become a diner by contacting the Matchmaking Team on 0300 111 8006 or they can be referred by a friend, neighbour or relative.

The Casserole Club is also looking for cooks who are prepared to cook one extra portion of dinner and then deliver it locally and if they wish, stay a while for a chat.

To apply please sign up online at www.casseroleclub.com

The organisation of pairing cook with diner is all undertaken by The Casserole Club.

For further details please telephone on 0300 111 8006, visit the website: www.casseroleclub.com

Or email them at: staffordshire@casseroleclub.com

You can also visit our face book page: www.facebook.com/CasseroleClubStaffordshire/?fref=ts

St Paul's 1st Scout Group Coven

St Paul's 1st Scout Group will be hosting a St. George's Day Parade on Sunday 24th April starting from Coven Memorial Hall at 11.00a.m. The roads will be closed briefly from the hall to the church as the parade passes through the village.

Allotment Vacancies in Ball Lane Coven Heath and Chambley Green Coven

We currently have a number of vacant allotments at Coven and Coven Heath. The rent is £23 per annum or £11.50 for half a plot (at Coven Heath only). Please contact the Parish Council offices if you would like to apply for an allotment.

Casual Vacancy for a Parish Councillor in Coven

Mrs Lena Holmes resigned from the Parish Council at the beginning January 2016 having served this time for 17 months as a Councillor for Coven ward. The Parish Council is the tier of local government closest to the community and the first point of contact when local concerns arise. Your local Parish Council has an overall responsibility for the well-being of your neighbourhood. It represents your views, delivers services to meet your needs and strives to improve your quality of life. Although you would be co-opted to primarily serve Coven residents, Brewood and Coven Parish Council acts as one body representing the whole community. If you feel that you are able to influence and lobby the appropriate stakeholders, you are on the Electoral Register or live within 4.8 km of the Parish boundary and are over 18 years of age, please get in touch with either the Clerk or any of your local Parish Councillors. Who knows, you could be our new representative in Coven.

Brewood One-Way System

Following representations to the Parish Council regarding congestion around the schools at the start and end of the school day and concerns for the safety of pedestrians, Staffordshire County Council recently undertook consultation with local residents and stakeholders, with a view to making Newport Street a permanent one-way system.

County Councillor Mark Sutton made the following statement at the meeting of the Parish Council held on 28 January 2016:

“The County Council received a good response from residents and statutory stakeholders to the consultation process for the proposed scheme. When considering the responses it was important to give the greatest weighting to the responses from the residents who would be directly impacted by any scheme, which in this case are the residents in the immediate vicinity. It is fair to say that the response was divided between those in favour and those against, but there was a very significant number of residents who opposed the scheme. Together with Highways, I (County Councillor Mark Sutton), considered alternative solutions that could possibly negate some of the resident concerns, however at this time this has not been successful. It has therefore been decided that at this stage the scheme will not go ahead.”

Bridleway 59 Bishop's Wood

Bishop's Wood Parish Councillors have been approached by a number of residents of Bishop's Wood who have asked if money is available from the Roseclaim fund to improve the above bridleway across the common. As the common is private land, the Council has asked the Rights of Way Officer at Staffordshire County Council whether or not this is something that can be done. We await his advice.

Brewood Junior Football and Cricket Clubs

Brewood Junior FC together with Brewood Cricket Club will hold **an open day for girls** on Sunday 10 April at Engleton Lane, Brewood. Cricket will be held in the morning starting 10.30-11.00am and football will take place in the afternoon from 1.00pm. There will be coaching sessions for both cricket and football and there will be a football exhibition game by Wolves under 11 girls in the afternoon. Refreshments will be provided at lunchtime in the cricket pavilion.

The aim of the open day is to form girls' football and cricket teams if there is enough interest.

Brewood Library – Update from Staffordshire County Council

Brewood library will shortly become a 'community managed and delivered library' whereby Staffordshire County Council will enter into a partnership with a local organisation to manage the library with community support.

South Staffordshire and Shropshire Foundation Trust (SSSFT) has been selected by the County Council to transform the library service. SSSFT will be responsible for the day to day management of the library space in partnership with the County Council and with the help of volunteers.

There is currently a campaign across Staffordshire to recruit and train volunteers and the County Council has promised that paid library staff will be supporting these volunteers during the transition period. An accreditation programme entitled Volunteering Speaks Volumes will be launched which will offer people the opportunity to earn a recognised qualification should they wish to do so.

The local community support officer for this area is Lisa Dyke who can be contacted on 01902 755794. She would be interested to hear from any community groups willing to take part. Staffordshire County Council has advised that a 'find out more' session will take place in early March. No further details have been given.

Coven Playing Field and Skateboard Ramp

A group of residents from Coven have formed a committee to look at replacing the play equipment at the playing field in Coven. A survey has been drafted and circulated and the responses are currently being analysed. If you would like to become involved in the project and have not already subscribed, please contact our Assistant Clerk, Gemma Jones, to find out more.

The Parish Council is also in the process of obtaining quotes to upgrade the skateboard ramp and is considering installing outdoor gym equipment too at the playing field which should ensure that there is something for everyone at the site.

Coven Memorial Hall

If you are looking for a venue to use on a regular basis, Coven Memorial Hall has the following available: Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings 9.00am until 12 noon. Please refer to our website for a booking form or call Lorna Jones on 01902 790157 to discuss hire fees, terms and conditions.

Coven Surgeries

Moira Alden-Court and Glen Sibley will be arranging surgeries at the Allotment, The Parade, Coven commencing on 4th March from 2.00pm, should you wish to raise a matter of Parish Council business. Alternatively you may speak to another of your councillors or the Clerk, details on the front page.

Coven Christmas Lights

The Parish Council and our residents are extremely grateful to Moira Alden-Court, Parish Councillor and Mrs Pam Clay, resident of Coven, for stepping in at the end of last year to ensure that Coven had a Christmas lights switch-on event and lighting display over the Christmas period.

A new Christmas Lights Committee is being formed in Coven and will take on the task of fund raising over the coming months to provide this year's lighting display.

Please support any scheduled events if you are able to, or if you would like to join the committee, please call Jan Timmins on 07982 709 083.

Advance Notice

Further to the briefing on our front page, St Mary and St Chad's Church, Brewwood are planning to celebrate the Queen's Birthday on Sunday 12th June with a tea party and exhibition of her 90 years.

The organisers are asking for memorabilia of her life and also life in Brewwood over the 90 years which will be exhibited.

Great care will be taken of everything that is borrowed for the display.

More information will follow from the organisers in the Spring and any ideas will be gratefully received.

CONTACT DETAILS:

Council Office:

35 Stafford Street,
Brewwood,
ST19 9DX
Tel. 01902 850809

Open 9.30am to 12.30pm
Monday to Friday.

Clerk: Maggie O'Brien.

Assistant Clerk:

Gemma Jones.

Voluntary Car Scheme
Tel. 01902 851786
Open 9.30am to 12.30pm
Monday to Friday

**Car Scheme Co-ordinator:
Sofena Phillips.**

Email the Parish Council:

brewoodparish@btconnect.com

Website:

www.brewoodandcovenparish.org.uk

Find and like us on Facebook

Incidents of fly tipping and dog fouling should be reported to:

www.sstaffs.gov.uk

Local Crime

There have been several reports of suspicious behaviour around the Parish and you are reminded to be vigilant. Three men in a silver coloured car were seen acting suspiciously in Brewwood at the end of January and over the weekend of 13-14 February a man was seen in Bishop's Wood knocking on doors and asking for food. There have been reports of door step sellers who may not have a license to operate. Please do not open your door to any callers you are not expecting. Legitimate callers will be only too happy for you to check their credentials prior to you opening your door and report any suspicious behaviour using the 101 number or 999 if appropriate.

Staffordshire County Council maintains the network of highways throughout Staffordshire, with responsibility for roads and pavements.

Please report problems such as pot holes, street lights, blocked gullies to: 0300 111 8000, email: highways@staffordshire.gov.uk or report online at: www.staffordshire.gov.uk