



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

NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2019

Your Councillors:

Bishop's Wood:

Mary Sambrook (Vice Chair)
01785 841398
Karen Webber 01785 841229

Brewood:

Jan Jeffries 01902 851831
Anne Holmes 850611
Peter Knight CBE 07809 475473
Wendy Sutton 851682
Richard Taylor 850594
Mac Webb MBE 850671

Coven:

Moira Alden-Court
703528
Janis Bradshaw 791435
Richard Dakin (Chairman)
850938
Antonio Pupino
07857 061128
Glen Sibley 790059
Christine Smythe 703500

Coven Heath:

David Short 07931 032737

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:

9 & 28 Jan, 13 & 27 Feb, 12 & 26
March.

Council meetings are held at
7.00pm in the Council Chamber,
35 Stafford Street, Brewood,
and include a 15 minute public
participation session at the start of
each meeting, when members of
the public are able to address the
Council.



HAPPY CHRISTMAS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

Messages from the Organisers of Brewood and Coven Christmas Lights

Brewood Christmas Lights Sunday 24th November 2019

As is usual, the last Sunday of November is when the community of Brewood traditionally comes together to see our Christmas lights switched on. The weather was kind to us, and we saw a truly joint effort involving the Rotary Club of Brewood and District, The Parish Council, WI, Brewood's local schools, Churches Together, Civic Society and volunteers on the Lights Committee. Many of the Committee put in hours of behind the scene preparation involving permits of all kinds; they tramped the cold streets delivering raffle tickets; they delivered and erected our small Christmas trees; they erected stalls and made sure there was plenty to do for children of all ages. There was food and drink a-plenty, and music and singing to keep us all entertained. Grateful thanks must also go to our local traders with special mention to W. Maiden and Son (Family Butchers), Shutter Photography, The Mess and Rainbowzend and to all who gave tombola prizes.

And it all looks so splendid, which is what makes it worthwhile!

So.... see you all next year. Why not come and join the Committee? Watch out for requests!

Coven Christmas Lights 'Switch On' 2019

Parish Councillor Richard Dakin, Chairman of the Parish Council, welcomed the residents of Coven to the annual 'Switch On' of the village lights on Saturday 30th November. Councillor Kath Williams, Chair of South Staffordshire District Council, switched on the lights and presented prizes to the two competition winners, Connie Baldwin aged 4 and Macy-Mai Cattell aged 6, whose winning Christmas picture featured on the front of the event programme. The festive season was opened with a swing by the South Staffordshire Community Pop Choir, led by Simon Whitmore, with a selection of Christmas songs. The lighting committee was able to have additional Christmas lights at St. Paul's First School this year, as well as a few others featured around the village, thanks to the generosity of Coven residents in the door-to-door collection. Coven's 'Switch on' event is geared at the village community. The lighting committee's aim is to let local groups promote themselves and to produce the best possible event at affordable prices, especially for families on low incomes with children. We don't look to make a huge profit at this event, hence our fundraising throughout the year and our door-to-door collection.

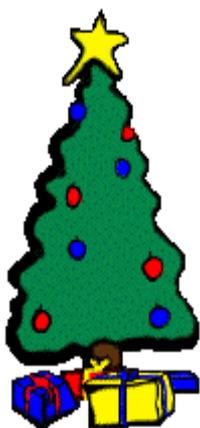
A Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all the residents in our Parish.

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

Why no dogs allowed? The BPSA playing fields in Engleton Lane, Brewood have always been a 'no dogs allowed' area. During recent years there has been much publicity about toxocara canis and the risks, real and imagined, associated with this parasite. Whilst the problem should not be exaggerated, it is necessary for all to know how to minimise this risk. We have many responsible pet owners who clean up after their animals. However, footballers and cricketers do, due to the nature of their sport, fall over, and end up rolling on the grass. Even though the dog excreta may have been removed, residue may well remain. The parasite eggs, invisible to the naked eye are sticky and can be picked up from soil, grass or the animal's coat and may be swallowed later. These tiny larvae will travel around the body, usually causing no problems. Very rarely though, they can settle in particularly sensitive tissue such as the retina of the eye, where they may cause damage or even blindness. Each year about 50 cases involving eye damage are recorded. Freshly passed dog droppings are not a direct hazard because the toxocara canis eggs need about three weeks to mature outside the dog before they become infective. So, whilst contact with droppings is unpleasant, mature eggs can remain viable in the ground for some time. This is why our sports players are more at risk. It is asked that all dog owners respect the health of our sports players and honour the 'no dogs allowed' signage on the BPSA playing fields.

New Shoppers Bus Coming Soon!

There will shortly be a new 'shoppers bus', organised by the District Council, operating on a Wednesday to Penkridge Market and on a Thursday to Cannock, calling at Coven, Brewood, Bishop's Wood and Wheaton Aston. Further details will be on our website, Facebook page and village noticeboards. Please use the service... as they say "Use it or lose it!"



Improvements around the Parish

Over the past few weeks we have made a number of improvements around the Parish:

Sandy Lane Bus Shelter Seating

We have installed a new perch bench in the bus shelter in Sandy Lane, Brewood and over the coming years we hope to install seats in other shelters too. Unfortunately, we have to be mindful of the potential for anti-social behaviour when installing seating so it may not be possible to put a seat in every shelter.

The Bront, Coven

Just before the most recent bout of heavy rain, we were able to arrange clearance of the silt from the culvert at Poplars Farm Way on the Bront. This has helped greatly to ensure that the area around The Bront was not subject to flooding during the down pours. The next job will be to repair the weir just downstream which will prevent further erosion of the bank and footpath along the river Penk through The Bront at the back of Moors Drive.

Coven Playing Field

Over the next few weeks (weather permitting) we will be installing a path giving access for disabled people to the tennis court at the playing field in Coven.

Staffordshire's Countryside on Camera Competition

The Campaign to Protect Rural England is looking for a variety of locations, seasons and subject matter from woodlands and waterways to farming and wildlife for its photography competition. All entries must be submitted by Friday 31st January 2020. Please see our noticeboard poster or Facebook page for further information.

The Parish Council endeavours to distribute this newsletter in a timely manner but sometimes this is not possible. There may be occasions when you receive your copy after some events have taken place. This is due to circumstances beyond our control.

CONTACT DETAILS:

Council Office:

35 Stafford Street,
Brewood,
ST19 9DX

Tel. 01902 850809

Open to the public
9.30am to 12.30pm
Monday to Friday.

Meetings start at 7.00pm

Clerk:

Maggie Birtles PSLCC

Assistant Clerk:

Gemma Jones.

Voluntary Car Scheme:

Tel. 01902 851786

Car Scheme Co-ordinator:
Sofena Phillips.

Email the Parish Council:

brewoodparish@btconnect.com

Visit our website:

www.brewoodandcovenparish.org.uk

Find and like us on: Facebook.

Report all dog fouling to South
Staffordshire Council.

Crimestoppers 0800 555 111

Staffordshire County Council have responsibility for roads and pavements across Staffordshire:

Please report problems such as pot holes, street lights, blocked gullies to: 0300 111 8000

Email: highways@staffordshire.gov.uk

Online at: www.staffordshire.gov.uk

Or download: MyStaffs App to access key services.