



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

**NEWSLETTER**

**SPRING 2020**

**Your Councillors:**

**Bishop's Wood:**

Mary Sambrook (Vice Chair)  
01785 841398  
Vacant

**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  
Vacant

Antonio Pupino  
07857 061 128  
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:**

12 & 26 Sept, 10 & 31 Oct, 14 &  
28 Nov.

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.

**Parish Councillor Richard Dakin RIP**

The Parish Council was greatly saddened at the death of its Chairman, Parish Councillor Richard Dakin. Richard played a very active role in the community; he was one of six parish councillors for Coven Ward, a representative on Coven's Memorial Hall Committee and was involved in Brewood Parish Sports Association. He was also involved in Community Speed Watch and many of the Parish Council's other committees. He was in his second term of office as Chairman of the Parish Council when he was taken ill, and sadly passed away on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2020. Many members of the Council and its staff went to Richard's funeral on 25<sup>th</sup> February, which was very well attended, and were overwhelmed to hear that his family had decided to divide any donations received between the British Heart Foundation and St Paul's School, Coven which had not only been flooded following the extraordinarily high level of rainfall, but had also been burgled. We are sure that Richard would have approved of such a wonderful gesture. He will be greatly missed.

The Parish Council received the resignation of Karen Webber, who was one of two Parish Councillors for Bishop's Wood. Karen and her husband will be relocating to The Cotswolds. We wish them every happiness in this new chapter in their lives. The vacancy has been filled by another Bishop's Wood resident, Rachel Glover, who was co-opted onto the Parish Council, but due to current circumstances regarding social distancing there has not been a full council meeting for her to sign her Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

**Coronavirus (Covid-19)**

We are currently experiencing unprecedented restrictions due to the Government's regulations which were put in place on 26<sup>th</sup> March to reduce the spread of coronavirus in order to protect the NHS and save lives. As a result, all three playing fields which contain play parks were closed, as were the public toilets at Sandy Lane in Brewood. However, the Parish Council owned allotment sites in Chambley Green, Coven and Ball Lane, Coven Heath remain open to plot holders. The Parish Council had originally resolved to keep the playing fields open to the public but unfortunately were forced to close them following the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson's announcement on 23<sup>rd</sup> March.

There are some open green spaces within the Parish which are accessible to the public such as Barnfield Sandbeds in Orams Lane, Brewood and The Bront off Poplars Farm Way, Coven and there are plenty of green open spaces around all four villages which make up the parish which may be used for daily exercise in line with the guidelines.

**STAY AT HOME. Only go outside for food, health reasons or work (but only if you cannot work from home).**

**If you go out, stay 2 metres (6ft) away from other people at all times.**

**Wash your hands as soon as you get home.**

**Do not meet others, even friends or family. You can spread the virus even if you don't have symptoms.**

**Flood Prevention Measures for Householders**

In response to flooding and other environmental issues, the rules governing the rights of residents to pave their front garden with hard standings without planning permission were changed in 2008.

If the surface to be covered is more than five square meters, planning permission is required for laying traditional, impermeable driveways such as non-porous concrete or asphalt unless the rainwater is directed to soakaway, lawn or border to drain naturally within the boundary of the property.

Residents should be wary of companies which provide these types of driveways who claim that the rules can be circumvented. Driveways completed without the requisite planning permission could be subject to an investigation by planning enforcement.

The Parish continues to experience issues with flooding. We would encourage residents to consider using permeable (or porous) surfacing such as gravel, permeable concrete block paving or porous asphalt for which no planning permission is required.

**Please also be aware of the consequences of jet washing drives which puts contaminate water directly into the public drainage system.**

The Environment Agency has issued guidance which is available on the gov.uk website via the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/permeable-surfacing-of-front-gardens-guidance>.

**CONTACT DETAILS:**

**Council Office:**

35 Stafford Street,  
Brewood,  
ST19 9DX

Tel. 01902 850809

Or find us on Facebook

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

Meetings start at 7.00pm

**Clerk:**  
Maggie Birtles PSLCC

**Assistant Clerk:**  
Kathryn Kliszat.

**Voluntary Car Scheme:**  
Tel. 01902 851786  
**Car Scheme Co-ordinator:**  
Sofena Phillips.

**Brewood Parochial (Dole) Charity**

This small charity was set up over 500 years ago with the remit of offering financial assistance for the benefit of the poor and those in need within the whole area covered by Brewood and Coven (with Bishop's Wood and Coven Heath) Parish Council.

If you, or anyone else you know, living in this area are in need, then the charity may be able to help with a modest donation.

Please contact in total confidence, one of the trustees below:

Rev P. Moon, Dr R. Taylor, Rev M. Coulter (for Brewood), Mrs L. Jones, Mrs J. Gibbins (for Coven), Mr I. Westwood (for Bishop's Wood) or Mr T. Prendergast (for Coven Heath). Telephone numbers are held at the Parish Council.

***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.***

**Email the Parish Council:**  
[brewoodparish@btconnect.com](mailto:brewoodparish@btconnect.com)

**Visit our website:**  
[www.brewoodandcovenparish.org.uk](http://www.brewoodandcovenparish.org.uk)

**Find and like us on: Facebook.**  
Report all dog fouling to **South Staffordshire Council.**

**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](mailto:highways@staffordshire.gov.uk)

**Online at:** [www.staffordshire.gov.uk](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk)

**Or download: MyStaffs App to access key services.**

For details of Neighbourhood Policing Meetings open to everyone visit [www.staffordshire.police.uk/local\\_policing/south\\_staffs/](http://www.staffordshire.police.uk/local_policing/south_staffs/)

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