



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

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2021

Your Councillors:

Bishop's Wood:

Mary Sambrook (Chair)
01902 841398
Rachel Glover 01902 851257

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
Antonio Pupino (Vice
Chairman)
07857 061128
Glen Sibley 790059
Chris Smythe 703500
Vacancy

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:**

25th February, 11 & 25 March
Annual Parish Meeting 8 April

Council meetings are currently
held remotely via Zoom at

7.00pm

Please contact the Clerk for a
link to join the meeting which
includes a 15 minute public
participation session at the
start, when members of the
public are able to address the
Council.

What HAS Brewood and Coven Parish Council been doing since March 2020?

Since March 2020, the whole country has been in lockdown, and your Parish Council has had to adapt to Government guidelines, restrictions and suggested best practice with the best interests of the public, the community and our staff at heart. So in case you think we have been 'absent', below you will find information about how we have continued to serve the community.

All minutes are available on our website www.brewoodandcoven-pc.gov.uk

Members of the public are still able to attend public participation at our twice monthly meetings by asking the Clerk for the Zoom link.

First steps were approved at the extraordinary meeting held on 19th March 2020 as the situation evolved and on 25th June 2020, we held our first Zoom meeting. This meant a significant learning curve for most of the Parish Council, and many thanks should go to our Chairman, Mary Sambrook, for her time and patience in helping Parish Councillors get up to speed with the technology. She also attended meetings whilst on holiday, thanks to Zoom. Further additional meetings have been held, and policies have been approved as necessary.

Parish Council Property.

In all actions the Parish Council has undertaken it has, of course, had to follow Government Covid-19 guidelines. We have liaised with the Tennis Club, Bowling Club, Rugby Tots and football teams to keep everyone safe, and opened and closed parks, toilets and allotments within what has been a changing situation and as allowed by the regulations. Martin Smith the handyman has maintained and repaired play equipment and continued with general maintenance. The Parish Council would also like to thank the caretakers of our three playing fields; Rachel, Elaine and Shaun, and also the caretaker of the allotments in Coven Heath which have been open the entire time.

Risk assessments on all Parish Council property, which includes all our play equipment, changing rooms, offices and public toilets were voluntarily undertaken by Parish Councillors and received and approved by resolution of the Parish Council, so thanks should go to those Parish Councillors for taking time and trouble to do this safely.

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

CONTACT DETAILS:

Council Office:

35 Stafford Street,
Brewood,
ST19 9DX

Tel. 01902 850809

See below for our NEW
email and website
addresses

Or find us on Facebook

Opening times 9.30am to
12.30pm Monday to
Friday (currently closed
to visitors).

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.

Voluntary Work.

Sadly, Brewood and District Voluntary Car Scheme has stopped operating at this time since most drivers and members themselves fall into the most vulnerable groups. They also had to take into account other restrictions introduced by the Government since the onset of the pandemic. However, drivers, Sofena and Parish Councillors are now volunteering in different ways by helping with formal and informal voluntary shopping groups and in manning voluntary call centres and help lines for those in crisis.

The Community.

Parish Councillors were involved directly with South Staffordshire Council in publicising business grants available, and also in publicising Covid-19 safe ways of operating in the streets and shops. As a direct result of the restrictions of Covid-19, the Parish Council found it had money available that in normal times would have been used for a Civic Sunday but instead was used for a number of Christmas Hampers given to identified residents of the Parish.

In common with most of the community, we became aware of digital poverty within our Parish in particular relating to school students and people working from home. We have agreed a roll-out of funds to alleviate this. Laptops (which the Parish Council will retain ownership of) have been bought and distributed with the assistance of our local schools.

And finally ...

Our **new** website is identified above and we encourage residents to use it. You will find lots of information including our Minutes of public meetings which are available once they have been approved. We also have a Facebook page edited by the Clerk, which helps to keep the community up to date. In common with other volunteer organisations and public bodies, such as District Councils, school Governing bodies and many charities, the Parish Council has adopted an acceptable use policy regarding social media, so Parish Councillors will not respond to or discuss allegations or comments directed personally or generally which are placed on other social media pages.

Please join us at a Zoom meeting and have your say!

Email the Parish Council:

clerk@brewoodandcoven-pc.gov.uk

Visit our website:

www.brewoodandcoven-pc.gov.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

Online at: www.staffordshire.gov.uk

Or download: MyStaffs App to access key services.

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.