

The Parish of Alfrick and Lulsley

Annual Report of the Parish Council - 2006-7

Presented at the Annual Parish Meeting May 8th 2007

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This has once again been a busy year for the Parish Council. The Council has met all the criteria required to achieve **Quality Parish Status**. As part of this process the Clerk to the council, Geoffrey Brewin, gained the Certificate in Local Council Administration. He also had to provide a portfolio of evidence of the council's activities for which he was commended for the high standard of presentation. The introduction of the quarterly Parish Council **Newsletter** has been well received by the community. It gives members of our parish a regular up date of work in progress and alerts them to future projects. Any feedback is always very welcome.

Parish Plan: Councillors have each taken responsibility for an aspect of the Plan and they report to the council on these matters as needs arise. Sheila Tolley, who holds the portfolio for **Young People**, is working closely with interested groups and individuals to provide much needed facilities for youngsters in the parish. We have some funds and now what is needed are some ideas on how to spend it.

Housing Committee: This committee is an informal group working on a "Village Design Statement" and will be reconvened at the Annual Parish Council Meeting. They can meet on a less formal basis and invite individuals with specialist expertise to assist them in their deliberations.

Sphere Taxi Bus: During the year the service changed from using a roving mini bus to a prebookable call out taxi service which reduced the expenses thus enabling the service to continue beyond the initial trial period. The Sphere Bus committee is hopeful that the bid submitted for more funding will be successful. With new funding the service can continue to develop further to provide greater flexibility. However, if funding is not granted the service will cease.

Lengthsman scheme: This scheme has continued to be a great asset to the parish. The council thanks Roger Thomas for his hard work keeping the drains and ditches clear of debris. Road flooding seemed less last winter and hopefully these improvements will be continued.

Footpaths/ Rights of way:. Garth Lowe reports regularly on the state of the various rights of way. Currently most seem to be in good order however if problems are encountered please contact the Parish clerk or Garth. There is an issue which has arisen over the years that of the use of the greenlanes by 4x4 off roaders. Your councillors feel strongly that whilst it is legal for these groups to use the tracks and green lanes it is not safe for others ie walkers and horse riders, due to the deep ruts and extremely muddy conditions created and the narrowness of these tracks. The council will continue to monitor this activity. If you have a point of view on this matter please tell us.

Tree Warden: David Fowler has now settled into his role and has attended many council meetings reporting on the condition of the trees in the parish. He has carried out a comprehensive survey of the area known as **Jubilee Plantation** as some residents living close to the plantation have voiced concerns about the state of the trees. The council is in the process of consulting an arboriculturalist as these trees are subject to a preservation order and no work can be carried out on them without a report from a qualified expert and permission from the local planning authority. The council is also giving some thought to how the area can best be managed in the future.

War Memorial: The council and the Alfrick and LuIsley Show committee funded the cleaning work carried out on the memorial and the names can now be clearly read.

WCC, District Councillors: The council is always pleased to welcome your representatives from the County Council and District Council. Our newly elected District councillors face a steep learning curve however I am sure they will continue the tradition of keeping us up to date with the work of their councils and offering us advice, guidance and support when needed.

Finally I would like to take this opportunity to thank all my fellow councillors, and Geoffrey, the Parish Clerk, for their hard work and support throughout the year. Councillors who have decided to stand down are Sandy Clarke, Phil Gilbert and Phil Attwood their contributions and support over the years will be sorely missed.

C. H. Williams

C. H. Williams, Chairman of Alfrick and Lulsley Parish Council.

Your Councillors (And their portfolios) up to 7th May 2007

Christine Williams - Chairman	821578	<i>(Recreation, Leisure & Communication)</i>		
Vice Chairman - Richard Jackson	833715	<i>(Statistics)</i>		
Philip E Attwood	832098	Philip Brown	821302	Sandie Clarke 832528
<i>(Highways and Transportation)</i>		<i>(Environment)</i>		<i>(Highways and Transportation)</i>
Philip Gilbert	884015	Garth Lowe	833362	Peter R Tebbit 830008
<i>(Statistics)</i>		<i>(Environment)</i>		<i>(Health & Other Services)</i>
Sheila Tolley	832409			
<i>(Young People)</i>				

At the election on 3rd May 2007 for a new council to serve a 4-year term the following councillors were returned;

Mrs C Williams

Mrs S M Tolley

Dr P Brown

Mr G Lowe,

Mr B J Fishwick

Mr R J Jackson

Mr P R Tebbit

This leaves two vacancies which will be filled by co-opting volunteers at the new council's first meeting on Tuesday 15th May at 7.30pm in the Village Hall Alfrick.

Clerk to the Council

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Parish Footpaths Warden

Garth Lowe, 833362

Parish Tree Warden

David Fowler, 884690

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