

Alfrick and Lulsley

Parish Council News

Representing your interests
Keeping you informed
Seeking your involvement
Working to improve village life

Edition - Winter 2008



Chairman's Notes

This edition of our newsletter has had to forego the picture of a local scene as we need all the space to cover the 18-month report on the Parish Plan. The headings overleaf are those as set out in the Parish Plan - Actions Section and show the councillors leading each section and a progress report. Please let your council have your views either direct to the council at any of its meetings by coming to the open forum which precedes every formal meeting or by writing to the clerk.

Budget 2008-9

The Council decided at the January meeting to set the Parish Precept, which is collected with the Local Council Tax, at £9000 in line with the need to build some financial reserve for unexpected expenses.

Parish Plan - Review of Objectives

General; Cllr R Jackson.

Statistics; Research statistics for the Parish and keep abreast of patterns of change including demography and of the economically active.

Progress Report; Available

Environment; Cllr P Brown, G Lowe

Use of footpaths; Support the Parish Paths Warden (PPW) by organising local information-gathering procedures The Parish Council to direct the County Council footpath grant spending towards improving signposting and access.

Progress Report; Ongoing

Lighting; Propose guidelines for the location of security lights based on environmental health guidelines and inform all householders of these.

Progress Report; To be done

Green Roads; Enter into dialogue with users of green lanes to understand uses and needs and consider as appropriate.

Progress Report; The council has been in contact with WCC and some repair work has been done on the Slad Green to Folly Farm road

Community work; Produce an information leaflet, to explain 'Letts' and 'Barter' schemes, for Parish notice boards.

Progress Report; There is no support for this initiative at present.

Recycling; Pursue opportunities to promote more recycling.

Progress Report; Supporting the Village Hall in the location of Recycling Containers

Highways and Transportation; Cllrs B Fishwick, S V Glazzard

Traffic speed; Consider available traffic calming measures, including advisory speed-checking radar device, and consult with the community on proposed action.

Progress Report; An interim report is available. Refer to the clerk or the council's website.

Speed of the school buses; Contact the school bus provider regarding the concerns raised about the speed and driving standard of the school buses.

Progress Report; An interim report is available. Refer to the clerk or the council's website.

Road maintenance; Work with the highways authority to seek improvements to the standard of road maintenance.

Progress Report; An interim report is available. Refer to the clerk or the council's website.

Horses Investigate and publicise best practice in road safety. Investigate the feasibility of awareness seminars for local residents and rider safety training for local riders.

Progress Report; An interim report is available. Refer to the clerk or the council's website.

Public transport; Actively promote the availability of public transport and specifically the Sphere Taxi Service. Facilitate further public debate on local transport needs.

Progress Report; Public Consultation Meeting held 4th Nov. 2006 There was little support for additional services.

Health and Other Services; Cllrs B Roscoe, P R Tebbit

Lack of nearby NHS dental practice; Ascertain feasibility of extension of Knightwick Surgery to include NHS dental surgery.

Progress Report; In progress

Lack of mains gas supply; Contact the utility company to determine the feasibility and cost of a mains gas supply. Publicise the information with a view to stimulating local debate and seek feedback as to the level of interest.

Progress Report: The clerk is in correspondence with suppliers.

Emergency service - location of rural dwellings; Explore, with the emergency services, the availability of GPS co-ordinates for each dwelling and advise the community of the results.

Progress Report: Legal responsibilities preclude this.

Recreation, Leisure and Communication; Cllr Mrs C Williams.

Village hall; Village hall committee to continue investigations into relative costs of renovation and rebuild, and undertake community wide consultation.

Progress Report: In progress

Village hall committee, taking results of consultation into account, finalise and present findings to the Community and initiate redevelopment programme including planning and funding applications.

Progress Report: In progress

Communication; Cllr Mrs C Williams.

Explore and determine the feasibility of launching a community magazine and/or website.

Progress Report: Council Newsletter being circulated quarterly

Provide feedback from community consultation on content and style to Sphere organisers.

Progress Report: This is superseded by the introduction of the Council's Newsletter.

Planning and Development; Cllrs P Brown, R Jackson, P R Tebbit.

The extent, type and density of any additional housing build; Set up, and maintain a planning group of the Parish Council.

Progress Report: In progress - will be reviewed at the February meeting.

Maintain links with MHDC Planning and Housing functions to ensure proper process and consultation on any future development proposals

Progress Report: In progress - will be reviewed at the February meeting.

Request that MHDC adopt the results of the planning committee recommendations on a Village Design Statement as Supplementary Planning Document.

Progress Report: In progress - will be reviewed at the February meeting.

To ensure any future development in the Parish is consulted as widely as possible to ensure it has broad community support. This can be actioned through the MHDC Statement of Community involvement.

Progress Report: In progress - will be reviewed at the February meeting.

Young People; Cllrs Mrs S Tolley, S V Glazzard.

Recreation/Village Hall; Identify support (from young people, adult volunteers and Youth Service) to establish a local Youth group and meeting place.

Progress Report: In progress

Identify suppliers and costs of outdoor equipment such as: basket ball hoops, football goals, picnic tables, boules pitch.

Progress Report: Removable Football Goal Posts installed on Playing Field

Provide dog litter bins.

Progress Report: Not practical at present

Parish Plan - Young People continued

Transport and Highways; Consult on provision of, and location of, a bus shelter.

Progress Report: To be done

Improve condition of highway.

Progress Report: To be done

Make representations to school bus companies to stick to agreed pick up/drop off times.

Progress Report: Done

Communications; Information relevant to young people to be prominently displayed and location of notice boards to be advertised.

Progress Report: To be done

Public Transport; Lobby for more frequent bus services at weekends, preferably to Malvern.

Progress Report: Sphere Taxi scheme in operation

Better advertising of timetables.

Progress Report: Taxi is on call so no timetable required.

Investigate discount and concessionary fares and travel cards.

Progress Report: These are available - Information on Council's web-site

Ooooooooooooooooooooooooooooo

Newsflash - Get to grips with Winter Driving - visit -

<http://worcestershire.whub.org.uk/home/wccindex/wcc-ht/wcc-ht-winter-gritting.htm> *or the Parish Council's website*

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Forthcoming Meetings

Meetings of the Parish Council, Tuesdays 19th February, 18th March, and 15th April at 7.30pm in Alfrick Village Hall - Members of the public are welcome to attend and raise matters of concern during the first half-hour.

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