

# WOLVEY Parish Council Newsletter

Your Community Connection

Spring 2012 Issue 17

#### **Wolvey Parish Councillors**

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#### **Wolvey Parish Clerk**

Margaret Cartwright The Old Post Office Wolds Lane Wolvey LE10 3LL



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#### **Wolvey Diary Dates**

#### Wolvey Parish Council Meetings

Meetings are held in the back room of the village hall at 7.45pm

Monday 16th April 2012 Monday 14th May 2012 Monday 11th June 2012 Monday 16th July 2012

Annual Parish Meeting Wednesday 25th April at 7.30pm in Wolvey Village Hall.

This is not a meeting of the Parish Council but is a meeting for electors of Wolvey.

#### Parish Council Surgeries

Wolvey Parish Council now provides a Councillor Surgery once a month. The purpose of the surgery is to enable local residents to raise issues or concerns with Councillors informally outside of Parish Council meetings.

#### Where?

Back room of the Village Hall at 7.30pm on the first Wednesday of every month

Wednesday 4th April 2012 Wednesday 2nd May 2012 Wednesday 6th June 2012 Wednesday 4th July 2012

#### Mobile police station dates

April 24th 2012 May 15th 2012 June 26th 2012 July 17th 2012 parked in The Square, from 1.45pm till 3.15pm

## **Democracy on Your Doorstep**Wolvey to Elect New Parish Council

At the heart of its community, the Parish Council is the first tier of local authority representation. Its members are your neighbours and are elected by you. As such, the Council represents the interests of the village, delivers services to meet local needs, has the power to raise a tax from the area - known as the precept - and carry out work that generally improves the quality of life for all in the Parish.

The usual term of office for a Parish Council is four years, after which the Council has to resign and a new one must be elected. This

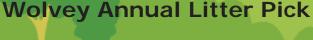


election is timed in Wolvey to coincide with the election of councillors for Rugby Borough Council. This has the advantage that the cost of the election can be shared between the two Councils. This year the election of a new Council is planned to take place on Thursday May 3rd.

Anyone who is a resident of the village can put themselves forward as a candidate provided they meet the necessary qualification requirements – be aged 18 or over and lived in Wolvey for at least twelve months. Nomination papers have to be with the Returning Officer at the Town Hall, by noon on Wednesday 4th April and must be signed by two electors of the Parish. Details are published on the Parish Notice Board in The Square and nomination forms can be obtained from the Parish Clerk.

If seven people or less apply for nomination, they will be elected without an actual poll taking place. Any places which are not filled in this way can be occupied by members being co-opted at a later date. However, in order for the Parish Council to fulfil the requirements for Quality Parish Council status and the new 'General Power of Competence', introduced with the Localism Act 2011, it is vital that at least seven members are elected in May. If there are more than seven nominations, then there will be an actual poll on May 3rd.

If you are interested in learning more about the Parish Council, how democracy operates on your doorstep or you have already decided you would like to be nominated as a member at the forthcoming election, please contact Margaret Cartwright, Parish Clerk.



Saturday 14th April 2012

Please come and join us to help make a difference to the look of your village

Meet at the Baptist Chapel from 9am onwards

Refreshments and equipment provided

All welcome



#### **Bringing Superfast Broadband to our Rural Areas**

Warwickshire County Council is leading on the project to improve the broadband across the sub-region and we need your help. Clearly the money available from public funds will not be sufficient to solve the problem for the whole sub-region, and so telecoms providers who tender for the work will be expected to make their own investment of at least twice the amount that is available from public funds. They will not be doing this out of the goodness of their heart, and so are likely to prioritise those areas that are able to show the greatest demand.

#### What can you do to help?

Complete our survey

If you have not already done so please complete the broadband survey that is located at http://www.cswbroadband.org.

uk/ - there is one survey for domestic use and one for business use, so if you run a business or work from home please do both - and encourage your neighbours to do it as well because the more people that respond from a given area the higher priority it will be.

#### Become a Champion.

Could you help to bring faster broadband services to your local area? We are looking for Community Champions to help us to get our message out to rural communities.

The role will include:

- \* Putting posters up on local noticeboards
- \* Delivering flyers to households
- Providing hard copies of the surveys to those who are unable to access them on-line

 Delivering presentations to local groups about the project (but only if you feel comfortable with this!)

All material will be provided through the project website and in hard copy (it is currently being prepared and as soon as we know that the money is all in place we will start the print runs)

To express an interest in becoming a Champion, please email your name, address (with postcode) and telephone number to

broadband@warwickshire.gov.uk

Your assistance could make all the difference to Wolvey getting superfast broadband!

#### Queen's Jubilee Monday June 4th, Make it a Date to Celebrate

During the weekend of 2nd -5th June, the nation will mark the Queen's sixty years as our monarch. Wolvey Parish Council has chosen Monday June 4th as the day the whole village can join in these celebrations. The theme of the day is a 'Picnic in the Park' where people can bring their own food and picnic or purchase it from a fast food outlet.

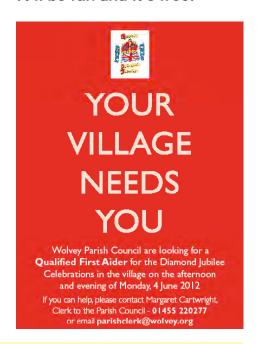
The fun day of activities will begin with a parade from the Village Square to the Playing Fields. At the fields there will be plenty to entertain including local vehicles of interest, a Bouncy Castle, children's rides, a coconut shy, face painting, children's field games, tug-owar, wellie wanging and a big interactive play event as an aspect of the Sixty Years of a Village at Play project. All this and a children's 'Kings and Queens' fancy dress competition (entry forms available from the Village Stores) will be accompanied by the Bulkington Silver Band and the

Anker Morris Men. After a short tea time break, the celebrations continue late into the evening with a range of local talent providing the entertainment. This will include a Jitterbug dance exhibition, folk music and music from every decade of the Queen's reign performed by local rock bands so you can bop till you drop. There will be a licensed bar and the whole event will reach a climax with the lighting of our official Beacon between 10 and 10.30 pm.

To ensure the event proceeds smoothly, we still need the following volunteers to help organize the tug-o-war and wellie wanging. We also require a qualified First Aider to be on duty and stewards to help with traffic during the procession.

The event still needs some financial support and any donations would be gratefully received. These should be sent to the Parish Clerk, and made payable to Wolvey Parish Council.

### Please support the celebration It'll be fun and it's free!



#### Trust in the Future - Fields to be Protected

Fields in Trust is the only national charity working to safeguard and support outdoor recreational spaces. Since it was founded, it has protected over 8700 acres across the UK. The Diamond Jubilee and 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, are once in a lifetime events, and to mark them Fields in Trust, with its patron HRH Duke of Cambridge, has set up the Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge. Its aim is to protect a further 2012 outdoor recreational spaces. This will produce a living legacy

and will ensure communities have the opportunity to live healthy and active lives for generations to come. An additional benefit is the opportunity to apply for improvement grants to further enhance both these sites. Wolvey Parish Council has nominated both the Old Cricket Field Wetland and the Wolvey Playing Fields to become Queen Elizabeth II Fields. We are still waiting for all the legal documents to be approved, but if successful this will provide added protection of these fields for

Wolvey people, now and in the future. It will, however, not alter the current control and management of the land.

Along with ASDA - its Principal Partner - Fields in Trust is promoting 'Have a Field Day' as a chance to celebrate these sites through local people gathering together to join in sports, fun activities and games. We are hoping to be able to take part in this for our Jubilee celebrations in Wolvey on June 4th.

#### Playing Fields Work Well Under Way... And There's More to Come

Wolvey Playing Fields is an excellent facility. It is there to be used by everyone in the local community. In the Wolvey Parish Plan it was identified that some play equipment needed updating, so Wolvey Parish Council is working with Wolvey Playing Fields Trust committee to improve the equipment in the play area.

The aim is to enhance the facilities and encourage more people of a wider age range to use this excellent resource in the village. Recently, we have consulted with Wolvey School, Cubs and Scouts, the Brownies and Baby and Toddlers groups to find out what equipment the children want and need. We have also conducted a survey to see if adults would be interested in outdoor gym equipment at the site.

It was decided that the first priority is to provide updated equipment for younger children. So far, we have applied for two grants to purchase new equipment and we are waiting to hear if these applications have been successful. We will also be making applications for other grants in the near future.

In readiness for installing new activities, work has been taking place to remove old and damaged equipment and relocating some to make space for the new. For example, the old adventure climbing frame has been moved into an area of trees. This will make use of previously wasted space, and add new challenges for older children in a natural environment.

## Committed Council Celebrates Four Years of Planning and Progress

Wolvey Parish Council is a fully committed Council which takes its responsibilities very seriously. Five of the seven Councillors elected in 2008 are still serving and the Council has made a real impact during their tenure.

The following are just some of the key milestones:

#### **Quality Parish Council status**

this is only awarded to the few councils that have attained the highest standards and are active, representative and well-managed. In Warwickshire there are only twenty Quality Parish Councils and in the Rugby Borough we are one of only two.

#### Wolvey Parish Plan

85% of Wolvey residents engaged with the production of the Plan. The new Localism Act means that enhanced powers can be granted if an update of the plan is produced. The Council is hoping to start this process very soon.

#### Wolvey Environment Group (WEG)

The Environment Group was formed as an off-shoot of the Parish Plan. This has attained many accolades and awards. The Parish Council has a statutory duty in relation to Biodiversity, making the work of this group a vital function of the Parish Council.

#### Old Cricket Field Wetland

We are fortunate to have such a rare wetland habitat in Wolvey. The installation of the Boardwalk has enabled access for everyone and has received acclaim and recognition from across the County.

#### Communication

This newsletter and the Parish Council web site provide information about the activities of the Parish Council and other authorities.

#### **Best Village Competition awards**

Success in various categories over the past few years, culminating in being awarded Best Village in Warwickshire 2011.

The Council has not rested on its laurels though and there are many other activities and current projects underway. These include:

The Queen's Jubilee celebrations on June 4th.

Sixty Years of a Village at Play arts project.

Partnership with Wolvey Playing Fields Trust

to improve play equipment at the playing fields.

#### **Traffic calming**

installation of vehicle activated signs later this year.

Update and refurbishment of streetlights.

Provision of CCTV in Wolvey Square (if funding can be obtained).

Update of Wolvey Parish Plan and production of a new Neighbourhood Plan.

Dedication of The Old Cricket Field Wetland and Wolvey Playing Fields as Queen Elizabeth II Fields in Trust fields.

## Project Reveals Pleasure of Play

'Sixty Years of a Village at Play', Wolvey's Diamond Jubilee intergenerational, community arts project is up and running. Groups have been involved in sessions with the artists, exploring how play has changed over the last 60 years.

Pre-School, Baby and Toddler groups have made a film of their play for the Over 60's who have also shared memories of play - many about playing outside and using found or recycled materials.

Following this, the children and families have played together in Pre-School's lovely outdoor area and explored recycled materials. The Environmental group have been exploring small things under glass slides and with magnifiers and microscopes. They will also exchange their creative mapping ideas with Year 3 pupils at Wolvey School. Likewise, local young people have come together with artists to make music and share what they like to do in 'Jammin' and Stuff' at the Playing Fields and they also plan to make a big collage canvas about play.

There is much more project information, photos and news on the Wolvey website **www.wolvey.org** and look out for the changing display in the Wolvey Stores window.

Everyone can join in the project and details are on the flyer with this newsletter.

Barbara for The VERYIDE artist collective, www.theveryidea.co.uk. Working in Partnership with Wolvey Parish Council on Sixty Years of a Village at Play



Wolvey Pre-School and Baby and Toddler children exploring recycled materials together, outdoors. Children imagined the netting was a 'spider's web'.

#### Clerk's Corner

The Parish Council is approaching the end of its four year term of office. This means that, as well as the usual end of year accounts, annual meetings, etc, there is work for the Clerk to complete in readiness for the election and the possibility of a new Council in May.

This Council has been a very active one and has successfully completed many projects. But, there is still a lot that it would like to achieve, and there are likely to be many changes and new challenges with the implementation of the new Locality Act 2011.

Ongoing projects include the installation of two vehicle activated signs on Coventry Road and Church Hill. Warwickshire County Council has agreed to provide these as long as the Parish Council will maintain and renew them as necessary. These will hopefully remind drivers to drive slowly in the village, but it would be more effective if complemented by a Community Speed Watch programme. We have had some people willing to volunteer for this, but more are still needed to make this a success. If you are interested, then please contact me for an application form from Warwickshire Police.

In an attempt to reduce crime, CCTV in the village Square is also a possibility for later this year. We will be applying for grants to purchase the equipment.

Wolvey Parish Council owns and maintains the streetlights in Wolvey. Many of the columns are reaching the end of their expected life and so will need to be replaced in the next few years. The Parish Council has been conducting a review and will initiate testing soon to determine which ones should be replaced first. The Wolvey Parish Plan is reaching the time when it needs to be reviewed and updated, particularly due to increased powers for communities which have a Neighbourhood Plan. The Parish Council plans to get this process underway very soon.

For any information about the Parish Council, please contact me by email on parishclerk@wolvey.org or by telephone on 01455 220277. However, please remember that I only work part time. The best time to call is Monday, Tuesday or Thursday mornings between 10am -1pm. If I am not available, please leave a message and I will get back to you as soon as I can.

Margeret Cartwright Parish Clerk

#### **Annual Parish Meeting**

The Annual Parish Meeting is an opportunity for the people of Wolvey to speak, raise any concerns or express ideas for the future of their local community.

At this meeting there will information and a presentation about the Sixty years of a Village at Play project and the plans for the Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

Local groups are invited to provide information about what they do.

Also, the Parish Council makes a report on its activities and achievements during the past year, including a financial report.

This year's meeting is to be held on:

Wednesday 25th April at 7.30pm in Wolvey Village Hall

All electors of the Parish are invited to attend and take part in this meeting.

There will be refreshments available.

#### 101

#### a new non-emergency number

Warwickshire Police have launched a new, non-emergency telephone number making it easier for members of the public to report crime and disorder and make general enquiries.

101 is an easy to remember number which goes directly to the local control room no matter where you are dialing from. It takes away the need to search for the local force number and should reduce the volume of unnecessary 999 calls.

The new number can be used to report if a car has been stolen or property has been damaged or vandalized, to report a minor traffic collision, to provide information about crime or to contact a local policing team.

#### It does not replace 999,

which should still be used in an emergency, when a crime is in progress, there is a danger to life or when violence is being used or threatened.

The new number will cost 15 pence from landlines and mobile phones for the entire call, no matter how long the call or what time of day it is.

#### All Change In Boundary Shake Up

After the Borough Council election in May, there will be a new Wolvey and Shilton ward. This will mean Wolvey's Borough Councillor will represent Shilton and Barnacle as well as our village. At present the village is in the same ward as Withybrook, but as a result of the Local Government Boundary Commission for England report this will end and the new ward will come into being.

This year all the Councillors for Wolvey Parish Council must resign and an election will be held on Thursday 3rd May, 2012 to form a new council (see front page article). Normally, the term of office for Parish Councillors is four years. However, all future elections in Rugby will take place at the same time as recommended in the Boundary Commission's review.

This means that for those Parish Councillors elected in 2012, the term of office will be reduced to two years and from 2014 onwards the normal four year term of office will again apply.