

# TICKNALL PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Issue 10 – May 2007

Welcome to our 10<sup>th</sup> newsletter

## Parish Council new email address

Would you please note that the new email address of the Parish Council is:

[enquiries@ticknallparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@ticknallparishcouncil.co.uk)

**Date of next meetings:** Held in the Village Hall, Ingleby Lane, Ticknall, Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2007 at 7.30 pm preceded by a Councillor surgery with Councillor Wolsey at 7.00 pm, and Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2007 at 7.30 pm preceded by a Councillor surgery with Councillor Holt at 7.00 pm.

## Parish Council Election

As you are all aware an election was held on 3<sup>rd</sup> May to elect Parish Councillors. The Parish Council achieved its aim of highlighting the need for an election and 8 candidates put themselves forward for 6 seats. Ticknall along with Barrow on Trent were the only two villages in South Derbyshire to have an election at Parish level. The successful Parish Councillors are as follows: Stefan Green, Richard Parker, Gill Holt, David Shepherd, Dale Wolsey and Julie Tibbert. You can find their details at the end of this newsletter and hopefully we will be able to show photos of them on the website very soon. We held the first meeting of the new Parish Council, which has a term of 4 years, on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> May.

## District Council Election

On 3<sup>rd</sup> May District Councillors were also elected for Ticknall & Hartshorne Ward. The successful councillors are Michael Stanton and Patrick Murray. You can find their details at the end of the newsletter.

## Affordable Housing

Miles King of Midlands Rural Housing came to a recent Parish Council meeting to explain the purpose of the requirement of a housing survey in Ticknall. It is a government initiative brought about when they decided that there was a shortage of 50,000 affordable rural houses. A survey is being carried out in the south of the district in villages in the area, including Ticknall. In partnership with the Parish and District Councils Midlands Rural Housing will send a questionnaire to every house in Ticknall, and asking the residents to return these so that statistics can be acquired. The form will ask some general questions which will help the District Council to compile a detailed profile of Ticknall residents, migration patterns and also some general points regarding life in the village. It will

also establish whether there are people in the village with a housing need. If there were a need the District Council would then commit to providing for that need. If land could be found some houses could be built, by a Housing Association. These schemes usually build no more than 6 houses and are usually part owned by the tenant who must either live in Ticknall or have strong connections to it. If the houses are sold these are sold back to the housing association and they are committed to selling these only to local residents who either live in the village or have strong connection to it in perpetuity. You will be receiving a survey questionnaire in the first two weeks of June; it will include a return envelope addressed to the housing association. Would you please take the time to complete the questionnaire?

## Summer Play Provision

The Parish Council has booked the Sports Mobile again this year on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> August at 2-4pm on the Grange recreation ground; if it rains some activities will be held in the Village Hall. We have also booked for the first time the Climbing Wall Monday 20<sup>th</sup> August at 6-8pm on The Grange recreation ground

### Regulations attached:

**Sports Mobile** (sports equipment, sumo suits and bouncy castle). 8-14 years, under 8's must be accompanied by an adult. In the event of rain some activities will be transferred to the village hall (not the bouncy castle).

**Climbing Wall** for 8+, or under 8's if accompanied by an adult. Suitable clothing and footwear should be worn, no sharp objects allowed. The climbing wall can be used when the surface is wet or when it is raining, but is at the discretion of the leaders if the session is to continue.

The Parish Council has paid for these two activities but there will be no charge to users. So please do try to come and enjoy these facilities.

## Village Walk

This is a walk around Ticknall to really **look** at our village, to enable us to see what improvements can be made for the benefit of us all. But we want it to be a social occasion and if it is a fine day it should be very pleasant. It will take place on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June starting at 1.30pm from the Village Hall. Please contact either Dale Wolsey (863773) or Gill Holt (863493) if you would like to join us. You are not committed if you change your mind nearer the time.

## **Annual Report & Accounts 2006/07 ANNUAL REPORT MAY 2007**

In the year 1<sup>st</sup> April 2006 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007 the Parish Council has achieved a great deal. We have influenced Derbyshire County Council in their decision to move the 30mph sign on Ingleby Lane further out of the village to include the entrance to the Village Hall thereby making this entrance slightly less hazardous and also hopefully this will slow down the traffic coming into Ticknall on Ingleby Lane.

We have provided four new kissing gates along footpath Number 8 that is situated between the village hall car park past the back of St. George's Church, then behind the Grange playing field. We hope that these gates make walking easier for those parishioners who found the stiles hard to climb over.

We have, for some time now, been in correspondence with Derbyshire County Council on the subject of speeding traffic along Main Street, and as result of site meetings the County Council has agreed to install a temporary flashing 30mph sign at the Derby end of the village, similar to that on Ashby Road. We are pleased about this development because we have found that the Ashby Road sign works well and hopefully the new sign will be as effective in making drivers think how fast they are driving.

The Parish Council has been consulted by South Derbyshire District Council on 48 planning applications over the year, and has objected to very few of these and passed their views onto SDDC which has the powers to grant or refuse plans.

The Parish Council office has always been in the Clerk's home and because of the enormous amount of files needed the Village Hall Committee has agreed to store some of the Parish Council files in the village hall and hopefully in the future the hall can be used as a Parish Council office. This is what Parish Council ultimately would like to see come about. At the moment the village hall, being the only public community building in the village is fully used, but the committee has not ruled out the possibility of the Parish Council renting facilities in the building in the long term future. All of the very old files, including minutes etc dating back to before 1900 have been archived in the County Council's Archives Department and these can be viewed at any time by interested parties.

We hope to arrange a Village Walk in the very near future to enable the Parish Council to establish what the village requires for the community.

At the recent Parish Council election a new councillors were elected. The Parish Council would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Julie Tibbert on being elected in addition to Stefan Green, Gill Holt, Richard Parker, David Shepherd and Dale Wolsey. There were 8 councillors standing for a Parish Council consisting of 6 members. We commiserate with Malcolm Turner and Richard Arnold who were the unlucky two that were not elected. The turnout at 62.5% was exceptional and we are pleased that we have an electorate in Ticknall that obviously considers the election of the Parish Council to be very important to them.

Another very important item during the last year was the Parish Council's application to become a Quality Council. This application will be considered by the panel at the end of May. We hope to be successful, among the necessary requirements is a qualified Clerk, 80% elected council, we now have 100% elected, and an efficient council that looks after the needs of its community, and one that is transparent and open. One of the most important changes the Parish Council has made is the introduction of its newsletter which we hope keeps you all informed, we have also established a website and recently we have changed our email address to [enquiries@ticknallparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@ticknallparishcouncil.co.uk)

Also included in this report are the accounts year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007, that have been audited by the internal auditor and are now to be sent to the Audit Commission. These accounts and all the supporting documents relating to the accounts can be inspected by any member of the electorate between the dates of 31<sup>st</sup> May and 28<sup>th</sup> June at any reasonable time arranged with the Clerk. You also can exercise your rights as electors with regard to the annual accounts of the Parish Council and question the Audit Commission about any items in the accounts under the Audit Commission Act 1998 and the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003 by contacting the Audit Commission, in writing, at the following address on or after the 10<sup>th</sup> July 2007.

Dina Pejcinovic  
Audit Commission  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Middlebrook  
Horwich  
Bolton  
BL6 6QQ  
01204 877300

Summary of Accounts: 1<sup>st</sup> April 2006 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007, sent to Audit Commission.

Balance Brought Forward	£4219
Annual Precept	£11000
Total Other Receipts	£6364
Staff Costs	£2025
Loans	Nil
Total Other Payments	£10047
Balances Carried Forward	£9511
Total Cash & Investments	£9511
Total Fixed Assets	Nil
Total Borrowings	Nil

### **Chairman's Overview of the Annual Report**

I would like to start by congratulating Celia Bunston, your Parish Council Clerk, on gaining her professional qualification which has enabled the Parish Council to apply for Quality Status. Her achievement has entailed a lot of additional hard work, and the award is not gained easily, as I am sure Celia will testify. I would also like to thank her for all the work she has put in over the last year – each year the workload appears to be rising as a result of the drive to make parish councils more involved as the first tier of government. I would also like to thank my fellow councillors for their support and contributions throughout the year. And I would also like to thank Richard Arnold who is no longer a councillor and wish him every success for the future.

Once again the Newsletter has kept you informed of what has been happening, as well as providing you with reference information in case you should need it. I am therefore just going to touch on the highlights from the past year's activities.

The bus service problems seemed to settle down in the second half of last year but recently the problem has reared its head again with the route and timing changes of both the 68 and 69 buses. Having been tipped off that changes were in the offing, I was very disappointed that we were unable to find out what was happening until the timetables were published, despite Celia telephoning Arriva well in advance. The intention was to have included the gist of the changes in the February/March newsletter.

The Highways Inquiry for the proposed move of the Rose Lane blocking piece took far too much time, but is an example of what can happen when a highways authority does not apply the rules fairly. As far as we know the Inquiry Chairman, Mr Jack Moffett, submitted his report to the Secretary of State on time towards the end of October last year, but as yet there has been no decision. I would like to think that this bodes well for us, but it may just be that the paperwork is in a queue while more important decisions are made.

In last year's highlights I mentioned that we were seeking planning permission to erect netting on the Grange recreation ground to prevent balls going into Mr & Mrs Musson's property. In the event the planning approval came with conditions which would have materially affected the ability of the cricket club to provide a pitch within the rules laid down. I am therefore pleased to report that a compromise has been reached which means that netting will not be erected.

While touching on cricket, I should like to congratulate the Cricket Club on their ever-growing success and John Dumelow in particular on the recognition he has been given for his long-standing chairmanship of the club.

We have finally got the money to fund a maintenance/improvement plan for the Grange and the pavilion. The pavilion has just been painted and we will progressively attend to the condition of the hedges and fences.

I want to say a few words about the financial position, over and above those which have been written in the newsletter. Having now got the benefit of 2 years at the higher precept level, we are now in a position to make modest improvements in the village. I have already mentioned the Grange and pavilion maintenance; we have also paid for road planings to resurface the Grange car park, and we have paid 50% towards replacing some old, broken stiles with kissing gates (Derbyshire County Council have provided the other 50%). We have also just bought our own computer and some support for it, so that Celia can keep everything on a dedicated machine. At this point I would like to thank Bill, Celia's husband for the support he has given over the years, particularly on the computing front, and I hope that he will find this less necessary in the future.

I have already thanked the Parish Council team. During the past year we have received excellent support from our District Councillors and County Councillors and I would like to express my sincere thanks to them as well, especially to Ray Jones and Roy Bell who are no longer on the District Council. I am hoping that we get similar unstinting support from their successors, Michael Stanton and Pat Murray.

Finally I would like to thank all of you for your contributions to running the village, and for the feedback we have been getting on some of the initiatives we have started. And I would like to thank Julie Tibbert and Malcolm Turner for their nominations as well as all the returning councillors. It is important, as I said to Village Voice, that elections are held and I therefore

thank you all for making the election possible, and I hope that it will not prevent others from standing in 4 years time. I also thank the whole parish for the excellent turnout on the day – 62.5% is remarkable. But please don't let this stop you from talking to us, making suggestions etc. We are here to serve you and we want to ensure that you have your say in prioritising improvements in the village.

Looking forward I hope that our quest to obtain Quality Status is successful, that the Village Walk is well supported and yields useful insights into what residents want, that the village continues to be our pride and joy, and that in 4 years time we are again able to have a contested election.

#### **Highways Inquiry – Rose Lane**

There is nothing to report on this matter yet.

#### **Biodegradable bin liners**

Biodegradable bin liners to put into your brown bins and the small brown caddies that we were provided with by SDDC, are available from the village shop. I have purchased some and have been using these since the middle of April and I have found them to be very successful. It means that you can collect household waste in the biodegradable bag and put the waste, including the bag, into the outside brown bin without any mess. Also, the large liner inside of the big brown bin keeps the bin very clean.

#### **Overhanging Shrubbery**

We mentioned this in a previous newsletter. Please if you have shrubbery that overhangs the footpath or the road would you please cut it back, otherwise the County Council will ensure it is done but charge you.

#### **Parish Councillors' details are as follows:**

Stefan Green (Chairman)  
4 Harpur Avenue  
Ticknall  
DE73 7JS Tel: 863153  
Email: [green.Ticknall@talk21.com](mailto:green.Ticknall@talk21.com)

Richard Parker (Vice Chairman)  
10 Harpur Avenue  
Ticknall  
DE73 7JS Tel: 862925

Gill Holt  
The Laurels  
Main Street  
Ticknall Tel: Tel: 863493

Dale Wolsey  
29 Chapel Street  
Ticknall

DE73 7JY Tel: 863773  
Email: [dale.Wolsey@btinternet.com](mailto:dale.Wolsey@btinternet.com)

David Shepherd  
The Firs  
High Street  
Ticknall  
DE73 7JH Tel: 864788  
Email: [dgshepherd@btinternet.com](mailto:dgshepherd@btinternet.com)

Julie Tibbert  
Willowbrook  
Ashby Road  
Ticknall  
DE73 7JJ Tel: 862520

Celia Bunston - Clerk to the Parish Council  
4 Slade Farm  
Rose Lane  
Ticknall Tel: 865226  
Email: [enquiries@ticknallparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@ticknallparishcouncil.co.uk)  
Website: [www.ticknall.org.uk](http://www.ticknall.org.uk)

#### **District Councillors details:**

Michael Stanton  
Ladyacre House  
Ingleby Lane  
Ticknall  
DE73 7JQ Tel: 07768010251

Patrick Murray  
1 Lichfield Avenue  
Midway  
Swadlincote  
Derbyshire  
DE11 7LQ Tel: 01283 219689  
Mobile: 07762648098

#### **County Councillor details:**

County Councillor Alan Jones  
01283 217140  
Email: [alan.jones@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:alan.jones@derbyshire.gov.uk)

#### **Local MP – Note change of address:**

Mark Todd MP  
37 Belmont Street  
Church Gresley  
Swadlincote  
Derbyshire  
DE11 8JU  
Tel: 01283 551573  
Fax: 01283 210640  
Email: [markwtodd@btconnect.com](mailto:markwtodd@btconnect.com)  
Website: [www.marktodd.org.uk](http://www.marktodd.org.uk)

#### **Police**

**0845 123 333 or in an emergency 999**