

TICKNALL PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Issue 3 – September 2005

Welcome to our 3rd newsletter

Date of next meeting: 18th October 2005 at 7.30pm preceded by a surgery at 7.00 pm

The surgery is a half hour period where you can come to discuss any matter with a parish councillor in private, so that he can bring the matter to the council at the meeting if this is what you would want.

After picking up on some points received from our last newsletter we believe that it would be useful for the villagers to know and understand the various authorities and contact details for these.

South Derbyshire District Council: you can contact their Clean Team on 01283 221000 if you see any dumped materials that you would like to see removed. These items must be on the highway, not on private land.

Derbyshire County Council can be contacted if you spot a pothole in the road you can telephone 01629 580000 to report this and you should receive a quick response.

If you notice that a streetlight has failed then you should note its number (on the post) and then you should telephone Derbyshire County Council 01629 580000. You can email the Clerk and we will report it but it would be useful if you could supply the street light number.

If foliage, trees or bushes are obstructing your passage on the footpaths you can telephone Derbyshire County Council on 01629 500000.

The police beat officer for Ticknall can be contacted on 07711 734432.

Highway and footway safety

Please remember that if your property's boundary is on the highway or a public footway and you have foliage overhanging either the road/road signs/or footways it is the property

owner's responsibility to keep these cut back. It is sometimes very difficult to pass bushes on narrow footways and especially the passage of a pushchair or wheelchair, and this can be particularly dangerous for pedestrians when the path is adjacent to a very busy road. Also, often road signs and speed limit signs become obscured. If it is necessary for Derbyshire County Council to come out to deal with the overhanging foliage they will ask the property owner to pay for the service.

Website

The Parish Council is investigating the possibility of having its own website where you should be able to read agendas, minutes and newsletters etc, or any other topic that is of interest to the parish.

Proposed War Memorial

In the last newsletter we asked you to give your views about whether you were in favour of a public war memorial for Ticknall. The response from 300 households was 30 for and 3 against. We will pass these views onto the Millennium Association, the organisation that was interested in the views of the parishioners.

Quality Council status

We hope to apply in early 2006 for Quality Council status. This will depend on achieving the standard mandatory and discretionary requirements. These will need to show that the Parish Council provides the residents with quality staff who have professional qualifications, good quality representation of the community, services, partnerships and good communications. This will include getting our website up and running.

Neighbourhood Watch

After making enquiries we were able to establish that there is one part of the village with an active neighbourhood watch, this is Church Lane/Grange Close. Two of the residents there attend support group meetings

and keep the other residents informed, on a very informal basis. It works well and we are suggesting to you that if any other villager would be interested in coordinating the section of the village where you live you should contact the Derbyshire & South Derbyshire Neighbourhood Support Group. The telephone number to use if you are interested is 01332 613043 or contact Phil Marriott at South Derbyshire District Council on 01283 221000. A new website has been launched by the Home Office to provide the Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators and others with a range of useful information, tools and resources. The site provides visitors with everything they need to know about setting up and running a scheme, as well as ideas on how to tackle the fear of crime in their local communities:

www.neighbourhoodwatch.uk.com

Summary of Minutes from meeting on 6th September 2005

Councillor Holt and the Clerk had attended a Parish Liaison meeting at South Derbyshire District Council and the Clerk reported that the method of financing the Parishes to do work on behalf of SDDC was being revised. This money (called Section 136) may be reduced, increased (unlikely) or even stopped. Any change could affect the precept (local tax) that the Parish Council sets to serve Ticknall. There will be an interim meeting at SDDC in October where further information should be provided. The other agenda item at the meeting was anti social behaviour. Councillor Holt attended and reported that SDDC have anti social behaviour officers who work closely with police and Derbyshire County Council Youth Services to nip anti social behaviour in the bud. If a parishioner telephones SDDC 01283 221000 with a problem they will assess what course of action to take. They have also arranged two training sessions in October for Parish Councillors to attend. Councillor Holt will try to attend one of these.

An increase in the fixtures for the use of the Grange and Pavilion was discussed and it was agreed that an increase is necessary because the

Parish Council is funding too much of the running costs. Section 136, Fixtures fees and the Parish, meets these costs. South Derbyshire District Council has also advised the Parish Council that a review of the rent for the Pavilion (currently at a peppercorn) is due. It is now five years since we took on the 25-year lease. We however are opposed to any increase because we were led to believe at the time of the negotiation of the lease that the peppercorn rent would last for the length of the lease on the condition that SDDC could use the facilities free of charge occasionally. If the rent were increased then the fixtures would have to be increased again.

A member of the public sent a letter to the Parish Council complaining about the cleanliness of one of the bus shelters in Ticknall. The bus shelter cleaning is the responsibility of South Derbyshire District Council who reported on enquiry that a contractor cleanses these monthly. It is useful to the Parish Council for members of the public to alert it to this sort of problem and we would take this up on your behalf. However, you can ring the District Council on 01283 221000 to request that the Clean Team comes out to do spot cleaning. The District Council are interested when people report this sort of problem to them because they employ cleansing companies to do the work on their behalf and they want to know if it is being done properly.

Finally, we intend to have about four newsletters a year. These will come out quarterly in March/June/September/December. If any parishioner or group would like to put information into the newsletter please let the Clerk know and we will try to accommodate you.

Celia Bunston
Clerk to the Council
4 Slade Farm, Ticknall, DE73 7LB
01332 865226

celiabunston@btinternet.com

NewsletterSept05