



## ***CLENT PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2007***

CHAIRMAN - COUNCILLOR ED SHEPPARD

CLERK TO THE COUNCIL  
PAT HARRIS  
TEL: 01562 886269

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Welcome to this our second newsletter for the current financial year. Our aim is to produce four per annum to comply with the criteria for Quality Parish Status.

So far the year has been very busy with the ongoing undertaking to try and provide Affordable Housing within the Parish and the Infill Project for the proposed Cricket Pitch.

The Council is always pleased to see residents at its meetings and to hear about issues which affect its electorate. This year has seen many more in attendance, which is very gratifying for the Council rather than an empty room. The public half hour held prior to the business of the meeting gives those in attendance to address the Council and this enables the Council to be sure that it is engaging with its local community.

### **BOUNDARY HEDGES**

This year has been a year of exceptional growth for trees, hedges and shrubs and the Council is constantly receiving complaints about those which overhang the footways and roads. Residents, be aware that these can be dangerous, especially for pedestrians. As landowners the Council would ask you to please **check your boundary** and ensure that any growth is trimmed back to your legal fence, wall or hedge boundary.

### **PACT (POLICE AND COMMUNITY TOGETHER) FOLLOW-UP MEETING MONDAY, 12<sup>TH</sup>. NOVEMBER 2007 AT THE PARISH HALL, CLENT AT 7.00P.M.**

All residents of Clent Parish are invited to attend. The Police and other agencies will report on the progress made on issues raised at the previous meeting. There will also be the opportunity to raise other matters affecting you and the community as a whole.

### **NOTICE BOARDS**

These are very well used by the community and help to dispense information regarding events and meetings taking place. A replacement board has been ordered for Walton Pool and one or two of the others, which are in desperate need of refurbishment, are in line for a facelift.

### **PLANNING**

It is uncanny how many applications are received during August! The Planning Committee had to meet during the month to discuss several unusual applications, for example:-

A Medical Unit at Hurrans Garden Centre and a Clinic for Non Invasive Treatment at No. 2 Kidderminster Road.

We were delighted that the planning applications for new dwellings in Western Road were dismissed by the Planning Inspector.

### **NEW SIGNS**

Several new signs have been installed, which we are sure you will agree, look extremely attractive. Many thanks to Mr. Collingwood for installing these on our behalf. Please let the Council know of any other signs required e.g. 'No Parking'.

## **PLAY AREAS**

If you remember when the survey was carried out for the Parish Plan a request was made for a play area around the Pinewoods Avenue/Newfield Road area. The Council is pursuing a feasibility study for land availability for this facility and will keep you informed of any progress as and when it occurs.

It is with great sadness, that evidence has been found of drug taking at both the Playing Field and the Recreation Area. It was felt important to bring this matter to the attention of parents so that you can keep a close eye on your children.

Glass bottles have also been found, deliberately smashed in the bark at the foot of the very well used toddler climbing frame and play slide.

The Council has received a request from some young people of the Parish to look into the possibility of providing a BMX Track on the Recreation Site off Pool Furlong. If you, especially the young people, have any comments to make, please contact the Clerk.

## **COUNTY COUNCILLOR/DISTRICT COUNCILLOR**

It has been very helpful having both these principal authority members serving on the Parish Council. County Councillor Ed Moore has helped with the repair of some of the most severe pot-holes around the parish and is also vigorously pursuing the implementation of the 30mph flashing speed signs along the Bromsgrove Road.

District Councillor Margaret Sherrey, has helped us with planning matters and, as Portfolio Holder for the Waste and Street Scene at Bromsgrove District Council, is always available for helping organize the removal of fly-tipping and advise on the waste bin collection issues

## **HIGHWAYS**

A replacement bench has been installed in St Leonard's Square as the one supplied by Sunfield Children's Home eventually became unsafe.

Our Lengthsman, Mr. Hill, has been kept busy this year with clearing out of drains following the heavy storms that caused flash flooding in some parts. As far as the Council is aware properties in Newfield Road and Vine Lane were affected.

If you know of any blocked drains please tell him if you see him around or contact the Clerk.

## **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

The Council is pleased to report that, at the 31<sup>st</sup>. August 2007, it is within its budgetary target, having received 48% of its income projection and spending is 45%.

The 2006/07 External Audit was a full audit as Clent was chosen as one of the random 5%. This was completed satisfactorily with no problems raised.

## **COUNCILLORS**

**Derek Faraday.....Planning Committee Chairman**

**Mrs. Marion Hobbs**

**Steven Malek..... Vice Chairman**

**Edward Moore.....(Also County Councillor)**

**David Muggeridge.....Parish Paths Warden**

**Ed Sheppard.....Chairman**

**Mrs. Margaret Sherrey.....(Also District Councillor)**

**John Skelding.....Tree Officer**

**David Waldron**

## **MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT**

Our MP Julie Kirkbride is always willing to help if you have an issue that cannot be solved locally. Please write to her at the House of Parliament. **The Council has received details of the legal position regarding the excessively noisy fireworks. If anyone would like this information please contact the Clerk.**