



Lapley, Stretton
& Wheaton Aston
Parish Council

News & Views

Summer 2015

Witnesses Sought

Trees were damaged, a bin was uprooted (including the concrete base) and a fire lit (possibly with an aerosol can) on one of the skatepark ramps at Marston Road Playing Field during the week commencing 20th July.

The damage to the skatepark could cost thousands of pounds to repair as a section may need to be replaced.

These actions will have taken considerable time and effort and someone must have seen them.



A project is being created to improve security at the field but in the meantime, if you know who caused the damage, please call the police on 101 quoting incident number 644 of 26th July 2015.

Parish Council Meetings

Please see below for the dates of forthcoming Parish Council meetings:

- 03 September 2015 – Village Hall
- 01 October 2015 - Village Hall
- 05 November 2015 – Village Hall
- 10 December 2015 - TBA
- 07 January 2016 - TBA
- 04 February 2016 – Village Hall
- 03 March 2016 – Village Hall

All meetings begin at 7.30pm with public participation, where members of the public have the opportunity to ask questions of the council and raise issues. After this they may stay and observe the rest of the meeting.

Why not come and see your Parish Council in action? They consider planning applications, playing fields, licensing applications, street furniture, local crime issues, Christmas lights, parking, highways issues and much more.

Recruiting Bell Ringers A challenging and healthy activity



The bells of All Saints, Lapley, have rung out for most of the past 40 years for joyous and sad occasions as well as on Sunday mornings. They now need to seek new recruits to increase the number of ringers and to pass on the knowledge and expertise to future generations.

Bell ringing is a combination of mental and physical activities that contribute to health and well-being and which also offers a social and enjoyable hobby.

It is possible to learn to ring bells at any age as no great strength is required but, as with any activity needing a combination of mental and physical co-ordination, it is probably best learnt when in the 20 to 50 age range.

If you happen to be a 'lapsed ringer', brought about by a house move or some other change in personal situation, Our local group would be happy to help you back into the swing again.

They practice every Thursday from 7.45pm to 9.15pm so, if you are interested, please join them to find out how interesting a hobby it can be. Access to All Saints on practice nights is via the chancel side door down the green path to the right of the church. After dark, torches are advisable!

Alternatively phone 01785 841016 and speak to Lyn Tonge who will arrange to meet you at the side door and make necessary introductions. If you decide to learn to ring initial tuition is given separately, at a mutually agreed time, to small groups to acquire the basic bell handling skills before attending normal practices.

Another question often asked is "Do the ringers have to stay to services?" The answer to this is 'no' but you are welcome to do so. It is all up to one's personal beliefs and wishes. Currently some do and some don't, but they all enjoy good relations with our Rector who is very appreciative of their efforts. A warm welcome awaits you.

How to Report Problems & Concerns

The parish council is happy to forward complaints and concerns of local residents to the relevant authorities but it is usually quicker to report matters direct. Below are some examples of how to get action as quickly as possible:

Contact Staffordshire Highways for:

- Potholes
- Lighting columns not working
- Traffic lights out of action
- Drain covers missing
- Problems with pavements or kerbs
- Overgrown hedges

Call 0300 111 8000

Email highways@staffordshire.gov.uk

Use "My Staffs" app

Contact South Staffordshire Council for:

- Dog fouling
- Fly tipping
- Issues relating to licensing, such as alcohol, taxis & food
- Public health concerns
- Litter
- Overgrown/untidy alleyways
- Problems on grass verges within villages

Call 01902 696000

Use "My Staffs" app

Contact First Response:

- If you have serious concerns about the safety of a child or young person up to the age of 18.
- If you think a child or young person is being harmed or is at risk of being harmed.
- Worried that a child is living in circumstances where they are treated badly and not cared for properly.

Call 0800 1313 126

(Mon - Thurs 8.30am – 5.00pm, Fri 8.30am to 4.30pm)

0845 604 2886 (Emergency out of hours number)

Email firstr@staffordshire.gov.uk

Contact the police immediately:

- If you see a crime taking place.

Call 999

Contact the police:

- If you wish to report a crime after it has happened.
- If you have information relating to a crime.

Call 101

Contact the Police:

- If you consider something or someone to be suspicious or connected with terrorism.

Call 0800 789 321

BKV Success



Congratulations to all three villages for their success in this year's Best Kept Village Competition. Wheaton Aston was Highly Commended in the large villages category, Stretton was Highly Commended in the small villages category and Lapley came 3rd in the small villages category.

Thank you to all of the members of the BKV Working Group for their hard work and to everyone who turned out for the village tidy ups in April and May. If you would like to get involved in next year's competition, please contact the Parish Council Manager on 01785 841639 or office@wheatonastonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Cooks for the Day Centre Needed

Every Monday, the Wheaton Aston and Lapley Old People's Welfare run a day centre from 10.00am – 2.30pm in the village hall for housebound and disabled residents or for pensioners who live alone, where a hot two course lunch is provided, followed by a game of bingo. There are currently 4 teams of cooks and helpers who cook and serve the meals so this would mean that you would only have to come once a month. If you could spare some time to join one of the teams to help with the cooking, you would be most welcome. If you would like more details, please contact Angie Hassell on 01785 841024.

V Festival 2015

V-Festival is almost upon us. The parish council liaises with South Staffordshire Council and neighbouring parish councils regarding traffic & policing arrangements as well as noise and licensing matters to ensure that any concerns from our residents are heard.

If you have concerns regarding the V Festival call the community liaison line number: 07879 884454.

If you experience any problems during the festival you can call 0161 944 1338. Please note this is a local charge only.

Voluntary Car Scheme

The Brewood and District Voluntary Car Scheme organises lifts for local villagers, usually the elderly or housebound, who have no transport of their own but need to get to doctors surgeries, clinics or hospital appointments.

Could you help? Could you spare a few hours a week or even a month?

You really can contribute as little or as much as you like, on whatever days of the week that suit you or simply subject to your availability at a given time. Please give it some thought – all travelling expenses are refunded and you may be surprised to find just how enjoyable it is.

Please phone 01902 851786 between 9.30am – 12.30pm weekdays for more information.

Jeremy Lefroy MP Advice Surgery

To contact Jeremy, call 01785 252477 or email jeremy.lefroy.mp@parliament.uk

30th October 2015 3-4pm

Wheaton Aston Village Hall

Call 01785 252477 for an appointment

News From The Church

Even though we did not hold the Church Fete this summer (more about that later!) we have still had a busy summer of events. It was a great time in the parish if you enjoy afternoon tea! Firstly at All Saints' there was a celebration of the 800th anniversary of the signing of the Magna Carta which included lots of medieval fun, not least throwing wet sponges at Rev Rachel in the stocks, and afternoon tea.

More tea and cakes appeared at the end of June when Messy Church celebrated Big Ted's birthday with a picnic in St. Mary's Churchyard (yes, the sun did shine!) Then there was an invasion of scarecrows in and around Lapley; there was a trail to follow to see all the scarecrows, filling in quiz sheets, finishing up at the church for tea and cakes.

In July there was also delicious Greek food on offer at 'A Taste of Greece' provided by The Clarke family. Finally in July students from Wolgarston School came to the village offering refreshments and pampering to all for their Community Day. Thank you to all of you who came and supported these events, but especially to those who gave their time, effort and talents to make them all happen.

The pattern of services at Wheaton Aston has now reverted back to having a service every Sunday morning at 10.30am; as we have the benefit of Rev Linda's retirement ministry, we no longer need to move one service each month to the evening slot. However.... we have decided to continue to have an extra service on the first Sunday of each month at 6.30pm at St. Mary's. This service will take different formats to offer experience of different styles of worship. So far we have had a Taize style service (from the Taize community in France), and a service of quiet reflection. The next one, on September 6th will be a service of Celtic Evening Prayer.

Harvest is an important time in our rural community, and Harvest Praise will be on October 4th at 6.30pm at All Saints'. On October 11th at 10.30am there will be a service of Family Communion for Harvest at St. Mary's. In addition, St. Mary's First School bring their harvest gifts and celebrate their service in St. Mary's Church. The date is not available at present, but will be on the notice boards outside the churches; everyone is welcome to come and join the school service, as well as the traditional Sunday ones.

There will be a Benefice Meeting on September 19th in St. Mary's Church, to pray and discuss the work of our four churches, and if you are looking for a respite from the hurly burly of daily life, there is a Benefice Quiet Day on October 17th also in St. Mary's and a Quiet Garden Day at Gatherwynd, the home of Pam and David Pritchard at Blymhill Common. There are leaflets at the back of church giving information about the quiet Garden Days.

This year we are having an Autumn Fayre on 12th September in St. Mary's Church and grounds (weather permitting!) There will be lots of stalls and games including a new one for this autumn, offering home-made jams, pickles and chutneys. The fun begins at 12.00 noon until 4.00pm and sandwich lunches and afternoon teas will be available. Please watch Grapevine and Church Notice Boards, as well as future issues of News and Views for further information nearer the time.

The Lapley Church Restoration Fund (LCRF) continues to work to upgrade the facilities at All Saints' Church. The next event is an Organ Recital on 19th September at 7.30pm in All Saints' Church. Tickets are £5, to include canapés and a glass of wine, available from Margaret Holmes - 840241, Margaret Kelly - 840562 and Janet Fox - 840334.

The LRCF team have published their latest booklet entitled Memories of Yesteryear recording day to day memories and

social history of the parish. These are available from the team members and at LCRF events. Although the booklet has been published, if there are any other memories, anecdotes or stories you have not yet contributed, there may be a second volume if enough material can be gathered. Please contact Barbara Holt - 840258, Margaret Holmes - 840241, or Janet Fox - 840334.

The Village Choir are performing in St. Mary's Church on October 24th at 7.30pm. Tickets (available shortly) will be £10 to include finger buffet, cake, and a glass of wine or fruit juice, as well as entertainment from our own village nightingales!

The Drop In continues every Wednesday morning from 10.00am-12 noon in St. Mary's Church. Come along and have a chat and a cuppa, and internet access is available as well as on Tuesdays, church computers and help is always on hand for the 'technically terrified'

There is a Service of Healing and Wholeness in St Mary's Church at 7.30pm on September 16th and every Third Wednesday of the month, to which everyone is welcome. This service is quiet and less formal, and we pray for ourselves, those we care for and our wider community. If you would like to know more, there are leaflets in both churches. For more information about any services, events or other matters please contact

Revd. Rachel Dale on 01785 840395,
rachel.livesey@googlemail.com

Telford Bus Dates 2015

Sept 17th, Oct, 22nd, Nov 19th & Dec 17th

To book a seat, ring Tony or David at Stafford Coaches on 01785 600786. Limited funding means only a 16 seater coach can be provided so please book your seat early. This service is free.

Brewood Library

Monday: Closed
Tuesday: 9.00am - 1.00pm / 2.00pm - 7.00pm
Wednesday: 9.00am - 1.00pm / 2.00pm - 5.00pm
Thursday: 9.00am - 1.00pm / 2.00pm - 5.00pm
Friday: 9.00am - 1.00pm / 2.00pm - 5.00pm
Saturday: 9.30am - 1.00pm
Sunday: Closed

Call 01902 850087 for more details

Mobile Library Service

Wheaton Aston

17 August, 7 September, 28 September, 19 October, 9 November, 30 November, 21 December, 11 January

Hartley Arms	10.00am -11.25am
St. Mary's Church	11.30am -12.40pm
Old School Court	12.45pm - 1.15pm
Ivetsey Close	2.05pm - 2.30pm
St. Mary's First School	2.35pm - 4.00pm

Lapley

19 August, 9 September, 30 September, 21 October, 11 November, 2 December, 23 December, 13 January

Bickford Close 1.25pm – 2.10pm

Lapley Stretton & Wheaton Aston Charity

The above charity is looking for applications for grants. Grants are available for people in need, charity organisations and educational purposes. If you feel you would be entitled to a grant for example to help in an educational course ring Roy Wright 01785 840342,

Queen's Award for Voluntary Service 2016

This prestigious UK National Honour, which has an equivalent status to the MBE, recognises the exceptional contributions made to local communities by groups voluntarily devoting their time for the benefit of others. Groups can be nominated by friends, family, members of the public or local authorities.

Online nominations can be made at any time during the year by visiting <https://qavs.direct.gov.uk/> although for those wishing to be considered for the 2016 Award, completed online forms must be submitted to the Awards Office by Friday 18 September 2015.

The importance of volunteer groups is all the more apparent in the current climate and we need to do all we can to help recognise those doing outstanding work in their local communities. If you know a group that fits the criteria, please either nominate them yourself or encourage them to complete a form and send the nomination in to the Queen's Award Office.

Christmas is a coming...



This year's Christmas lights switch on is set for Saturday 28th November. If your community group or business would like an outdoor stall, if you would like to volunteer as a steward or even perform on stage, please contact the Parish Council Manager on 01785 841639 (office@wheatonastonparishcouncil.gov.uk) or come to the Christmas Lights Working Group meeting at 7.30pm on Thursday 24th September at the Parish Council office (at the rear of St. Mary's First School).

News & Views

If you would like to submit an article to be included in News & Views, please email it in a word document, with pictures if possible to office@wheatonastonparishcouncil.gov.uk.

The deadlines for the next two issues are as follows:

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Deadline</u>	<u>Delivery</u>
Autumn	25 th September	w/c 12 th October
Winter	18 th December	w/c 11 th January

Carnival Fun

The Parish Council would like to thank Rob Scott and the rest of the Carnival Committee for the wonderful carnival that took place on 11th July. The whole village was able to enjoy a wide range of activities and it was lovely to see the floats travelling through the village.

If the carnival is to be enjoyed again next year, the committee urgently need new volunteers. Please contact Rob on 07595 538 463 or roadie3009@hotmail.co.uk if you think you could help to make it happen in 2016.

High Street Post Box

The post box outside the former post office is no longer in operation. The nearest post box is on the corner of Greenhill Lane & Long Street.

If you would like to complain about the loss of this post box and/or can suggest a location for a replacement post box please contact the Royal Mail on 03457 740740 (Monday – Friday 8am to 6pm, Saturday 8am to 1pm and Sun 9am to 2pm.)

Your Council

Chairman
Mrs. B. J. Cox 01785 841639
b.cox@wheatonastonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Vice-Chairman
Mr. A. Richardson 01785 841257
a.richardson@wheatonastonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Mr. D. Crudginton 01785 841620
d.crudginton@wheatonastonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Mr. P. Elson 01785 840443
p.elson@wheatonastonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Mr. M. Fox 01785 840334
m.fox@wheatonastonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Mr. H. Jones 01785 747693
h.jones@wheatonastonparishcouncil.gov.uk
[@wmashuwjones](#)

Mr. T. Noblett 01785 840927
t.noblett@wheatonastonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Mr. M. Griffiths 01785 712534
m.griffiths@wheatonastonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Mr. P. Timson 01785 841639
p.timson@wheatonastonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Mr. B. Wells 01902 850343
b.wells@wheatonastonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Ms. S. Whittingham 01785 841225
s.whittingham@wheatonastonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Parish Council Manager
Mrs. D. Bate 01785 841639
office@wheatonastonparishcouncil.gov.uk
Twitter: [@WAParish](#)
Facebook: Lapley, Stretton & Wheaton Aston Parish Council

Useful Contacts

Jeremy Lefroy MP 01785 252477
jeremy.lefroy.mp@parliament.uk

County Councillor Mark Sutton 01902 851682
mark.sutton@staffordshire.gov.uk

District Councillor Roy Wright 01785 840342
r.wright@sstaffs.gov.uk

District Councillor Brian Cox 01785 840482
b.cox@sstaffs.gov.uk

South Staffordshire Council 01902 696000
www.sstaffs.gov.uk

Staffordshire County Council 0300 111 8000
www.staffordshire.gov.uk

Police 101
www.staffordshirepolice.org.uk

Crimestoppers 0800 555 111
www.crimestoppers-uk.org

To report potholes, damaged roads or pavements, or problems with lighting columns and road signs contact:
Highways 0300 111 8000
highways@staffordshire.gov.uk
or download the "My Staffordshire" app