



Chairman  
Cllr. Barry Shaw  
01782 394922



Clerk to F.P.C.  
Martin J. Manley  
01889 563546

## Parish Council News

### Chairman's Report

This report should be my last as Council chairman, as my term of office for 2007-2008 ends at our AGM in May, when a new Chairman will be elected.

The Parish Office, which is situated within the Meir Heath and Rough Close village hall building (Grange Road, Meir Heath) is open as usual on each Monday (except Bank Holidays) from 11am until 1pm. It is hoped that the number of days each week, and the hours of opening, will increase in the near future. This should follow the appointment of a new Clerk to Fulford Parish Council, as stated previously. As we go to press, applicants for the position of Clerk have been interviewed, and the appointment is being progressed.

The Parish Plan is now complete, printed, and soon to be distributed, although because of costs, the distribution will be restricted. However a copy of the plan will be held in the

parish office for those residents wishing to read it, or to check on future progress towards the implementation of its proposals.

“Quality Status” for the Parish Council is still our objective although progress has been restricted by our failure to meet certain criteria for accreditation, which we propose to address as soon as possible. The council will elaborate more on this in future issues of the “Newsletter”.

The Council has applied for the same amount of money (the precept) as last year - £45,000 – to cover the anticipated parish expenditure for the financial year 2008/09. This will enable us to meet our commitments, help to limit the increases in Council Tax, and maintain a healthy working balance of the Council's funds.

Finally, we wish all parishioners a very Happy Easter

The applicants for the position of Parish Clerk have been interviewed and the replacement chosen for our present Clerk, Martin Manley, following his decision to retire from office at the end of April 2008. The successful applicant is Mr. Stephen Beck of Fulford.



**W R BETTELLEY**  
*Funeral Directors*  
**A caring independent family business, est. 1905**

Personal 24 hr service	Nationwide repatriation service
Green and Eco-friendly options	Pre-paid funeral planning
Full advice service and home visits	Floral tributes and catering arrangements
Help with claims from D.S.S. Social Fund	

315 Uttoxeter Rd, **Longton** ST3 5LQ  
Tel: **01782 313542**



**JT Plastering**

Specialising in:

- **Plastering** • **Rendering and Exterior Finishes**
- **Dry Lining and Partitioning** • **Coving work**

**Free Estimates**

For a quick, clean and professional service please call Jamie on  
**Mobile: 07766 222997 Home: 01782 397711**

Spring 2008  
Issue 22



Cllr. Richard  
Mycock  
01782 396869

Cllr. Ken Brayford  
01782 393157

Cllr. Kath Brayford  
01782 393157  
Vice Chairman

Cllr. Ellis Bevan  
01782 393140

Cllr. Shirley Wheat  
01782 395133

## Blythe Bridge Ward News

### Springcroft school

We would like to congratulate Springcroft Primary School for the excellent results they obtained in their SATS. They particularly excelled in maths, science and reading with more than half the children taking part reaching the high standard of level five. I'm sure that you will agree with us that we should also congratulate the staff who work extremely hard with the children to achieve such results.

We hear so much about our failing schools in the county that we in Blythe Bridge are fortunate to have such an excellent school. The head teacher Mrs Malvern and all her staff are to be congratulated on such an excellent school where every child's needs are catered for, not only are their academic needs catered for, but also their personal and emotional development.

The children at Springcroft are also able to experience outdoor activities such as cycle training, theatre visits, visits to outdoor centres, and places of interest. These all help to assist in their all-round development.

### Grass Verges

Grass verges in various areas of the parish are a disgrace. Please park on the road and not on the verges. There are a lot of residents who mow the grass verges and try to keep them tidy. It must be heartbreaking for them to see vehicles parking on them and churning them up. It was reported in the Sentinel that a lady from Blythe Bridge was fined for parking on a grass verge. We will be asking our local community police officer for more information on parking of vehicles on pavements and verges.

### Cars

Make sure you leave nothing on show in a parked car and lock it when you leave it unattended even if it is only for a short time. Several cars have been broken into recently in our area.

### Litter

The amount of litter dropped and dog fouling appears to be getting better. Please continue to use the bins provided.

### Stafford and Rural Homes

If you would like information about Blythe Lodge and Portland Close, or any other

sheltered Housing Schemes owned by Stafford and Rural Homes, please contact the Care & Support Team on 01785 216777.

“Estate Walk About” will be on May 8th meeting in Mayfield Drive at 10am.

#### **ALL RESIDENTS ARE WELCOME**

##### **Adamthwaite and Ridgeway drive**

The anti social behaviour of a minority of young people has not improved during the past three months. The police are continuing to monitor the area and we are hoping that this will help to improve the situation for the residents who live in this area. Please contact PC Ryan or PCSO Halmarack if you have any problems.

##### **Parking**

Parking in Grindley Lane and Ridgeway Drive is continuingly causing problems; please do not park in front of people’s drives or in them. Residents in that area have been unable to leave or gain access to their property because of the irresponsible parking of some people.

##### **Stallington Road / Lane**

We have asked for Horse Awareness signs in this area. There are more and more people these days riding horses in Stallington Lane and the surrounding area. Car Drivers need to be aware of this so that they can lower their speed and give themselves enough room to pass them if they are overtaking.

##### **Creda Site**

We have not received any confirmation at this time of what is happening to the Creda site. People who live close to the Creda site will have received a Neighbour Consultation Letter about the proposed development of this site. The Parish Council has not yet

received the plans from Stafford Borough Council’s planning department. We hope that by the time the next newsletter is issued in the summer we will have some good news to report.

Are you aware Aynsley Special School has been named as one of the secondary schools in Stoke on Trent to close in the re-organisation of schools in the city? Aynsley School is administered by Stoke on Trent Education Authority although the school premises are in the Blythe Bridge ward of Stafford Borough Council. Councillor Bevan and Councillor Mrs Brayford have asked the Parish Council to give their support in the fight to keep this excellent special school open.

##### **A50**

Over the past 10 years the noise caused by the amount of traffic on the A50 between Tesco roundabout and Draycott roundabout has become unbearable. People living adjacent to the A50 can no longer enjoy sitting in their gardens in the summer, or have their windows open because of the intolerable noise level caused by the traffic twenty-four hours a day. There has been a petition for the A50 at Draycott, which is commonly known as the Uttoxeter by pass. We have asked for the A50 to be put on the agenda for the March meeting of the Parish Council. We will be asking for support from Bill Cash, our local MP, to include in his discussion with The Highway Agency and Parliament to include the A50 which runs through our parish. We will be asking for a speed reduction and for some form of barrier to reduce noise levels

Spring 2008  
Issue 22



Cllr. Andrew Lovatt

Cllr. Joy Bennett  
01782 398688

Cllr. B. Malvern  
01782 394793

## Rough Close Ward News

Fencing of the common is now complete with bridal and kissing gates being installed for access to the common. Grazing is seasonal and is due to commence in early May with approximately 15 cattle. We have been informed that they are shy creatures and may hide down at the bottom end of Barlaston common so you may have to track the common to find them! They will be removed from the common in autumn and returned again the following spring.

Whilst writing about the common, may we take this opportunity to dispel some rumours currently being circulated: -

There seems to be an almost deliberate effort by a few to misunderstand this project! Heathland habitat is now extremely rare in the UK. This habitat was created in the past by commoners grazing their livestock and taking wood for fuel. As both these factors are now no longer occurring we have to try and mimic those actions as best we can. Our contractor cuts back tree growth, sprays out bracken and brambles etc... We also make heath scrapes to encourage the spread of heather. The best thing we can do for Heathland is to get the

site grazed as it is such a naturally effective method of restricting grass growth which then allows the spread of Heathland plants.

The common is owned and managed by Stafford Borough Council.

The cost of the fencing/kissing gates/bridal gates and water supply for this project has been met entirely by grants from SITA Trust through the Landfill Communities Fund. (Funding is available to community and environmental improvement projects within ten miles of an active SITA UK landfill site.) We also receive funding through Countryside Stewardship from Natural England. SITA paid about £16K and Natural England about £7K. There have been no costs incurred by Stafford Borough Council or us as residents.

No income will be derived from the fencing of the common. Stafford BC are NOT charging the grazier for the rights to graze the land - It is being done on an entirely voluntary basis.



Cllr. Barry Goodfellow  
01782 399837

Cllr. Barry Shaw  
Chairman  
01782 394922

Cllr. Roy Taylor  
01782 392548

Cllr. N. M. Ralphs

Cllr. M. Baggaley

## Meir Heath Ward News

### Grass Verges –

#### Grindley Lane and Hilderstone Road

The problem of vehicles parking on grass verges looks set to continue following the recent response of the County Council's Highway Department to our request for action. In short they consider that the work required to physically prevent vehicles from being driven onto the grass verges could involve a large number of closely spaced marker posts which would both be unsightly and not cost-effective. It would also present problems for cutting the grass. To replace the grass with tarmac would be expensive, and the loss of the green verges would be detrimental to a semi-rural community. Any ideas?

### Planters

Some planters have been ordered, ready for installation in the spring, and their subsequent planting with flowers and greenery. They will be sited on the grassed areas at Meir Heath crossroads.

### Tree Tidying on Grindley Park

We will be carrying out some pruning, where necessary, on Grindley Park. Pruning will mainly be done on the upper footpath so that the trees do not intrude onto neighbouring properties, and to keep the path clear. One sick tree will have to be removed, and some interplanting will be carried out to ensure the future wellbeing of the park's trees.

### Dog Fouling

Once again we have to return to the dreaded subject! Unfortunately, whilst most dog owners behave immaculately in cleaning up after their pets, there is still a minority who cause potential health problems, as well as making our streets filthy. New, higher penalties are now in place, and we have a policy of prosecution. Please mend your ways!

Spring 2008  
Issue 22



Cllr. Martin Oxby  
01782 397629

Cllr. Frank Colclough  
01889 505325

Cllr. Tim Beasley  
07803 117235 (m)

Cllr. Grace Holmes  
01782 394525

## Fulford Ward News

### Stallington Village

The council's wish to provide a replacement bus shelter has not been approved of by all residents, in spite of consultations. Further advice from the Highways and Police is being sought before finalising the position.

### Community Speedwatch

Saverley Green group is established and operational. Several Stallington residents are now prepared by signing up as volunteers. If you would like to join the next training course please express an interest at the Parish Office (Meir Heath) or via our website contact page.

### Village Hall

Where is your child?

Since the last newsletter, there has been further wilful damage at Fulford Village Hall, this time to the store used for the pre-school children. Should your teenager have returned home with paint on their clothes one evening, you may now know the reason!

A meeting with the police is planned for April, and parents will specifically be invited to this session. Meanwhile, is there any reason why these teenagers should be on the Village Hall premises during the hours of darkness? Whilst ball games are encouraged on the grassed area, they must not be played against the walls (windows!). The car park is an unofficial meeting place for young drivers and

parents should be aware of the risks that this can bring to the village. Extra police activity can be expected!

### Gypsy Site

The appeal by the owners of the site against the Inspector's Report that upheld the planning enforcement notice was held at the Royal Courts of Justice in London on 14th December, and again the appeal dismissed on planning reasons relating to the Green Belt.

### Fox Earths

Planning permission for this property which is on the road to Moddershall, is granted for an extension, including the demolition of the existing Gardener's Cottage, for its use as a Residential Care Home for 24 residents.

A further change of use application has now been submitted which would allow its use as a secure hospital for women with mental health needs.

### Ivy House Farm

A second revised planning application has been submitted to renovate the old farmhouse at The Green plus a new garage and provision for a second property on the site. This site has been an eyesore to the village for over 30 years, so we hope this application will soon progress.

### **Fulford and District Community First Responders**

We still require more Volunteers that live in and around Fulford, Hilderstone, Cresswell, and Saverley Green areas.

Training is due to start in April 2008 with the Staffordshire Ambulance Service and will take place one evening each week for about 9 months, on completion of the training the volunteers will respond to 999 calls received by the Ambulance Service.

The Community First Responders will provide emergency treatment that will save lives and suffering until the arrival of the Ambulance Service.

For further information please contact

David Steele Telephone 01782 372976 or Mobile 07946185945

Phillip Allen Telephone 01782 326029 or Mobile 07761735530



Are you paying too much for your mortgage?  
Parish the thought!

It's time to speak to your local Mortgage Advisor  
**Rosie Patterson**

*NO BROKER FEES*

**Tudor Associates Limited 01782 388439**

References Available on Request

Your home may be repossessed if you do not keep up repayments on a mortgage.



**ENJOY A HEALTHIER LIFESTYLE  
DISCOVER THE BENEFITS OF ALOE VERA WITH  
FOREVER LIVING PRODUCTS**

- The world's largest and best grower of Aloe Vera products.
- Extensive range from Health Drinks to Skincare products.
- 60 day "satisfaction or your money back" guarantee
- Millions of delighted customers.

Phone NOW for more details on 07050 201774

**Sarah Hughes - Independent Distributor of  
Forever Living Products**

Forever Living Products is a member of the Direct Selling Association Hoap0115

**Professional Driving Tuition With  
Martin Williams BSc. (Hons) A.D.I.  
(Associate Franchise to B.S.M)**

**Offering**

Simulator Lessons      Theory Support  
Pass Plus Courses      Mock Practical Tests  
Track Record of Progress      Motorway Tuition  
Hazard Perception Training  
Plus Much More

**Grade 5 Assessed Instructor  
For further information call:  
01889 505571 or 07811 527054**

**Enjoy all the convenience and benefits of having a  
local instructor with national backing  
PROMOTING SAFE DRIVING FOR LIFE.**

**SHOETIME**

**SHOE FITTING SPECIALIST**

*Agents for*

**Lotus, Grenson, Loake, Van Dal, Gabor, Hotter,  
Rieker, Padders, Josef Seibel  
and Richard Draper Sheepskin Slippers & Boots**

*Also Main Stockist for*

**Radley and Tula Leathersgoods**



**Qualified Professional  
Fitters of Footwear**

**180 Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge.  
Telephone: 01782 392171**

**APB PLUMBING & TILING**

*Professionally trained in:*

*Domestic plumbing,  
Wall & floor tiling,  
Patch & repair plastering.  
From dripping taps to full Bathroom  
refits,*

*Small jobs are welcome.*

**Call Paul Twigg on  
01782 641882 or 07828446514  
for free estimates, no call-out  
charges and competitive rates.**

**KLEEN PROFESSIONAL CARPET  
& UPHOLSTERY CARE**

**YOUR LOCAL INDEPENDENT SPECIALIST**

- DOMESTIC & COMMERCIAL
- RAPID DYING
- ODOUR REMOVAL
- PROTECTION TREATMENTS
- INSURANCE WORK
- LEATHER SUITES
- ORIENTAL & EXOTIC RUG SPECIALISTS

**KLEENCARE IS A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL  
CARPET CLEANERS ASSOCIATION**

**KLEENCARE**

Tel: (01782) 396999 mobile (07738) 167130  
69 Hilderstone Road, Meir Heath, ST3 7NU

**WARNING**

Not all carpet cleaning companies are the same. We are an independent family run business established for over 25 years. We use only the most powerful equipment available to give your carpets & upholstery the best clean ever!

## HOMEGUARD INTRUDER ALARMS

YOUR LOCAL SECURITY COMPANY ESTABLISHED  
27 YEARS

SPECIALISTS TO BS4737  
INSTALLATION / MAINTENANCE  
UPGRADES / REPAIRS  
FIRE SYSTEMS  
SECURITY LIGHTING / CCTV

TRAINED BY FORMER POLICE OFFICERS  
FREE QUOTES ON 01782 397589

## Harry Dawson Funeral Services Ltd.

Established 1872  
A TRADITIONAL FAMILY  
RUN BUSINESS

24 Hour Personal Service  
(01782 313428)  
All Funeral Arrangements carried out  
with Sympathy and Understanding  
Private Chapel of Rest  
Floral Tributes  
Catering

Contact Mr. Paul Davies, The funeral Home,  
105 Upper Normacot Road, Normacot, Longton.

This magazine is delivered to  
**over 2500 homes**  
in the parish.

If you would like to  
**advertise here,**  
please contact

**Martin Oxby**  
On: 01782 397629

Rates are from £20 to £80 per issue.



## MSW MAINTENANCE



**Mark Walker**

4 Combe Drive, Meir Heath, Stoke-on-Trent, ST3 7LB

Tele: 01782 394066  
Mobile: 07932 429073

All types of work carried out:

Windows	Doors	Conservatories	Fascias
Soffits	Guttering	Roofing	Dry Verging
Patios	Slabbing	Bricklaying	Joinery
Fencing	Plastering	Kitchens	Bathrooms
Tiling	Plumbing	Decorating	Artexing

All work guaranteed - Free quotation - Personal service - Quality products

## Bulletin Board

### Delivering Key Information Quickly

Fulford Parish Council has a website which is run and updated by the Newsletter Committee of the Parish Council; please log on to see and find the latest information!

### Recycling

After initial teething problems, our new system appears to be a success. It is important for our future and that of future generations that waste sent to land fill is reduced to a minimum. About two-thirds of landfilled waste is biodegradable organic matter from households, businesses and industry. Other waste includes inert materials, for example from construction and demolition. Biodegradable materials such as paper and card, textiles, food and garden waste decompose and release the greenhouse gases methane and carbon dioxide. The UK landfills a higher proportion of biodegradable waste than most other European countries.

- One tonne of biodegradable waste produces between 200 and 400m<sup>3</sup> of landfill gas.
- Landfills released 27% of the UK's methane emissions in 2000.
- About a third of the 500 landfill sites taking significant amounts of biodegradable waste have gas controls and over 75 sites extract the gas for energy recovery.
- Approximately 110MW of electricity are currently being produced from landfill gas in the UK.
- Burning the methane produces carbon dioxide, which has a much weaker global warming effect. Extending these measures will reduce methane emissions over the next 10 years.

There are no large risks to human health related to landfill sites in general. A review of 46

human health studies found that increased risks of certain effects (low birth weight, birth defects and certain types of cancers) have been reported near a few individual landfill sites. There is a possibility that other factors explain some of these findings but they may represent real risks in certain cases.

Symptoms such as fatigue, sleepiness and headaches have also been reported. Although these symptoms cannot be assumed to be an effect of toxic chemical action, they may indicate the impact that sites can have on stress and anxiety. It is very difficult to confirm any links between health and landfill sites and the Government has funded further research.

The landfill tax, introduced in 1996 to discourage use of landfill, is set at:

- £18 per tonne for household waste in 2005/6 and rising by £3 per tonne every year until it reaches £35 per tonne (2011/12).

The amount of construction and demolition waste going to landfill has reduced substantially since the introduction of the tax. Industry has found alternative uses for waste, but much more construction waste, including soil and aggregates, could be re-used.

The Landfill Directive (99/31/EC) includes targets to reduce biodegradable municipal waste sent to landfill by 65% by 2015.

In order to achieve these targets, we must all recycle, wherever possible.

### Sports and recreation facility within the Parish

Meir Heath Cricket Club were formed in 1946 and have represented the Meir Heath community continually since. The early days saw Meir Heath compete in the Uttoxeter & Blythe Bridge League, from their home ground location known as Bartlams Field. This site is now better known as Meir Heath Primary School.

In 1948 the club joined the Stone & District League and added a second team as interest blossomed within the community. Progress on the field continued whilst off the field changes saw a change of scenery in 1959 when Meir Heath secured an agreement to lease a field along Hilderstone Road (now the home of Meir K A Football Club).

Tireless work from the members saw the introduction of facilities such as a pavilion, score box and practice nets. The endeavours of those members resulted in the club's acceptance into the North Staffs & District League in 1969.

In the mid-seventies, Club President Gordon Taylor offered the cricket club 10 acres of woodland just off Hilderstone Road at Willow Lane. Mr Taylor decreed that the land would be given to the club on the understanding that the club members rallied around and converted this thick wooded area into a cricket pitch to be proud of. A modern pavilion was built by local master bricklayer Fred Rhead. The monumental task was finally achieved and 1980 saw the ground opened by England test player Bob Taylor.

Nowadays, Meir Heath are members of the North Staffs and South Cheshire Cricket League but that is just where the story begins. As club chairman Simon Alcock explains, "Being born and bred in Meir Heath, I am well aware of what the club means to our community and the opportunity exists for all people to play a part in our future success. Meir Heath Cricket Club have proved pioneers in so many ways, through the development of junior cricket for boys and girls,

right through to our national recognition as one of the leading clubs in womens cricket.

Last year saw our mens 1st X1 team appear at the highest level of local cricket in the Premier League whilst our womens 1st X1 appeared in the National Premier League North. The exposure for this community is immense.

We have many players enjoying representative recognition at county level.

This year will see 27 Meir Heath players representing Staffordshire at various age groups. Remarkably, we also enjoy recognition at national level as one of our women players has been called up to the full England squad, whilst our womens captain is part of the England U-21 squad. We have 12 qualified coaches to help us develop local youngsters from Under 9 level upwards and encourage any youngsters interested in playing cricket, to get in touch and come along to Meir Heath and join our family. Our development plan is to introduce boys and girls to the great game of cricket and to provide Meir Heath and the surrounding villages with facilities to be proud of. Family/Social membership is just £15 per year and entitles the whole family to come along, watch cricket at the most picturesque setting in North Staffordshire and help us to ensure that we can carry on promoting our village.

A clubhouse refurbishment in 2007, along with the introduction of Big Screen Sky TV, excellent bar facilities and a major investment in an extension/conservatory has seen our social capacity rise to over 100 people.

The clubhouse is available for hire and is currently a very popular choice following these upgrades. Anyone who would like to view our facilities can call **Don Adams on 01782 850940**. To keep up with club news we have a website **[www.meirheathcc.com](http://www.meirheathcc.com)**.

Simon Alcock can be contacted on 07770 302169 or by email [simon@potteriestyres.co.uk](mailto:simon@potteriestyres.co.uk).

Meir Heath Cricket Club are currently looking for a 2/3 bedroom property to rent from April 2008

Spring 2008  
Issue 22

to September 2008. Any availability can be forwarded to Simon Alcock at the above email address.

**If you would like your organisation featured, please contact a Parish Councillor.**

#### **Community Beat Officer**



PC 3814 Paul Ryan based at Stone Police Station is the Community Beat Officer for our area.

#### **Police Community Support Officer**



PCSO 6646 Mark Halmarack is our Police Community Support Officer

Telephone 08453-30-31-32 and when prompted enter the officer's four digit collar number.

#### **ENCOURAGE WILDLIFE**

Urban gardens are an important sanctuary for wildlife, many of which find it hard to survive in countryside where pest killers are routinely used, and where monoculture reduces their food supply.

Simply leaving out a saucer of fresh water can help birds in particular to survive the winter. Thinking of planting a shrub? Why not buy one which bears lots of berries or seeds. You can now buy all sorts of shelters, not only for birds, but a simple pile of leaves or a few logs can also help creatures like hedgehogs to over winter.

#### **Stone Household Recycling Centre**

A new recycling centre has opened on Beacon Road, Stone Business Park, off the A34 Stafford Road at the roundabout with the A51 Butterhill Bank Road - about 1 mile from Stone Town Centre. Here are just some of the materials that you are able to recycle:

Wood & timber, Scrap metal, Cardboard, TV's and monitors, Fridges & freezers, Textiles, Used engine oil, Batteries.

If you would like more information about Staffordshire's plans to reduce Landfill to Zero or would like to access other useful information resources please click on the link <http://www.staffswaste2020.info>

Alternatively, please call the information line: 0845 300 6630 or write to

**FREEPOST - STAFFS WASTE 2020**

#### **BLUE BINS**

The new improved waste collection service is now in operation, and your new blue bin will take all dry recyclable products, plastic food containers, plastic bottles, cans, tins, glass, and paper. There is a special detachable compartment inside the bin - which householders will not need to remove - for paper. Your brown bin can now be used to recycle cardboard and shredded paper, as well as the usual garden waste. Emptying will be on alternate weeks, the green bin one week, followed by the blue AND brown bins on the next week.

You will all have the Information Pack to refer to, which contains more detailed information, including that on the new Household Recycling Centre on Stone Business Park, off the A34, at the roundabout with the A51, about a mile from Stone town centre. Reports tell us that this centre provides a very helpful and efficient service. For general enquiries about recycling ring 0800 23 23 23, or 01785 277452.

The scheme has been based on successful trials

over the last three years in the area which has led to nearly 60% recycling compared to less than 30% for the rest of the borough. Around 90% of those surveyed in the pilot areas of Eccleshall and Parkside said they were satisfied with the new service.

Stafford will be one of the first councils in the UK to supply residents with the innovative new bin.

#### **Brown Bins**

Please, NO cooked food, cooking fat, oil, stones, rubble or turf. Many other substances are listed in your booklet. If our bins contain any unsuitable materials they may not be emptied. Similarly, if garden waste is put into green bins the operatives will not empty them either. Your brown bin can now be used to recycle cardboard and shredded paper.

#### **WANT TO BE AN ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMPION?**

The Community Council of Staffordshire is offering to train people to act as Community Champions in their locality to work with local community groups and voluntary organisations. After training the Community Champions would help such groups to plan and carry out environmental improvements as part of a nationwide "Every Action Counts" programme which is funded by DEFRA.

Community Champions will be a very important part of this initiative as they will be trained and equipped with an "Environmental Toolkit" for use with community groups. The Community Champion, with this toolkit will be able to help groups to identify where they can make environmental improvements towards securing a sustainable future.

There are five themes which are covered in the programme:

Travel wisely   Save our resources   Shop ethically  
Save energy   Care for the Environment.

The Community Champion will arrange to visit local community groups to explain the "Every Action Counts" scheme with easy to explain displays showing how they can be involved and what they can do to help.

The work is expected only to involve a few hours a month, and there is a free two day training course held locally and which leads to a recognised and accredited qualification. This could well appeal to young people who want to get involved with their community, as well as more experienced people with concerns over the future of the environment.

Anyone who is interested, or who wants to know more can telephone the Community Council of Staffordshire on 01785 242625 and ask for Liz Sanders or Alan Cooney.

#### **CLEAR STREETS**

Parking control used to be the responsibility of the police, now local Councils have got together to keep the streets clear with new powers from Parliament. This means Police will be free to tackle serious crime, clearly a better use of their resources.

Instead of the Police enforcing local parking restrictions there will be a team of trained, uniformed, professional parking officers, using state of the art equipment to keep the streets clear of bad parking.

Clearer streets means we can all get around easier and safer, there are other benefits as well. For a start in the long term it won't cost anything. Irresponsible and inconsiderate parkers will pay charges that will fund the operation and keep Staffordshire streets clear for the whole community. Parking attendants won't be offered any sort of commission and the only targets that they have will be to keep our streets clear and safe. Any income received over that need to run the service efficiently will be put back into the local community. It will be spent on things such as improving public transport, resident parking

Spring 2008  
Issue 22

schemes, highway improvements and of course making local car parks safer to use.

The formal name for Clear Streets is Decriminalised Parking - providing the powers to local councils to make rogue parkers pay the rest of the community for the inconvenience they cause.

Drivers who park on double yellow lines will have to pay a fixed fee which will go straight back into running the Clear Streets operation. It will cost £30 if paid within 14 days, £60 within 28 days, and the full costs of recovery if they put it off any longer.

### Members of the Council

Finance and General Purposes Committee  
Kath Brayford, Ellis Bevan,  
Frank Colclough, Roy Taylor, Andrew Lovatt,  
Chairman and Vice-Chairman ex officio

Grindley Park Management Group  
Martin Oxby, Kath Brayford  
and all members of the Meir Heath Ward

Parish Newsletter Working Party  
Tim Beasley, Richard Mycock, Martin Oxby,  
Barry Shaw, Roy Taylor, Andrew Lovatt,  
Kath Brayford, Joy Bennett.

Planning Coordinators  
Richard Mycock (Blythe Bridge)  
Frank Colclough (Fulford)  
Barry Shaw (Meir Heath)

Representatives to outside bodies  
Fulford Primary LEA Governor:  
Frank Colclough

Meir Heath Primary School:  
Cllr. Barry Goodfellow  
Cllr. Barry Shaw

## fulford parish council newsletter

Meir Heath/Rough Close  
Village Hall: Cllr. Goodfellow

Springcroft Primary School LEA Governor:  
Cllr. Kath Brayford  
Cllr. Richard Mycock  
Cllr. Shirley Wheat

Staffordshire Parish Councils Association:  
Cllr Kath Brayford & Cllr Richard Mycock  
Sustainable Committee: Cllr. Frank Colclough,  
Cllr. Martin Oxby

Staffordshire - Stone Rural Councillor:  
Ian Parry 01782 398338

Stafford Borough Council - Fulford Ward  
Councillors:  
Andrew Harp 01889 505400  
Richard Oldfield 01782 392307  
Peter Roycroft 01889 505240

**TRENTHAM ROOFLINES LTD™**  
*Install in style!*

PROFESSIONAL INSTALLERS OF  
FASCIAS SOFFITS GUTTERING BARGE BOARDS EPS SYSTEMS  
SECURITY GRILLS DAMP PROOFING WINDOWS DOORS

**A MASSIVE  
25% DISCOUNT  
ON ALL INSTALLATIONS**

ON PRODUCTION OF THIS FLYER

*Unbeatable Prices*      *Special Rates for R.A.P.s*      *Family Run Business*

CALL US NOW FOR A FREE QUOTATION!

**01782 643737/516061**

### Dates for 2008 meetings

Thursday 10th April  
Location: Meir Heath & Rough Close Village Hall

Thursday 8th May  
Location: Fulford Village Hall

Thursday 12th June  
Location: Meir Heath & Rough Close Village Hall

Note: All meetings start at 7.15pm with an opportunity for any local government elector from the Parish to ask questions of the Parish Council relating to any Parish issue. At the formal meeting, which follows at 7:30 pm, these matters will then be considered; the public may also attend but are not usually invited to join the debate. Alternatively, write to the Clerk such that the matter can be raised.

### Civic Amenity Visits:

The next visits for the refuse lorry will be in March or April, please check our notice boards or our website for the dates.

### Police Contact numbers

**Call '999'** – when a crime is occurring or about to occur, and for all highly suspicious incidents such as youths checking car doors.

**Call 08453-30-20-10** for all non-emergency calls. The call-handler will transfer you to the most appropriate person to deal with your enquiry.

**Call your Community Beat Office** to speak about a local issue of a non-urgent nature. However, with shift patterns and holidays, it could be several days before you get a response.

**Telephone 08453-30-31-32** and when prompted enter the officer's four digit collar

number:  
PC **3814** Paul Ryan or  
PCSO **6646** Mark Halmarack

### Call Crimestoppers - Telephone 0800-555-111

The CRIMESTOPPERS telephone number can be used to pass specific information about crime or criminals without fear or reprisals or direct contact with the police. Calls are FREE from land lines and most mobile phones. The service is anonymous and rewards of up to £1,000 are available for information which leads to an arrest and charge.

### Stafford Borough Council

Customer Contact Centre  
Open 8.00 am - 8.00 pm Monday - Friday  
Tel: (01785) 619000  
[www.staffordbc.gov.uk](http://www.staffordbc.gov.uk)

Planning queries 01785 619337  
[www.planning@staffordbc.gov.uk](mailto:www.planning@staffordbc.gov.uk)

### Staffordshire County Council

General Enquiries Tel: 01785 223121  
[www.staffordshire.gov.uk/](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/)

### CLARENCE

When there is a problem with something on the highway network - just ring CLARENCE - Staffordshire's Customer Lighting and Roads Enquiry Centre - on **FREEPHONE 0800 232323** email to [clarence@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:clarence@staffordshire.gov.uk)

### STREET SCENE

ONE phone call, one solution – The special hotline means that a wide range of environmental issues, such as littering, graffiti, dog mess, sharps, fly tipping and problems with children's play areas, can all be reported with just one phone call.

Any member of the public can call the Contact Centre on **01785 619401**  
email to [:streetscene@staffordbc.gov.uk](mailto:streetscene@staffordbc.gov.uk)