



Wolvey Parish Council Newsletter

Your community connection Autumn : issue 11

Councillors: Ruth Buswell 221324; Roy Elliott 220491; John Hawkins 220482; Ron Podesta 220608; Jon Slee 220322 Roger Wickens 0796238474; Keith Orchard 220688.
Parish Clerk: Margaret Cartwright 220277, email parishclerk@wolvey.org

Vandals hit Village sites

There has been an increase in vandalism around the village.

Planters, trees and equipment at the playing fields have all suffered damage.

Purchased from donations and fund raising, these facilities are maintained by hard working volunteers in our community.

If you witness any acts of vandalism, please contact the police. At present we have a rural police office in the Village Hall and regular visits from the Police van.

Spending cuts could mean these being reviewed, so please make sure you use these facilities to report any suspicious activity.

You can contact our PCSO Sharon Bailie 6152 on Direct Dial 01788 853851.

The Neighbourhood Watch is an important tool in reducing crime in your village: see inside story p2

Village Diary Dates

Wolvey Parish Council
Back room Village Hall 7.45pm
Monday 15th November 2010
Monday 20th December 2010
Monday 17th January 2010

The mobile police station
1.45 - 3.15pm outside Village Hall
Tuesday 5th October 2010
Tuesday 26th October 2010
Tuesday 16th November 2010
Tuesday 7th December 2010

Safer neighbourhood police surgeries
7-9pm Village Hall
Tuesday 19th October 2010
Tuesday 30th November 2010
Tuesday 21st December 2010

Councillor Surgeries
Raise issues at an informal meeting with a Councillor.
Village Hall - first Wednesday of month 7.30 pm.

Wednesday 3rd November
Wednesday 1st December
Wednesday 5th January

Wolvey Bags More GOLD



Wolvey's impressive haul of trophies and certificates

Celebration time! Once more, Wolvey achieved another year of quite stunning competition success that included a clutch of Gold Awards.

In the **Rugby in Bloom** competition we were awarded a GOLD in the Community section for Wolvey Square. We also received a GOLD in the Environment Section.

To top a brilliant performance, we were crowned **OVERALL WINNER** of the section and received a shield to keep and display for the coming year.

In the **Warwickshire Best Village Competition 2010** we entered four of the six categories: Community Projects, Communication, the Environment and History & Heritage.

In the Community Projects category, we put forward; the new Wolvey Scout group, the Wetland Reserve and the Summer Festival.

We were announced the

WINNERS in this category and received a GOLD award certificate and an additional £200 prize money.

We followed this up with a SILVER award in the Environment section - for tree planting, the Woodland walk and boardwalk in the Wetland, tree surveys and tree protection, and for the Biodiversity Action Plan conference. For this we received a framed certificate and £150 prize money.

In choosing the winner overall, the judges looked for a well-balanced, pro-active, caring community which had made the best of local opportunities to maintain and enhance the quality of life for all inhabitants.

Our creditable **THIRD** overall in Warwickshire was recognized by a trophy to keep for the year.

All these prizes reflect the dedication of those in

the community whose time and effort help make Wolvey a great place to live.

Well done to all who contributed to these fantastic prize winning projects.

On or off the buses?

Changes to bus pass rules could restrict travel times

From April 2011, free bus passes might only be valid between 9.30am and 11pm.

For Wolvey residents this means no free bus travel until the 10.23am service just over 3 hours before the last return journey at 2pm.

Warwickshire County Council is considering making the changes to come into line with national standards.



As a rural area, Wolvey has a restricted service compared with urban areas. So, the impact of not being able to catch the earlier bus at 9.23am will be to increase cost and inconvenience for those with hospital appointments, relative visits or those just going shopping.

A concession by the Council around the start time allowing holders to travel on the bus nearest the 9.30am threshold would greatly ease the impact.

Let the County Council know your feelings.



All photographs, R. Wickens

Neighbourhood Watch, Youth IT Courses, Environment Group, Produce Show, Clerk's Corner



Do you know someone who can light up The Square this Christmas?

Nominations wanted for the [BIG CHRISTMAS SWITCH ON](#)

We are again inviting nominations for someone to switch on the village Christmas lights on Sunday 5th December at 6pm in The Square. If you know a Wolvey resident that you think would enjoy doing the honours, please let Margaret Cartwright, the Parish Clerk, have their name and contact details by November 12th.

We would also be grateful for any volunteers to assist with serving refreshments and help to make it another special switch on night.

SHOW PRODUCES THE GOODS - VILLAGERS' TALENTS SHINE TO BRIGHTEN DAY

The weather may have been dull, but nothing could dampen the enthusiasm and enjoyment of all those who attended and participated in this year's Produce and Craft show. Organised by the small but dedicated Voluntary Playing Fields Committee, the event attracted entries of a very high calibre and there was much for visitors to enjoy.

Specimen fruit and vegetables, cakes, art work, skittles, competitions and an excellent display by the Environment Group generated a great atmosphere. As usual, the judges had a tough time calling the winners from work of such an outstanding standard. At the end of the day though, the annual show's roll of honour has another thirteen names entered - although no-one faced the challenge of the Miniature Garden on a Plate!

David and Peggy Yorke once more returned home laden with trophies including the Overall Winners Shield whilst 5 year-old Millie Evans was delighted with her box of chocolates for her top prize colouring picture.

The show raised a grand total of £661. This will go towards the upkeep and development of the Playing Fields, the Pavilion and Children's Play Equipment.

The Playing Fields Trust is always on the lookout for new members to join us or just help to continue to develop the great facilities we enjoy in the village and to organise events like the Produce Show and Bonfire Night celebrations. We meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Cricket Pavilion at 7pm. Why not come along and see what we are about? Our next meeting will be in November. For more information contact Michelle Brook 01455 220878 or Sue Isaac 01455 220443.



Jon Slee with the David Lloyd Trophy

Produce and Craft Show Winners: *Michael Leake Trophy: Mr and Mrs Yorke, David Lloyd Trophy: Jon Slee, Kate Davis Rose Bowl: Joan Bassett, Hollick Household Salver: Fiona Brown, Wolvey Playing Field Trust Trophy: Sandra Whiteley, The Mitchell Tankard: Victoria Holt, Hilltop Nurseries Trophy: Rachel Evans, D Allen Trophy: Tom Upton, Carol McCullochlan Trophy: Kath Chamberlaine, Stella Young Trophy: Michael Gibbs, Colouring Picture 5yrs & under: Millie Evans, Colouring Picture 6-8yrs: Isabel (Wolvey Scouts), Garden News Top Trophy: Mr and Mrs Yorke, Garden News Top Vase: Mr and Mrs Yorke, Overall Winners Shield: Mr and Mrs Yorke.*

Watch out for Wolvey - Could you be a Co-ordinator?

A local neighbourhood watch scheme can be really effective in reducing crime. The Wolvey Neighbourhood Watch group meets four times a year in the Millennium Building. Our liaison with the police is via our dedicated PCSO Sharon Bailie who attends meetings with local updates. Guest speakers are also invited to give valuable tips on ways to reduce crime in the locality and on your home and property. The group is alerted to criminal activity through messages sent to co-ordinators. This enables us to be extra alert and vigilant. The Wolvey group is linked to the wider Rugby team who help provide much information and offer general support.



In order for this group to continue with its important work, we are in urgent need of someone to co-ordinate it. It is not a particularly difficult or time consuming role, but it is very important for the welfare and protection of Wolvey residents.

If you think you might be able to help, or simply want more information about the group, please speak to PCSO Bailie or contact the Parish Clerk. Alternatively, come along to the next meeting: Thursday 18th November at 7.30pm in the Millennium Building.

Cakes, Conversation, Mists and Mellow Fruitfulness



Summer came and went, now Autumn nestles in.

It's hard to believe that summer is over. Where did it go? The wonders of Autumn are now upon us (so quickly it seems) with its array of sparkling, complex, spiders' webs and dewy mornings with their hint of the chills yet to come.

The Wetland Reserve has given a fine display of grasses and flowers during the summer to lift the heart of even the frostiest sceptic. This year the wild flowers, grown and planted by volunteers, enhanced the boardwalk spur and woodland walk. They have brightened that section considerably and have delighted visitors - some of whom have travelled considerable distances to see our Wetland.

It was agreed that the wetland area would be left alone throughout the summer months. This was to allow the wild species that live there to do their own thing with minimum disturbance. However, we did manage to repair the stock fence at the back of the woodland walk. After a quote of £900 to replace the fence, the group (in their usual practical fashion) sourced wood from varying places, produced screws and bolts from others, and used their skills and ingenuity to make the fence good again at no cost at all! This should protect the reserve from intrusion by the cattle that graze in the adjoining field.



Visitors engage with the group's display at the produce show

A display by the group was presented at the Village Produce Show, which, as usual, generated much interest in our achievements over the last year. This year there was the added attraction of a DVD produced by group members entitled 'Wolvey from the Air'. This was put together after the Church Gift Day at which one of the members took photographs during a short flight. The result was a stunning montage to record Wolvey as it now is. This excellent production is great viewing and raised funds for the Environment Group and St John the Baptist Church.

During the Summer, tea, coffee, home baked cakes and good conversation were served in the

Millennium Building by group members on Sunday afternoons. Proceeds will be split between the Millennium Building Fund and the Environment Group and a donation made to St John's. A big THANK YOU to all that supported in any way. It wouldn't have been a success without you.

The group also tended the village square, tidying up, watering hanging baskets and replacing plants. Not surprisingly then, The Square looked great all summer resulting in a clutch of awards from Rugby in Bloom (see front page story).

What's next? Autumn plans include removing more reeds from the pond and the installation of two newly purchased litter bins and a dog waste bin. Also, we'll be digging out more slip ponds at the edge of the boardwalk, planting donated crocus bulbs in the grassy areas around the village square and completing the installation of a further donated bench beside the boardwalk spur.

If you would like to join us, get in touch, come along, make your own contribution and keep Wolvey looking wonderful season after season.

IT FOR YP @ BINLEY YC: Your chance to gain a valuable IT qualification

If you're aged between 13-19 years old, you can improve your IT skills during the half-term. From Tuesday 26 October to Thursday 28 October, the County Youth Service is providing training at **Binley Woods Youth Centre** for youngsters from Rugby's rural areas. Ian McLean the Locality Co-ordinator says, 'IT skills are very desirable for employers so this opportunity would be really useful to get an advantage'. If you're interested, contact Ian on 01926 7365000 or e-mail ianmclean@warwickshire.gov.uk. Discussions are taking place with a view to offering a similar programme in future in the Village Hall.





Clerk's Corner

Margaret Cartwright Telephone 01455 220277

e-mail: parishclerk@wolvey.org



Changes bring new Challenges

It's nearly four years since I became Wolvey Parish Clerk. It continues to be interesting and regularly provides fresh challenges. The Coalition Government has produced a steady stream of new consultations on all areas of local government and as Clerk it's important to keep up with all these changes. Recent consultations that could potentially affect Wolvey residents include an electoral review of Rugby Borough Council, capping the precept for local councils, changes in lottery grant funding to exclude parish councils, the Rugby Core Strategy and proposals on Concessionary Travel arrangements.

Financial Statements Approved

The Council recently received an unqualified approval of the Financial Statements for the year to 31st March 2010. Although I know that all the finances are carefully managed and accounted, nevertheless, I always feel relieved when this is finally confirmed by Clement Keys, the appointed external auditors.

Project Funding Considered

At this time of year, the Parish Council starts to think about possible projects for next year and ways to fund them. At the budget meeting in November, the Council will consider how much money it will need to function, complete any outstanding projects and how it can support local organisations. As usual, local groups are invited to apply for funding from the Council but with costs inevitably rising, and in the current economic climate, it is important to have everything carefully costed before the Council decides on the precept for the coming year.

The Parish Council is always willing to consider any ideas about ways to improve provision for local people. Some of the things that have been suggested so far include improved facilities for young people and traffic calming measures. If you have any suggestions, just come along to a Parish Council meeting or speak to either a Councillor or to me directly.

Wolvey on the web

Being Parish Clerk can be demanding, but thanks to help of local people, it is manageable. In particular, I am grateful to Pete Hopkins for all his work on the Wolvey Website. Please take a look at www.wolvey.org, it gets better all the time. The quality of the site is superb and the picture galleries do a great job of showcasing Wolvey to the outside world. Also thanks to Derek Warren for helping to produce our impressive newsletter.

For any information about the Parish Council, please contact me. However, please remember that I only work part-time. The best time to call is weekday mornings. If I am not available, please leave a message and I will get back to you as soon as I can.

An ill Wind? - TURBINE FEARS FOR WOLVEY AREA

Copston Magna receives application to build seven wind turbines

The impact on this area of these 125 metre monoliths is not difficult to imagine. 80 feet higher than Coventry Cathedral spire they will be visible for miles and miles. In addition they emit the same noise as a car travelling at 70mph. What's more, some claim that blade flicker can be injurious to health.

A Warwickshire wide survey to establish other potential sites for wind turbines is being carried out by Rugby Borough Council. At a meeting of the Fosse Division Community Forum, Mr Rob Back of RBC stated that government policy directed this had to be done.

Turbines receive a very large annual subsidy from government: making such installations extremely lucrative for energy companies. The only criteria for suitability is that the site will produce *some* electricity.

The Copston Magna resistance group are urging our MP Mark Pawsey to support a Parliamentary Bill restricting the installation of wind turbines within 2 kilometres of any residence as is the case in Scotland and most other European Countries.

A meeting held on the 7th October at Wolvey Bowling Club discussed the issues with Mark Pawsey MP and stressed the strong opposition to the current plans.

