



# Wolvey Parish Council Newsletter

Your Community Connection

Spring 2009 Issue 5

## Quality Counts



### Prestigious status for Parish Council

#### Wolvey Parish Councillors

Ruth Buswell	01455 221324
Roy Elliott	01455 220491
John Hawkins	01455 220482
Ben Kerrell-Vaughan	01455 882868
Bozena Kuncewicz	01455 220771
Ron Podesta	01455 220608
Jon Slee	01455 220322

#### Wolvey Parish Clerk

Margaret Cartwright  
The Old Post Office  
Wolds Lane  
Wolvey LE10 3LL

Tel: 01455 220277  
email: [parishclerk@wolvey.org](mailto:parishclerk@wolvey.org)

#### Get on line with [www.wolvey.org](http://www.wolvey.org)

The Wolvey Parish Council website displays contact information and statutory documents relating to the Council.

The intention is that it should also be used as a community website providing information and contact details for local groups, organisations and businesses and publicising local events.

We are currently conducting a review of the website, and would like to thank Mr Peter Hopkins for his help with this. To make the site more informative and interesting, it needs regular updating with news about what is going on in Wolvey.

If you are holding a meeting or an event and would like to include information on the website, please contact the Parish Clerk.

So join us on line at  
[www.wolvey.org](http://www.wolvey.org)

Any comments or suggestions will be very welcome.

Wolvey Parish Council is delighted to report that it has been awarded the status of Quality Parish Council.

The Quality Parish Council award is a government scheme which sets the standard for Parish Councils across the country. The aim is to enable Parish Councils, of all sizes, to demonstrate they are well run, operate efficiently, and work with the community to improve services.

In recent years, Wolvey Parish Council has been working hard towards meeting the required standard, so it is satisfying to know that all this effort has now been recognised by an independent panel.

To attain this award, a number of tests must be achieved and a portfolio of evidence presented to an accreditation panel. These tests are designed to show that the work of the Parish Council goes beyond its statutory duties.

All this means that Wolvey residents can have confidence that their Parish Council is properly managed, upholds a high standard of conduct and works closely with the community to represent its needs.

Benefits of the award are that the Council has greater credibility and the community has an accessible and responsive Council. It is a big step towards enhanced partnership with the principal authorities (Rugby Borough Council and Warwickshire County Council), as they can be confident that the Council is competent and capable of working with them to deliver improved services. Also, there are some grants which are only available to Quality Parish Councils.

The QPC hallmark recognises that the people of Wolvey can be sure that their Parish Council will continue to provide value for money and community leadership in an open and transparent manner for the benefit of the whole community. That's why quality counts.

#### Wolvey welcomes new Parish Councillor



Following the notice placed in the last newsletter, the Parish Council was very pleased to receive an unprecedented five applications from residents wishing to join the Parish Council. All the candidates provided strong reasons to support their application. However, following interviews and a vote the Council decided to co-opt Mr Ron Podesta to fill the vacancy.

Ron is retired and has lived in Wolvey for 30 years. His interests are the environment and community support for the aged and less able. It was these that motivated him to stand for the Parish Council. He hopes to contribute something to the community and village life he has enjoyed in Wolvey. We welcome Ron. He is already making a contribution, being a member of the co-ordinating group for the Summer Festival and joining the Environment Group.

## Save lives be a First Responder

Most victims of cardiac arrest survive if they can be treated quickly with a defibrillator. Community First Responders are voluntary members of the community who are trained by the Ambulance Service in the use of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED).

This is a very simple item of equipment to use that shocks the heart in cases of Cardiac Arrest, thus increasing the patient's chance of survival within the crucial early minutes. The training First Responders receive is a nationally recognised qualification which also includes CPR and first aid skills.

Community Responders do not take the place of the arrival of an Ambulance but bridge the gap between the 999 call and the Paramedics arriving. In rural areas, like Wolvey, the delayed response time for an ambulance can mean that a local first responder scheme has the potential to save lives within our community.

We have received a grant to fund the purchase of the necessary equipment, but we urgently need more volunteers if we are to get this up and running. This can be anyone who is reasonably fit and healthy and between 18 and 70 years of age. No previous experience or medical training is needed.



Please think about taking part in this very worthwhile project. If you would like more information, contact the Parish Clerk.

### Have Your Say!

an opportunity to raise issues of local concern and find out what is happening in YOUR community!

**Tuesday 31 March 2009**  
Pailton Village Hall, Lutterworth Road, Pailton

Drop-in (from 7pm)  
Police Surgery  
Refuse and Recycling display

Forum (from 7.30pm)  
Safer Neighbourhoods  
New Refuse & Recycling Scheme  
Overview of Financial Services & Benefits available

Fosse Division Locality Panel  
(comprising the wards of: Wolvey, Fosse, Avon & Swift)



For more information, please contact the Rugby Area Office on 01788 533656 or email [rugbyoffice@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:rugbyoffice@warwickshire.gov.uk)



## Monday = Bin day

Rugby Borough Council is making improvements to recycling and refuse collection.

In preparation for the introduction of the new 3 bin service, revised collection schedules will come into operation on

**MARCH 23rd**



This means that the day for refuse collection in Wolvey will be changing to **MONDAYS** from that date.

## Village Link Bus Service for Wolvey

Rugby Volunteer Centre operates local bus service called Village Link. The routes are chosen to enable people in villages to travel to various towns and supermarkets. So far, Wolvey has not been included in this scheme, but it may be possible to request routes which incorporate Wolvey if we can demonstrate a demand.

There is currently a fortnightly service from Ansty / Shilton to Bedworth on Fridays which might be persuaded to come to pick up in Wolvey. Other buses travel to Fosse Park and various supermarkets. If we can show sufficient need, it might be possible to arrange a bus specifically from and to Wolvey. These buses are subsidised by Warwickshire County Council. The national bus pass can be used and fares are reasonable even for those who do not have a bus pass. It might also be possible to get these buses to pick up from outlying parts of the Parish such as Wolvey Heath and Hinckley Road.

If anyone is interested and would like to suggest possible routes, please contact Margaret Cartwright, Parish Clerk or call directly to Rugby Volunteer Centre between 10.00 and 13.00 on 01788 561293.



## Scoop the Poop or Face the Fine

There are continuing reports of problems with dog mess on the streets of Wolvey.

Irresponsible dog owners, who do not clean up after their dog, can be issued with fixed penalty notices of up to £100.

If you have a dog, please pick up the mess and either take it home or put it in the bins provided. If you see someone allowing their dog to foul a public place, take a note of the time, date and location and report it to Rugby Borough Council. The Parish Clerk has copies of a witness form for this purpose, or you can ring the contact centre on 01788 533533.

## Wolvey Litter Pick

Saturday 4th April

Would you like to make a difference to the look of your village?

If you do, please come and join us.

We will meet at the Blue Pig at 11am.

Refreshments and equipment provided.

All welcome.

Residents, organisations, groups and businesses

Can you sponsor a hanging basket for £50?

There will be 7 baskets planted professionally to look great all summer in The Square.

Interested?  
Please contact the Parish Clerk.



# Summer Festival Plans and Progress

A Summer Festival is being organised for June 20<sup>th</sup> 2009. This date coincides with the opening of the Wetlands Boardwalk and the Church Flower Festival. It is an opportunity for residents and visitors to wander around Wolvey and see and experience what our community has to offer but most of all it is to HAVE FUN. All 27 of our groups and organisations have been invited to take part and a fantastic number have already expressed a keen interest to be involved in the event.

The Boardwalk on the Wetlands will be formally opened in the morning and the rest of the day will be filled with events and activities for all to enjoy.

So far, the Bowls Club will be opening their green for people to try their skill, The Tai Chi Ch'uan are giving a demonstration in the morning and you can join in. We are hoping that the Gurkha's pipers will be in

attendance with a blow up Army Assault Course and a climbing wall on the playing fields and we are also planning a roundabout and a bouncy castle.

There will be Cricket and Bowls games in the afternoon. The Women's Institute is providing refreshments in the Village Hall and the History group will have displays in the Baptist Chapel. The Guides, Scouts, Environmental Group and Neighbourhood Watch will also be putting on displays and activities. If any other local group or organisation would still like to take part, do get in touch.

We also wondered if any residents would like to open up their gardens, please let us know if you do.

The Parish Council set up two meetings to which all local groups and organisations were invited. Margaret

Cartwright, Bozena Kuncewicz, David Alford and Ron Podesta agreed to form a co ordinating group whose role is to promote the Festival, oversee schedules of activities to avoid 'clashes' and to prepare and distribute programmes including a map of the venues.

It would be very helpful if individuals, groups and organisations who are going to be involved in the Festival would let the Parish Clerk know the nature of their activity, venue and time by March 24<sup>th</sup> so that accurate details can be put in the programme.

We are working hard to make this Summer Festival a success and great fun. We hope all our fellow villagers will give their support on the day and perhaps this will become an annual event that celebrates the residents, groups and organisations in our vibrant community.

## What a difference a year makes

The Environment Group celebrated our first birthday in February, a whole year since we formed. It is hard to believe how quickly that year has gone, yet all around us we can see the difference we have made to the village surroundings.

The boardwalk, although not fully open over Christmas, as planned, is now fully operational. As this is being written, work is in progress to reinstate the two benches, so shortly it will be possible to sit and enjoy the peaceful and beautiful scenery of our unique wetland. Already this year, despite the extreme cold, snipe have been spotted there, newts are present, robins and wrens fly up to greet you as you walk. Also the resident woodpecker has been observed and a barn owl is often seen at dusk. In the snow, fox tracks were visible on the boardwalk treads, also many bird and fowl tracks, which told a tale of much activity there, super to see. Since the last newsletter, there have been two published articles about our wetland reserve. One in Country Matters magazine, and the second, in Warwickshire Wildlife News, written by Steven Falk, the Warwickshire Senior keeper of Natural History. He spoke very highly of our achievements so our fame continues to spread, all very

exciting for those involved. Plans are already in progress for the coming year; a great deal of work has already been done, including creating designs for new signage in the reserve. These are soon to go to the printers so look out for them as they will be very informative. The all important management plan and working document for the reserve has been formulated. This is great for reference when advice is needed. Members of our group will be attending various workshops at Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, to widen our knowledge of reptiles, insects and all things flora and fauna. Seeds are already purchased and awaiting planting for our village floral displays; more walks are at the mapping stage and a litter pick has been arranged for 4<sup>th</sup> April.

Our group continues to be as cheerful, good humoured and committed as ever, so why not come along and join us. Just ring Ruth on 221324 for more details, you will be very welcome.

The snowdrops the group planted on Temple Hill last year, as our very first project, have grown and look fabulous!



## Wetland Open Week-end

On June 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, as part of the BBC Springwatch "Do One Thing for Nature" campaign, we are planning an open weekend at the Wolvey Wetland Reserve.

We would like interested people to come along and help us to record species in residence there, spot different types of wild flowers and reeds, and perhaps help with some of the numerous tasks that are always waiting to be done in the reserve. It will be a fun weekend, for children and adults, with stickers and prizes for the most successful spotters and recorders.

Do come along and join the Environment Group at work, we will look forward to meeting you. More details will be available soon, so keep an eye on the notice board, the website and the shop doorway.

See you in June!

## Clerk's Corner - Margaret Cartwright reports

It is now more than two years since I became Wolvey Parish Clerk. A lot has happened since then and the role has changed and developed enormously. As I was completely new to the role, I have spent much of the time learning what is involved in the running of a Parish Council. In December, I completed a training course entitled 'Working With Your Council' and was awarded a certificate. Using this knowledge I then had the confidence to complete the portfolio required to apply for the Clerk's qualification the 'Certificate in Local Council Administration'. This involves compiling evidence, under 26 sections, to show that the Clerk knows and uses best practice in the administration of the Parish Council.

I was very pleased to learn, in January, that I have been awarded a Distinction in this qualification. It has been a lot of work, but I have found it very interesting and challenging and now feel in a much better position to help the Parish Council deliver the best services for the people of Wolvey.

It has been satisfying, recently, to see the successful culmination of some of the work we have been doing. The award of Quality Parish Council is a major achievement for the council. It involved fulfilling a number of criteria, compiling evidence to support the application and a meeting with the accreditation panel. This award means Wolvey can have confidence that its Parish Council operates in a professional, efficient and cost-effective manner.

The printing of the Parish Plan was a real milestone, after three years of dedicated effort by the Steering Group. The group consists of volunteers, who were all new to this process and should feel justifiably proud of their achievement. We hope you will find the document interesting and that it will be used to further improve and enhance life for Wolvey residents.

The construction of the boardwalk at the Old Cricket Field Wetland Reserve has been an amazing achievement for a team of volunteers. The project has generated much interest and its success is being recognised around Warwickshire, with articles in magazines such as Country Matters and Warwickshire Wildlife News.

The Parish Council consists of seven volunteers, who give their time to represent the needs and wishes of Wolvey residents. An important function of the Parish Council is to encourage cohesive, vibrant communities. Wolvey has traditionally been very good at this, having a number of active voluntary groups. But, new groups such as the Neighbourhood Watch and the Environment Group encourage even more involvement. A group to consider action for climate change is planned and, in June, an open weekend at the wetland and the Summer Festival will provide plenty of opportunity for even more people to make a contribution, no matter how small.

Although the Parish Council can take a lead and co-ordinate such events, they can only really succeed with the participation and support of the local community.

## Future Meetings of Wolvey Parish Council

Meetings are held in the back room of the Village Hall at 7.45pm:

Monday 16th March 2009

Monday 20th April 2009

Monday 18th May 2009

## Wanted Odd-Job Person

Wolvey Parish Council is looking for someone to do odd-jobs around the Parish of Wolvey.

Duties will include cleaning the bus shelters and telephone box, sign cleaning, simple repairs and maintenance, litter picking, weeding and watering as required by the Parish Council.

It is proposed that the person will be self-employed and submit a monthly invoice to the Council. Hours of work will be flexible according to need.

If you are interested in this position, or would like more information, please contact the Parish Clerk on 01455 220277.

Visit  
[www.wolvey.org](http://www.wolvey.org)

## Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting is not a meeting of the Parish Council but is a meeting for electors of Wolvey Parish to speak and raise concerns.

At this meeting the Parish Council will make a report on its activities and achievements during the past year, including a financial report.

This year's meeting is to be held on:

Wednesday April 29th at 7.30pm  
in Wolvey Village Hall.

Speakers have been invited to present information on:

Action for climate change Energy saving products and tips  
Grants available The Environment Recycling Traffic speed

All electors of the Parish are invited to attend this meeting.

There will be refreshments available and village displays to view.

## Parish Council Surgeries

Wolvey Parish Council now provides a Councillor Surgery once a month. The purpose of the surgery is to enable local residents to raise issues or concerns with Councillors informally outside of Parish Council meetings.

This will take place in the back room of the Village Hall from 7.30pm to 8.30pm on the first Wednesday of every month.

Dates of Councillor surgeries:

Wednesday 1st April, 2009,

Wednesday 6th May, 2009.