



# WOLVEY Parish Council Newsletter

www.wolvey.org

Your Community Connection  
Summer 2011 Issue 14

## Wolvey Parish Councillors

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## Wolvey Parish Clerk

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## Wolvey Diary Dates

### Wolvey Parish Council Meetings

Back room of the Village Hall at 7.45pm

Monday	18th July
Monday	15th August
Monday	19th Sept

### 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.

#### Where?

Back room of the Village Hall at 7.30pm on the first Wednesday of every month

Wednesday	6th July
Wednesday	3rd August
Wednesday	7th September
Wednesday	5th October

### Mobile police station dates

From 1.45pm till 3.15pm

Tuesday	5th July
Tuesday	26th July
Tuesday	16th August

parked in The Square

## A New Generation at Village Hall



Wolvey Village Hall "Project Green Energy" came to full fruition in May. The aims are to reduce energy consumption and generate some of the remaining energy need from sustainable sources. The most visible aspect of the project, the twenty-two striking solar PV panels fitted to the south side of the building, took less than two days to install.

These will provide continuous power for the next twenty-five years and at the same time generate valuable income. In fact, they have been producing power since the end of April that has been sold to the National Grid. In the first month we have generated an impressive 540 units with an income of over £240.

The other aspects of the project, such as the additional ten inches of roof insulation and the new gas boiler, will come into their

own during the winter months. As well as the environment, the twenty groups that use the facilities all year round will then feel the direct benefits.

The Village Hall Committee is extremely grateful to the various organisations that supported the project through grants: Rugby Borough Council and Veolia for the energy reduction aspects and the Big Lottery Community Sustainable Energy Programme for the renewable energy strand.

An interesting and worthwhile project, there is plenty of further potential within the village for similar work. An open evening in the Village Hall on June 22 gave everyone in Wolvey a chance to discuss with installers and the committee the work that has been carried out.

## Council Co-opts Jennifer

Wolvey Parish Council is pleased to welcome Mrs Jennifer Knight as a member of the Parish Council. The Council decided to co-opt Jennifer to fill a vacancy on the Council at its meeting on May 23rd.

Jennifer settled in Wolvey sixteen years ago moving from Whitestone in Nuneaton. She has two children, both married and two grandchildren.

Having retired, Jennifer now finds she

has more time to devote to the community. She wants to get involved in tackling village issues and is particularly keen to help it meet the demands of the future.



# Toddlers, Toys, Tea, Talk and Trips **B & T Group continues to thrive**

The Baby and Toddler group has been running in the village for many, many years. It is a valuable asset to Wolvey that enables parents, carers and their children to get together once a week. There is plenty of space in the Village Hall for the young ones to enjoy the variety of activities on offer, including getting to grips with the excellent range of toys.

Since 1996 the group has been run by Catherine Goffin. In that time, more than 300 babies and children have attended. Every week there is a good turn out.

Parents, grandparents and carers bring their babies and toddlers (up to school age) not just from Wolvey but Bulkington, Burbage, Burton Hastings, Shilton, Withybrook, Coventry, Nuneaton and the surrounding areas. There are currently 23 names on the books of our friendly group. An annual grant from the Parish Council helps pay the rent to the Village Hall and other costs. Outgoings do increase each year - the insurance this year was £153, but we've managed to hold our fee at £1 per family per week. Funds are also used to buy art materials, refreshments, new

toys and trips out with the children.

If anyone is interested in helping out at the group, volunteers are always welcome. There is always a lot to do, such as getting toys out and putting them away, maintaining equipment, making drinks and organising art activities. Just come along and have a chat. The group meets on Wednesday mornings - usually term time only - between 9.30am and 11.15am.



## Crime statistics for Wolvey

Wolvey Parish Council recently made a request under the Freedom of Information Act to find out how much crime occurs in Wolvey and how much of this is successfully solved.

The results we obtained from Warwickshire Police are as follows:

	Recorded crime	Detected
2008	85	12
2009	81	10
2010	95	8

The detected figure includes anything from caution, charge, fixed penalty, etc .

The low figure of 8 for 2010 could be because some of these are still under investigation.

These figures are very disappointing as they identify that, at a time that recorded crime in Warwickshire saw a reduction of 2% and an 11.8% reduction in the Rugby Borough, crime in Wolvey has increased. and the detection rate has decreased.

When asked to explain this Warwickshire Police replied, "Wolvey has seen a very low crime rate and has been a constant source of good news stories. Because of this success, any rise in crime will see a significant rise in terms of percentage, and taken on its own, would realise a false

picture in terms of crime in the area"

Unfortunately, since these results were received, cuts in the police budget has meant the loss of the Police Office in the village hall. The Parish Council wrote to express its disappointment about this.

The reply states, "by saving money on buildings we can maximize what we have left on employing staff to be present in communities to help to protect them. I can assure you that at this time there are no plans to remove your PCSO and she will be part of a Safer Neighbourhood Team dedicated to Policing the Rugby Rural North area (which includes Wolvey)."

## Traffic speed

Traffic speed through the village continues to be a problem for Wolvey residents. As a result, a number of initiatives have recently been carried out to try to deter speeding motorists. During March & April the police conducted 5 operations to deter and detect speeding motorists on Bulkington Road. The police issued a number of fixed penalty notices and warnings for speeding, parking and other matters. Details of this can be found on the Safer Neighbourhoods website on [www.safer-neighbourhoods.co.uk](http://www.safer-neighbourhoods.co.uk) Rugby Rural North.

Also, Wolvey Parish Council paid for a 2 week Speed Aware campaign on Coventry Road & Church Hill.

The results are as follows: (ACPO is the threshold which the Police use when considering enforcement):

### Coventry Road

Average Speed (Covert- no smiley SID)	Total number of vehicles surveyed	Percentage of vehicles travelling above ACPO
Northbound- 32.8mph Southbound- 34.6mph	201	29.8%
Average Speed (Overt- with Smiley SID)	Total number of vehicles surveyed	Percentage of vehicles travelling above ACPO
Northbound- 25.9mph Southbound-28.0mph	179	3.3%

### Church Hill

Average Speed (Covert- no smiley SID)	Total number of vehicles surveyed	Percentage of vehicles travelling above ACPO
Northbound- 39mph Southbound- 38mph	144	50.6%
Average Speed ( Overt- with smiley SID)	Total number of vehicles surveyed	Percentage of vehicles travelling above ACPO
Northbound- 37mph Southbound- 33mph	68	35.2%

This information is interesting as it confirms the significant number of vehicles travelling through the village at speed. At all locations this is particularly noticeable for vehicles travelling away from the village centre, particularly on Church Hill. The Police have agreed to make traffic speed in Wolvey one of their priorities for the next three months.

## New season greets new arrivals

As Spring eases into Summer, the Wolvey Environmental Group has been busy preparing the village and the Wetland Reserve for the Rugby in Bloom Competition. At the same time, we have also compiled entries for the Warwickshire Community Awards 2011.

You might have noticed that planting has been carried out in the Village Square. This was to replace the shrubs and plants that succumbed to the extremely cold weather last winter. Of course, weeds continue to grow, whatever the weather, so they had to be forcibly removed. We also carried out a general tidy up. This was in readiness for the arrival of the hanging baskets and troughs, which are now in place and look absolutely wonderful - as do the round planters in The Square which have been refreshed. Finally, the Flower Tower was installed and that now stands in colourful splendour welcoming everyone to our village.

The Old Cricket Field Wetland Reserve continues to delight its many visitors. Moorhen chicks are spotted daily on the pond, whilst tadpoles and strings of toad spawn are everywhere. The highlight for many this Spring though has been the array of ducklings being hatched there. These can be seen following their mother around the pond, and even venturing into the tributary. They are very distinctive,

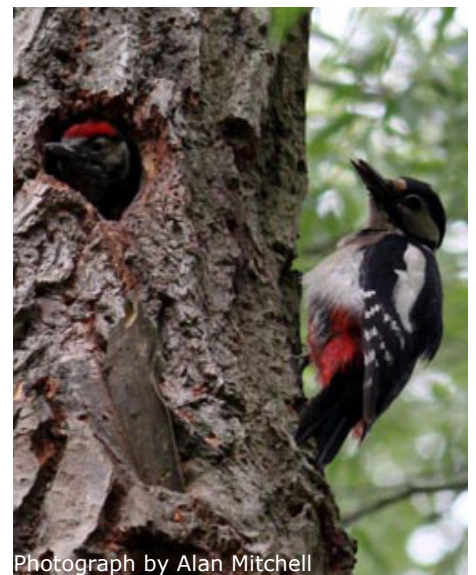
not least because of the albino mallard which is part of the brood. It's a good job, because when Mother Duck decided to try out the facilities of the pond on Bill Chase's land, it meant crossing the busy road at the bottom of Church Hill. Luckily they were easily spotted and the traffic was halted to allow safe passage; a dangerous game to play with your family!

The grassland that was cut earlier this year is re-generating, and creating a gorgeous fresh green carpet. Newly planted trees are in leaf, and, despite the strange weather patterns we have endured lately, have survived. Perhaps the best news from the reserve is that water voles have been seen regularly. This hopefully signals a resurgence of the species, great news for them and for us.

The group continues to meet monthly, at the Millennium Building. At the moment we are in the midst of plans for our Wetland Open Day, to be held on Saturday July 2nd, between 10am and 3pm. Activities will include pond dipping, insect netting, recognition sheets and "how to" handouts to keep people busy and to spread the Bio-diversity message - which is what we are all about. Our new and improved display of completed tasks and projects will be on show. So, please come and join us, and make our Open Day a success.

Looking to the future, more slip ponds will be dug out by the side of the boardwalk, and a new bench is to be installed in Bulkington Road, opposite the school. We will also be replacing two litter bins in the village square and painting the perimeter fence at the Wetland Reserve.

We were pleased to welcome four new members recently, two of whom are still at school. They are very keen and eager to learn and have provided valuable input to the group. They are the next generation of environmentalists. Hurray! The group still has room for more members, so please come along and get involved to help keep your village the special place it is.



Photograph by Alan Mitchell

# Wolvey Old Cricket Field Wetland Reserve Open Day

Saturday 2nd July 2011  
10:00am - 3:00pm

**Fun for all the family including:**  
guided tours  
pond dipping  
bird feeder and box construction  
spotting flora, fauna and birds  
mini beast mansion  
and the Children's activity table



**Come along and have some fun**

**For more details call Ruth on 01455 221324**



**A Wolvey Environment Group Event**

## Clerk's Corner

### Spring Meetings

Spring is always a busy time in the Clerk's calendar - with the end of year accounts to be completed and two statutory annual meetings to arrange. This year, at the Annual Parish Meeting, local voluntary groups provided an interesting insight into the work they do for the people of Wolvey. There was a presentation and display about the new solar panels at the Village Hall and displays from the Environment Group and Neighbourhood Watch. In addition, the prizes awarded in last year's Best Village and Rugby in Bloom competitions were on show.

### Cuts Begin to Bite

As the Parish Council is a statutory body, much of its work requires knowledge of government policy and the law. But, Parish Councillors are all volunteers from a variety of backgrounds, so to help them to understand the necessary information, we have built up a useful network of contacts that provide help and support when needed.

Unfortunately, the cuts in public spending means that much of this support network is being cut back or in some cases lost

## Me and my Music - How it all began for Roy

As a child, I can remember a long, lazy Sunday afternoon, quietly at play in what was then called the drawing room of the house where I was born. Music drifting in from the adjoining room interrupted my thoughts. It was my mother at the piano and she was accompanying herself as she sang hymns. This was the moment that set me thinking about music. I remember musing, 'How is she able to play like that?'

So, when I was about nine years old my mother arranged for me to have music lessons. You can imagine how excited I was when the day came for my very first proper lesson. I recall being introduced to the instrument by being shown the white key known as Middle C. That first note set me on my way, I progressed to finger exercises, then scales and finally to the thrill of playing actual pieces and songs.

One day at school, the headmaster announced that he needed someone to play a march on the school piano during assembly. I couldn't wait. I put my name forward with great excitement and enthusiasm - only to realize that we were about to move to a farm in another district so I wouldn't be able to play after all!

It was when we came to live at Burton Hastings that my Mother suggested I should learn to play with my feet as well as my hands, in other words, extend my keyboard skills to playing the organ. I did

altogether. This will inevitably have an ongoing impact on the work of the Parish Clerk and the Council.

### Consultations

The Parish Council continues to be inundated with various consultations on changes being proposed by the government. The Localism Bill is still being drafted so we still do not know exactly how this will impact on the Parish Council. All we can do at present is try to keep up to date and send comments in an effort to influence anything that is relevant to the people of Wolvey.

### Get in touch

For any information about the Parish Council, please contact me by email on parishclerk@wolvey.org or by telephone on 01455 220277. 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.

Margaret Cartwright

Parish Clerk

so, and it was this that eventually led to me playing at the Wolvey Baptist Chapel.

When I applied for the post of organist at the Chapel, I was delighted to accept the three month trial they offered me. Who would have believed I would still be playing there some 69 years later! I guess they must have liked what they heard.

Through music I have met many people and been to countless places singing and playing. All these years later, I still find it rewarding, relaxing and as captivating as I did on that distant boyhood Sunday afternoon graced by my mother's gentle touch on the family piano.

Roy Elliott



## Ron's moved on

Ron Podesta has resigned his seat on the Parish Council.

Ron joined the Council in 2009 and quickly asserted himself as an active member of the Council. He was driven by a passionate interest in improving life for the people of Wolvey.

He has for the past year held the post of Vice-Chairman. His efforts have been greatly appreciated by his colleagues on the Council and we are sorry to see him leave.

## VACANT SEAT...

...ON WOLVEY PARISH COUNCIL

Are you interested in your local community?

Do you have enthusiasm and lots of ideas on how to improve the area in which you live?

Why not consider joining the Wolvey Parish Council? Speak to any of the Councillors or the Clerk for more information.

## Wind Farm Meeting

### Public Meeting

Mr Mark Pawsey MP and Mr Rob Back, head of Planning Policy at Rugby Borough Council, will be speaking at a public meeting to update residents about policy regarding proposed Wind Farms in the northern area of the borough, including Wolvey. Borough Councillors Gillias and Warwick, will also attend.

If you would like to hear Rugby BC's policy and the views of our elected representatives please come on:

**Thursday 7th July**  
**Wolvey Baptist Chapel 7.00pm.**

for more information visit:

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