



AUDLEM PARISH COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2011

Audlem Parish Council

Business summary, October 2011

Planning for the future

Please take part in Cheshire East Council's consultation on the Local Development Framework. This document will be critical in deciding where in Cheshire East new homes will be built and new employment located, how the infrastructure will be provided to support new development and what the area's affordable housing needs are.

It will also be important in helping tackle the issues surrounding climate change, achieving sustainable development, protecting natural assets and providing new recreation and leisure facilities.

Please look carefully at the associated Rural Issues Summary Document and respond to it on the accompanying survey form. Your comments will help shape the policies in the Local Development Framework.

All documents, including the Summary Document and survey form, can be downloaded from www.cheshireeast.gov.uk or can be viewed at libraries and Customer Services Centres in Crewe and Nantwich.

Comments must be submitted by 5pm on Wednesday, 30 November 2011.

Parish Councillors' Contact Details

Kate Down, Chair – 811160

Bill Consterdine – 811647

Richard Furber – 811598

John Langston – 812395

Pam Seddon – 811282

Phillip Johnson – 811774

Heather Jones – 811836

Frances Christie - 811340

Mike Hill – 811843

David Siddorns – 811012

Irene Stockton – 811828

Jill Sanders – 812084

Your Parish Clerk is **Jean White** – 01948 871383 or email parishcouncil@audlem.org

For your convenience

Ownership of Audlem's public toilets was transferred to the Parish Council in October and the village once again possesses this vital and much improved facility. Thanks go to Councillors Mike Hill and Bill Consterdine for their hard work and persistence. Watch out for news of the official opening ceremony.

Audlem's a winner

Thank you to everyone who contributed towards Audlem's entry in the 2011 Community Pride Competition organised by Cheshire Community Action. Once again Audlem was well represented at October's prize-giving ceremony where Parish Council Chairman, Kate Down, accepted the Community Spirit award.

The village has not competed for this award since 2005 when it won the Cheshire and North of England awards, as well as the national award from Defra (Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs).

This year, the village also won the Little Gem award for the Audlem signs located at Little Heath, Tollgate Drive, and the junction of Woore Road and Paddock Lane. Congratulations to all concerned.

Parish Council meetings will be held in St James School on Mondays: 7 November, 5 December and 9 January. At the beginning of each meeting, residents have the opportunity to bring matters of particular concern to the attention of the Parish Council. Everyone is welcome to stay and listen afterwards.

Buerton Parish Council update

Sale of the school building has been agreed and is awaiting completion. By the end of this year Buerton PC should have funding to commence building a play area on the field. The scrub area on the field will be cleared and the mature trees pruned as necessary.

Buerton Parish Council meets on 1 November. The agenda and minutes can be viewed at www.audlem.org.

Church roof appeal

Parishioners may recall that lead was stolen from the north aisle of St James's church roof earlier this year. This section of the roof is visible to a very few residents and therefore vulnerable. To prevent any recurrence following repair, we have permission to replace this section of the roof with an alternative material.

The repair will cost £20,000 and even with insurance money and the proceeds from selling the remaining lead on that section, we still have a shortfall of £8,000.

The upkeep of this historic building is funded only by our local community, with help from grants for a few small projects. We know that many residents have been delighted with the work we have had done on the steps, and we want to keep our church waterproof and in good condition for the future.

If you would like to make a donation towards this repair, we would be most grateful. **Please contact our Treasurer, Peter Ellis on 812227.** Thank you.

Methodist Church musical

Rehearsals for the annual Methodist musical begin in early November. This year's production is entitled 'Pollyanna the musical' and will be performed, as usual, on five nights during the February half-term holiday (Tuesday 14 - Saturday 18 February, 2012).

Rehearsals are on Friday evenings until Christmas and then, during January and February, on Friday evenings and Sunday afternoons. New members of the company are always welcome. Simply turn up to a Friday rehearsal or, if preferred, speak with **Nancy-May Goodwin on 812036.**

Audlem District Amenities Society (ADAS)

The 42nd AGM of the society took place last month and it was Ralph Warburton's last as Chairman after many years. Julie Hesketh is now Chair of the society and we look forward to her ideas.

A new sign has been erected for the cemetery and plans to extend its lawns are being considered. A memorial to those buried years ago in common graves is also being considered.

The ADAS Community & Heritage award was presented to Janice Spibey in recognition of her outstanding achievement in taking part in St Luke's Midnight Walk for the last seven years and raising almost £11,000. This award is presented each year to an individual, group or business that, in the opinion of the ADAS committee, has contributed to making life here in Audlem & District even more pleasant.

Please see the Diary Dates on page four for information about forthcoming ADAS events. **For more information about ADAS, please contact Ralph Warburton on 812125 or at rjw@notrubraw.com.**

Friends of Audlem School Association (FASA)



Thank you to everyone who helped us raise over £5,550 for Audlem St James Primary School during the last academic year. This has enabled the school to buy most of the laptops needed for each classroom.

Thank you also to Cecilia Bebbington who recently resigned as FASA Chairperson after six fantastic years of fundraising.

Welcome to new Chairperson Deborah Varley. Unanimously voted in, she is already showing great strength and enthusiasm for the role.

Our priority this year is to raise money to buy £1,000 of reading books, a water/sand pit for the nursery, cookery utensils, a washing machine and sports balls. We are also plan to buy visualisers and the remaining laptops.

Thank you to everyone who donated textiles for our Rag Bag collection last month, the first of our autumn events. With the help and support of Williams Newsagents as our community drop-off point, we raised almost £300. Another will follow in the New Year, so watch this space.

Our Spooky Night disco took place on 30 October, and saw ghouls and ghosts from three to 12 years thoroughly enjoying themselves.

Please see Diary Dates on page four for future events. We look forward to seeing you there and thank you for your support.

Audlem & District Probus Club

The Club has continued to be very popular, offering the usual mix of good speakers, interesting social events and walks. It meets at the Brookfield Golf Club on the second and fourth Thursday each month (except August) at 10am for coffee followed by a talk from a guest speaker. Members are encouraged to stay on for an informal lunch.

Recent talks have been 'Understanding Hearing Loss', a very thought-provoking 'Inside Story of Chester's Ghosts' and 'Nantwich Museum' by the museum's Curator.

A varied programme is planned for autumn including 'Diving under Water', 'Heads the Magician Wins, Tails You Lose' and 'My Nine Lives'.

The club's visit to Highgrove, family home of the Prince of Wales, was a memorable day out and included lunch in the Cotswolds. This was followed by a tour of the Morgan Car factory in Worcestershire where they still make cars using traditional skills.

Forthcoming events include lunch and a talk/tour at Peckforton Castle; 'Gabriela, The International Storytelling Ukulele Lady' followed by supper; and The Halle New Year Concert at Victoria Hall, Hanley with soloist Lesley Garrett. 2012's special break is to Padstow, Cornwall and is already fully booked.

For further details, contact our President Alan Hodgson on 01630 655382 or Rex Rayner on 811896.

Audlem WI

Music and drama has been the hallmark of the W.I. autumn programme. In September The Jigsaw Players' presentation of 'Last Tango', followed by a series of short monologues, drew much laughter from an appreciative audience.

October's speaker was Brian Green whose video show, 'Disney and the Music', with early cartoons of Mickey Mouse, Dumbo and friends, evoked wonderful memories of yesteryear.

Members have enjoyed several day trips and theatre visits. Particularly notable were the visits to Bodrhyddan Hall, the home of Lord and Lady Langford, and our own local Tudor Mansion, Highfields, home to generations of the Baker family and of significant historical interest.

As part of their centenary celebrations, Crewe Lyceum's production of 'The Good Old Days' played to a packed audience and WI members enjoyed every minute.

In November we hold our annual meeting to appoint the new committee and also in November a five-day Turkey & Tinsel visit to Eastbourne is planned.

Christmas lunch will be held at the Ramada Hotel in Chester and our annual dinner will take place at Brookfield Golf Club in January. We send best wishes to all our members for the festive season.

For further details contact President Christine Salisbury on 811110 or secretary Anne Watson on 811473.

Embroiderers' Guild

Our AGM in September was also a celebration of the Guild's 21st Birthday, so business was swiftly finalised and the party began.

Our inaugural president, Jackie Woolsey, cut a delicious anniversary birthday cake baked by

committee member, Sue Jones. The assembled group of over 70 members then toasted the occasion with a glass of champagne. A hotly contested Embroiderers' Quiz followed. All members present agreed that it was the best AGM they had ever attended.



After months of exhaustive preparation, a four-day 21st Birthday Exhibition in October showcased talented members' work, including A-level textile pieces from local schools, workshops and demonstrations. The Committee and members worked tirelessly to ensure the exhibition's success and over 300 visitors attended during the four days.

Daphne Ashby won the public vote for The Best Exhibit with her 'Seascape' design. Hannah Shone from South Cheshire College won the Best A-level Exhibit. Congratulations to them both.

Stephanie Richardson, 811182

Audlem Branch Conservatives

The Parliamentary Boundary Review Committee has published its initial proposals. These include reducing the number of constituencies in England from 533 to 502. Each constituency will contain a similar number of electors as now.

Audlem is currently part of the Eddisbury Constituency. The review plans to increase the size of the constituency from 65,000 to just over 74,000, mainly by the transfer of villages surrounding Chester. It also proposes changing its name from Eddisbury to Winsford. This is the largest town in Eddisbury but geographically overall it has a very rural character. Audlem remains in the proposed slightly enlarged constituency. Comments on the changes can be sent by email to reviews@bcommengland.xgsi.gov.uk.

The Branch held a very successful Hog Roast & Strawberries Supper in July at The Cedars, Audlem, by kind invitation of David Latchford. Over 100 people enjoyed the evening with the splendid Hog Roast provided by the Fordhall Organic Farm. **For further information about the Branch and its events, please contact Roland Hall, 812530, or Alan Cross, 811974.**

Audlem Lass sails to success

The volunteer crew of Audlem Lass is celebrating the success of their weekend water taxi's first season.

Since the free service started running between the Overwater Marina and Audlem's Lock 15 in April, the volunteer crew has notched up over 832 hours and made more than 1,300 individual trips transporting over 4,000 people and 78 dogs. Passengers have donated over £3,800 and, after deducting running costs, the money will go to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution and to a new lifeboat at New Brighton on the Wirral, Merseyside, next to one of Britain's busiest shipping lanes.

The service is now closed until spring when details of the new programme will be announced. Thank you to all the volunteers and everyone who has supported Audlem Lass throughout her first sailing season.

Diary dates

Carers' coffee mornings will take place in the Public Hall at 10.30am on the second Tuesday of every month. Thornton House drop-in coffee mornings run by Audlem & District Community Action are changing to Fridays.

November

- 2 **Memorial Service at St James** for those who have been bereaved organised by the Methodist, Baptist and Anglican churches. All welcome.
- 6 **Bonfire and Fireworks** brought to you by ASET. Tickets from Audlem Post Office, Blitz Fireworks in Crewe and online at info@aset-audlem.org. £4 in advance and £5 on the day.
- 11 **Wartime Exhibition of Village Life** by ASET in Audlem Public Hall to commemorate the 90th anniversary of the Royal British Legion and Armistice Day. Admission is free.
Wartime Dance with The Trent River Big Band playing dance classics from the 1940s in Audlem Public Hall. Bar available. Tickets £8 from Audlem Post Office or online at info@aset-audlem.org.
- 13 **Remembrance Sunday**. The annual service of remembrance, followed by the laying of wreaths, at St James at 10.45am. The service is arranged by the three Audlem churches on behalf of the village.
- 17 **'Josiah Wedgwood and the Portland Vase'**, History Society talk by Sarah Hill, Scout & Guide Hall, 7.45pm, following AGM at 7.30pm.
- 18 **The Big Christmas Tree** will be erected in The Square and thousands of tree lights hung by ADAS.
- 24 **The Big Switch On** of the tree lights. All traders will be open for late night shopping. FASA Tombola and competitions in the Buttermarket. The children of Audlem St James will have a Santa Run and Santa will appear at MacKelvey's.

Audlem Scouts & Guides

Some new faces are helping the Audlem Scouts & Guides and we are delighted to welcome our new Scoutmaster, Tony Mills, and his assistant, Monique Hollinshead. Robert Teale has taken on the role of Assistant Cub Master and Julia Teale has become Group Treasurer for the Scout Group.

Rosie Slawinska is seeking a regular assistant to help her with a very full Beaver Pack (junior Cubs under seven years). **If you would like to apply, please contact Rosie on 811103.**

Finally, thank you to everyone who came and enjoyed the Macclesfield Silk Brass Band at St James' Church in September raising £300 for the Scout & Guide Group, which enabled us to buy a new fridge and a vacuum cleaner to tidy up after the event.

December

- 2 **FASA Family Quiz & Bingo Night** and Christmas Raffle. Tickets on sale soon.
- 4 **Christingle Service**, St James, 4pm.
- 6 **History Society Christmas Dinner**.
- 7 **Christmas tree collection** by Audlem Scouts.
- 11 **Gift Service**, Baptist Chapel, 10.30am.
- 18 **Carol Service**, Baptist Chapel, 10.30am.
Evening Carol Service organised by the Methodist, Baptist and Anglican churches, St James, 6.30pm. All welcome.
- 22 **Community Carol Singing** round the Christmas tree in The Square with the Normid Brass Band.
- 24 **Christmas Eve Service**, Hankelow Methodist Church, 7.30pm.
First Communion of Christmas, St James, 11.15pm.
- 25 **Christmas Day Services:**
Holy Communion, St James, 8.15am.
Family Communion, St James, 10am.
Christmas Service, Audlem Methodist Church, 10am.
Christmas Morning Worship, Baptist Chapel, 10.30am.

January 2012

- 19 **'The Victory of Bhurtpore'**, the second of three talks on the life of Lord Combermere by History Society member Dinah Andrew, Scout & Guide Hall, 7.45pm.

The closing date for items for the winter issue is 10 January 2012 for distribution during the first week of February. To contribute, please contact Editor Kira Nicholls on 812485 or at newsletter@audlem.org, or post your item in the box in the Post Office. All items submitted will be given careful consideration.