



# NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2009

## AUDLEM PARISH COUNCIL – ANNUAL REPORT; Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009

*Richard Furber, outgoing Chairman of the Parish Council says:*

This is my last Annual Report as my period of office as Chairman of Audlem Parish Council has ended. I would like to record my grateful thanks to the members of the Parish Council, Jean White and John Kemble for the support they have given me over the last four years. Kate Down is your new Chairman and I am sure you will join with me in wishing her well.

Some of the highlights of this busy year were:

- Completion of **“First Responder”** training by four residents, and more volunteers came forward to undergo training. Thanks to Mike Hill for his efforts in obtaining sponsorship etc. and to those in training and trained.
- At last the Highways Committee voted in January for the **A525** to be de-primed, a measure which should, in time, reduce the volume of heavy traffic trundling through the village.
- A grant of £17k has been awarded by Crewe & Nantwich Borough Council for new equipment and improvements to the **children’s playground**. We are applying to WREN for top up funding to complete the work we have planned
- We tried a new style and timing for the **Annual Village Meeting** which was held on 4<sup>th</sup> March. Our cheese and wine evening was attended by more than 100 people who took the opportunity to have informal discussions with parish councillors and representatives of various organisations who had set up displays.
- The opening of **The Weaver Way** and launch of the **Floating Gardens Festival** with a horse drawn boat took place in June 2008, an event I was privileged to attend. Among the guests were the Chairman of Cheshire County Council and the Mayor and Mayoress of Crewe & Nantwich.
- I attended the awards evening of the **Community Pride Competition** on 25<sup>th</sup> September when Audlem was presented with a Special Award in recognition of its excellent performance over the past three years.
- The **Village Design Statement** was presented on 18<sup>th</sup> October with a very interesting display which was attended by approximately 150 people. Well done to the planning group who produced it.
- A public meeting was held in January when **DAHLIA Allotments Association** was formed. There is a lot of interest from prospective allotment holders and a suitable site is being sought.

Parish Council meetings take place in St James’ School on the first Monday of every month, excluding August.

### **Parish Councillors’ Contact Details**

Kate Down - Chair 811160  
 Mike Hill - Vice Chair 811843  
 Frances Christie 811340      Bill Consterdine 811647  
 Richard Furber 811598      Norman Huntbach 812768  
 Peter Morgan 811575      Pam Seddon 811282  
 Andrew Smith 811969      Irene Stockton 811828  
 Geoff Stretch 811011      Phillip Bradbury-Smith 811021  
 Your Parish Clerk is Jean White 01948 871383 or email parishcouncil@audlem.org

### **Financial Summary**

<b>Income – 2007/08</b>	<b>£</b>
Brought Forward	8042
Crewe & Nantwich B C	29249
Other Income	<u>10746</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>48037</b>

### **Expenditure**

Staff	4828
Running Costs	4672
Newsletters/Flyers	1148
Insurance	885
Audit	363
Donations	5775
Projects Etc	<u>16275</u>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>33946</b>

Amount Carried Forward **14091**

The carried forward figure includes ring fenced funds in surplus of £3020.

### **Income 2008/09**

	<b>£</b>
Brought Forward	14091
Crewe & Nantwich BC	30611
Other Income	<u>3345</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>48047</b>

### **Expenditure**

	<b>£</b>
Staff	5376
Running costs	637
Newsletters/flyers	1184
Insurance	926
Audit	368
Donations	5425
Projects etc	<u>13058</u>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>26974</b>

Amount Carried Forward **21073**

The carry forward figure includes ring fenced funds in surplus of £1550.

### **Parish Council Latest:**

Success at last – WREN has granted us the full £11400 balance required to upgrade the children’s playground. This means we have the total £28400 needed to install equipment and tarmac the paths. Thanks to the Parish Council’s playground committee, especially Cllr Peter Morgan. The Parish Council agreed to provide match funding of £1254 which was required to unlock Landfill Communities Funding. Following submissions from the Parish Council, The Cheshire Integrated Transport Service is looking into the possibility of re-introducing a bus service to Market Drayton. Members of Audlem, Hankelow, Buerton and Dodcott-cum-Wilkesley parish Councils met recently to discuss opportunities for joint action. There are a variety of matters which cause concern across our patch of South Cheshire – e.g. ambulance and emergency services, public transport and rural housing. It was agreed that combined efforts are more likely to be successful and that similar meetings should take place regularly.

### **AUDLEM PARISH PLAN**

The steering committee of the Audlem Parish Plan has been asked by the Parish Council to produce a new plan to follow up the last one published in 2005. The new plan will focus on a range of issues including 'sustainability.'

It is anticipated that a questionnaire will seek the views of Audlem residents in September and that, like last time, volunteers will be sought for a number of working groups. The groups are likely to be:

- Parish Council and Local Government (by Steering Group)
- Environment and Ecology
- Community Projects - (Community Involvement including Sport & Leisure)
- Local Businesses including Tourism
- Health
- Planning, Housing & Built Environment
- Youth & Education
- Community Care & Access (Social Inclusion)
- Traffic & Transport (includes canal, footpaths, parking)
- Communications
- Law & Order (not a working group but written as a Parish Plan section in conjunction with the police)

More details on the working groups will be published in the future but if anyone is interested in volunteering, please let me know on [bojcartwright@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bojcartwright@yahoo.co.uk) or speak to any of the steering group - Judy Benson, Bob Cartwright, Roland Hall, Mike Hill, Kate Parkes, Pam Seddon and Greville Watts.

It is likely that the working groups will be in operation in the autumn and into next year. Last time, it was found that groups of 6-8 people operate best. If all groups attract that number, there's room for around 60-70 volunteers although there is nothing to stop people working on more than one group.

Progress on all the action points in the last plan is still being monitored and one of the key actions, de-priming the A525, has been confirmed..

### EAT LOCAL

In the Spring Parish Newsletter, we focused on the shops in Audlem and the many reasons to 'Shop Local'. Since then, more retail premises are being prepared - three at the old Co-op site on the Square; the old bookmakers shop has been refurbished and Muller's have vacated the third shop in their development, next to the Co-operative Food store. Audlem looks to be getting more shops than we have had for a long time.

In this issue we look at the cafes, pubs and takeaway facilities in the village:



### Cafés

**Beaman's**, opposite St James' Church, sells traditional ice cream and sweets and incorporates **The Old Priest House Coffee Shop** offering Breakfast; Lunches;

Afternoon snacks; Home-made cakes & pies; Hot & Cold beverages. A Specials Board includes Vegetarian/Vegan dishes plus traditional lunches including dishes from around the world and home-made puddings, prepared from scratch using fresh, organic local produce wherever possible. Everyone welcome, including walkers, cyclists, and clubs.

**The Coffee Lounge** has proved a very popular addition to the village's facilities. The best Italian coffee beans are used with staff trained by a champion 'Barista'. The menu includes, scones (baked daily), cakes and tray bakes, jacket potatoes, plus breakfasts and light lunches, in a comfortable ambience plus a rear courtyard with seating, ideal for dog walkers and cyclists to leave their bicycles.

### Pubs

**The Shroppie Fly** is perfect for its canal side location while



**The Bridge Inn** has been recently expanded and refurbished with a terrace and conservatory. **The Lord Combermere** was completely refurbished in 2005/6. All serve top quality cask ales, plus lagers, ciders, wine and spirits and have extensive menus. All three feature live music and support the Audlem Music & Arts Festival.

### Takeaway Food

Audlem's popular **The Plaice Fish & Chips** shop is on Cheshire Street, newly refurbished and selling fresh battered fish, pies, sausages, chips and a range of soft drinks. **Audlem Kebab House** in the village centre offers fresh kebabs, burgers and a range of pizzas made with freshly prepared pizza dough.



### UNBELIEVABLE!

Audlem has done it again. Another Audlem event has achieved more than would ever have been thought possible.

Between the evenings of Friday 3 and Saturday 4 July, Audlem Methodist Church attempted to raise £5,000 in one day for a good cause. It ended up generating a staggering £13,000! On the morning of Sunday 5 July, a representative from Macmillan joined the congregation at its morning service. The events of £5k/day were reviewed and gradually the financial result was revealed. When the 'big cheque' for Macmillan Cancer Support was finally passed over, the congregation was speechless.

Dinner parties and coffee mornings had been held in people's homes. A 10k sponsored event had involved runners, walkers and cyclists. Two performances of 'Sing-a-long the Shows' provided lots of fun as well as musical entertainment, and an auction of promises was blessed with great offers and generous bids. Throughout the day passing members of the public showered the chapel with their gifts. The end result was an unbelievable total of more than £13,000.

Thank you so much for all the support offered throughout the village. Audlem has done it again.

Andrew Gunstone

### CHESHIRE CARERS' CENTRE

Cheshire Carers Centre now offer Carers Emergency Cards, free to all those who care for a relative or friend who needs help due to illness, disability or frailty. The project, Carers Emergency Response Service (CERS) is in partnership with Cheshire East Crossroads. Registration for the scheme will give Carers peace of mind should they be delayed or unable to reach the person they care for. A pre arranged back up plan will ensure loved ones are looked after. For more information, please call the freephone helpline on 0800 085 0307 (Mon-Fri 10.00am until 4.00pm) or visit [www.carers.org/cheshire](http://www.carers.org/cheshire).

There is an informal drop in session at Audlem Public Hall on the 2nd Tuesday of the month from 10.30 am until 12.30 pm where Carers can call in for a chat and a coffee with centre staff and other Carers. We are currently having our summer break so the next session will be Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>

### AUDLEM PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP



The Audlem Patient Participation Group met on 30<sup>th</sup> June. All seven members were present - David Mason, who chaired the

meeting, Janet Maughan, Marion Hough, Bob Cartwright, Geoff Farr, Anne Roberts, plus medical practice manager Helen Matthews and Dr Peter Leftwick. The panel discussed the new Patient Participation leaflets produced by the practice. As well as giving information on the Patient Panel, they also list the services provided by Audlem Medical Practice:

#### Services

- Doctor appointments and Nursing Services
- Specialist Clinics for Diabetic; Asthma; Heart Conditions; Stroke; Chronic Lung Disease
- Well Man/Woman
- Minor Surgery
- Blood Testing
- Spirometry (lung function tests)
- ECGs (heart function check)
- New Patient Checks
- Contraception and Sexual Health
- District Nursing
- Health Visiting
- Visiting Services - Midwives/Podiatry/Dietician

It is planned that the leaflets, which also include useful telephone numbers, surgery times and details of out-of-hours services, will be distributed door to door shortly and will also be available on [Audlem Online](#).

The panel was given feedback from Anne Roberts on a workshop she attended where Issues discussed included automated booking in systems, email access to appointments, newsletters, school presentations and the value of joining the National Association of Patient Panels.

Peter Leftwick reported on the progress with the plans to extend the practice and approximate timescales. The panel was briefed on the alternative larger scheme combined with an indoor sports centre which has been put on hold because NHS funding is unlikely in the current financial climate.

Feedback was given on the pilot appointments scheme. This has resulted in far less pressure on the appointment system and has had a positive impact on the practice as a whole. The check-in screen is working well with a few minor usage issues.

Out-of-Hours cover was discussed with Peter Leftwick describing how the policy of providing medical cover out of hours has changed over the last few years. The PCT is now responsible for care between 6.30pm and 8.00am. It was stressed how important it is to still call the surgery telephone number (01270 811440) should you need a GP out of hours, as this ensures the correct number to call will be given to the caller.

Wednesdays opening: Dr Peter Leftwick said that, from the beginning of September 2009, the practice will stay open on Wednesday afternoons. The issue of Saturday morning opening was discussed.

Other issues discussed included statins, and Child Protection Procedures. It was agreed that Health Promotion ideas and the role that doctors at Audlem play in terms of emergencies and urgent care be discussed at the next meeting which is to be held on Tuesday 29th September.

#### AUDLEM TEA TOWEL

The Canal Shop, Post Office and Williams Of Audlem are currently working together to produce a new Audlem tea-towel. The tea -towel will illustrate popular Audlem themes, the canal, walking, the church, the Cheshire country side etc and has been adapted from an original painting by local talented artist, Jo Halden. It will be available as a full colour tea towel on 100% cotton.

Instructions for use can be supplied for reluctant users and beginners!

It is hoped that these will be in the shops listed above within the next six weeks.

#### AUDLEM SAINTS FOOTBALL CLUB

ASFC are looking for volunteers to assist with the training on Saturday mornings from September (CRB required). Training will be provided and do not expect commitment every weekend - very flexible.

Additionally we are looking for help with the administration of the club - an hour or so per month to assist with grant applications etc.

Please contact Reuben/Jane Palin on 01270 812012.

#### ADAS(Audlem District Amenities Society)

##### **Audlem in Bloom.**

The new idea of plants in tubs and troughs has been well received. We will have the judges for Britain in Bloom here on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. I will take them round the area and tell them of the plans we have.

Major worry is of lack of watering which may cause plants to die so I ask all to keep an eye on them and help if they can.

**Table Top Sale** in the Public Hall - September 19<sup>th</sup>. For bookings contact Ralph on 812125 - £5 per table.

**ADAS AGM** takes place on the 22<sup>nd</sup> October in the Scout Hall at 7.30pm. This will be our 40<sup>th</sup> AGM and a major milestone in the history of ADAS. We are planning a full evening and inviting as many past chairmen as can attend. Please make a date for this night. A speaker has been booked and past times from the ADAS archives will be displayed along with reports from those we have helped in their charity work this year. .

**Fashion Show - November.** Plans well advanced for this now very popular event.

Any queries please contact **Ralph Warburton on 812125** - or any other committee member.

**Audlem Music and Arts Festival.** 2010. May 28<sup>th</sup> to May 31<sup>st</sup> we are now planning next years' event. We are delighted that the man whose vision and drive set the whole Festival in motion, Paul Moran, will be with us along with Claire Moran. See [Audlemfestival.com](#) for full information.

Any queries please contact **Ralph Warburton on 812125.**

#### NUON LOSES WINDFARM APPEAL



The appeal by Nuon (UK) Ltd to build a wind farm 7 miles SE of Audlem has been turned down following the month-long hearing at Woore that began on 6th May.

The appeal arose after North Shropshire District Council turned down the company's application to build the wind

farm which could be seen from many miles around, including parts of Audlem and Buerton. Six hundred people attended the planning meeting, virtually every one against the plan. Nuon appealed NSDC's decision and it was feared by many that the appeal would succeed.

It appears, however, that the democratic decision of the local council and the wishes of the vast majority at the planning meeting, have been upheld.

The judgement is lengthy but Mr T Cookson's key conclusion as Inspector was:

"I accept that the proposed wind farm would make a contribution towards the overall supply of renewable energy, and contribute towards the regional target. However, with regard to Appeal A\*, in terms of appearance in this setting the

turbines would be seen as large, alien features in their surroundings.

The nature and topography of this pleasant tract of countryside is such that it would not be capable of absorbing this wind turbine development satisfactorily.

In terms of the effect on residential amenity, the residents of College Fields Cottages, Dorrington Hall, Dorrington Hall Farm and The Grove would experience a marked and unacceptable reduction in their amenity. As the effect on listed buildings and conservation areas, I consider that only the setting of Bellaport Old Hall, within the appeal site, would suffer a detrimental effect as a result of the development. ”

\*There were two appeals - one against North Shropshire District Council's, now Shropshire County Council, decision to reject Nuon's planning application in September 2008 to build the turbines. The second was against Newcastle under Lyme Borough Council's earlier decision to refuse planning for an access road to the site, which was very near to the boundary between the two authorities.

#### **GET FIT IN THE AUTUMN!!**

Lisa Ratcliffe's keep fit class has been helping to create beautiful bodies for many years. It's a very friendly atmosphere and is suitable for everyone of any age, fitness level or even gender! The class takes place on Tuesday evenings in the Public Hall at 6.30 pm and costs only £3 for 45 minutes workout.

Although the class has now closed for the Summer Holidays it will restart in September and would welcome new and 'old' members to attend. Support for the class is essential to keep it going, so mark it in your diaries now. Look forward to seeing you there!

Contact Lisa on 07967821592.

#### **ST LUKE'S GARDEN PARTY**

The Garden Party on 4th July to raise funds for St. Luke's Hospice, which was very kindly hosted by Mike and Deleta Harthern in Monks Lane, proved to be a great success.

Not only was the venue excellent but the weather held fine and the 120 who attended enjoyed the Hog Roast and the various entertainments to the full.

The evening grossed just under £1500 and many thanks must go, not only to Mike and Deleta, but also the troubadours, Mr. Joseph Heler for the cheese, James Grundy and Anna for the ferrets and all who contributed to its success.

#### **AUDLEM & DISTRICT PROBUS**

*President Ben Clark's first 3 months of office has started splendidly with both an interesting speaker and social programmes*

*The Club meets at the Brookfield Golf Club on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday each month (except August) commencing 10 am for coffee followed by a guest speaker. Recent talks have included 'On the Fiddle' by a former member of the Liverpool Philharmonic, 'Journey to the Bottom' of the Sea and an insight to 'The Art of Magic'. Coming up shortly we have 'The Fordhall Community Land Initiative' and a talk by David Barnardo a member of the family that started the famous Children's Home Organisation. In May club members and guests enjoyed a sunny 5 day break in Alnwick including visits to the Gardens and Castle, Holy Island, Craggside and Hadrian's Wall. We have a full coach for a Cruise on Windermere in July and are looking forward to our journey to Snowdon's summit In addition there are the usual lunches and social evenings plus monthly walks.*

*For further details contact our President Ben Clark on 01630 655052 or Rex Rayner 01270 811896*



#### **ASET MIDSUMMER MUSIC TRIUMPH**

ASET laid on a night to remember for this year's Music on the Park. *Relix* got the party off to a fine start, and *High Society* lived up to their name

with great style before the stars of the West End hit the stage with a string of hits from the great musicals.

This was entertainment out of the top drawer and the vast crowd responded with huge enthusiasm. Jill Nalder, Andrew Newey, Frances Fry, Stephen Weller, Tim Rogers and Lucy Newton belted out the great London West End hits. A finale with ABBA numbers from Mamma Mia! had hundreds dancing in front of the stage before a Blitz fireworks extravaganza set the seal on another memorable Audlem night.

The ASET team would like to offer sincere thanks to all the supporters who helped to make this a truly memorable night.

#### **AUDLEM DISTRICT HISTORY SOCIETY PROGRAMME 2009**

**August** -No meeting

**Thurs Sept.17<sup>th</sup>**-Dorothy Nicoll: The truth behind Brother Cadfael

**Thurs Oct 15<sup>th</sup>** - Graham Dodd: The story of the Shropshire Union Canal

All talks start at 8pm prompt, Please try to arrive by 7.45pm  
Membership £10 p.a. Visitors £2 per meeting Tea and biscuit 25p

#### **AUDLEM & DISTRICT BRANCH CONSERVATIVES.**

A lunchtime drinks and canapés event is being arranged for October 2009, details of which will be advertised

For further information about the Branch and its events contact Roland Hall (812530) or Alan Cross (811974)

#### ***HAVE YOUR SAY***

If you would like your views in the Newsletter or on the Website contact:

**Newsletter editor** Margaret Roberts on 812942 or [newsletter@audlem.org](mailto:newsletter@audlem.org) or post your item in the box situated in the Post Office

**Website Team** on [editor@audlem.org](mailto:editor@audlem.org) or 'Contact Webteam' on the website.

**The closing date for items for the autumn issue is 10<sup>th</sup> October 2009.**

**Please Note:** All items submitted will be given careful consideration. However, the Editorial Team is responsible for the content of the Newsletter and the final decision for inclusion rests with it.

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