

AROUND AUDLEM

The newsletter for residents of Audlem & District

Summer 2012

Audlem Parish Council

Annual Report 2011/12

Kate Down, Chairman, writes:

I have recently completed my third year as Chairman of the Parish Council. It has again been a very busy year for the council and I would like to thank my fellow councillors, Jean White and John Kemble for all their support and hard work.

There have been some changes to the way the Parish Council operates. The introduction of unitary government (in our case Cheshire East) has brought the Parish Council into more direct contact with the top layer of local government and given us a greater opportunity to influence local events.

Following the direction provided by Audlem's excellent Parish Plan, every councillor now has their own area of responsibility, each shadowing a Parish Plan group.

This year saw Cllr Irene Stockton step down after 15 years of service and Geoff Seddon fill the resulting vacancy. Many thanks to Irene for her contribution.

It also saw the appointment of two new Newsletter editors, Kira Nicholls and Jennifer Cope, after the resignation of Margaret Roberts who had done a fantastic job for six years. Unfortunately, after one edition, Jennifer had to step down due to other work commitments, but Kira is still there and doing a great job of updating the look of the newsletter. A recent competition gave it its new name and masthead, and you will find more about the competition results and newsletter survey in this issue.

Whilst much of the council's work is ongoing, it is great to see a project come to fruition. I was delighted to be involved in the official opening of the refurbished public toilets on 16 November and, as they now belong to Audlem, they are an asset we must treasure and we must make sure that their standard is maintained. Particular thanks go to Cllrs Consterdine and Hill for all their hard work in achieving this.

Another success this year was winning The Community Spirit Award in the Cheshire Community Pride Competition, which is probably a true reflection of Audlem and its residents.

Finally, we are very sorry to be saying goodbye to our Clerk, Jean White, who is retiring after almost 10 years of excellent service. We wish her all the best for the future and expect to announce the name of our newly appointed Clerk soon.

Parish Councillors' Contact Details

Kate Down, Chair – 811160

Bill Consterdine, Vice Chair – 811598

Frances Christie – 811340 **Richard Furber** – 811598

Mike Hill – 811843

Phillip Johnson – 811774

Heather Jones – 811836

John Langston – 812395

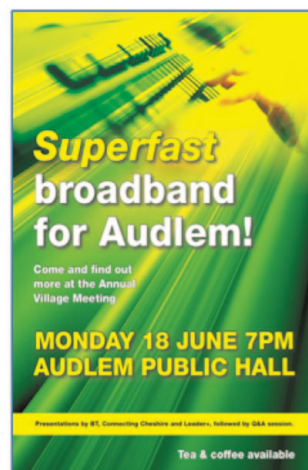
Jill Sanders – 812084

Geoff Seddon – 811282

Pam Seddon – 811282

David Siddons – 811012

Village Meeting 2012



This year's Annual Village Meeting took place on 18 June when the topic was Superfast Broadband (SFBB). More than 50 residents saw presentations from BT and Connecting Cheshire.

These highlighted the fact that the 800-plus telephone numbers on the Audlem exchange were unlikely to be in the next roll-out of SFBB in Cheshire and

only the submission of a bid to be included in the roll-out, together with a significant number of registrations of interest, might change this position.

A team was immediately set up by Audlem Parish Council to muster support from residents and businesses for SFBB. The main problem was completing this task by the 6 July deadline. With a leaflet drop and much-appreciated help from Audlem Online, the amazing result was that 300 registrations of interest were received by Connecting Cheshire by the deadline (with more still arriving daily).

In the meantime, the team, with help from a consultant, completed the vast array of paperwork that was required for the bid and sent off in time for the deadline. The Parish Council thanks all those who made the bid possible by registering their interest.

Newsletter survey: views and queries

Thank you to everyone who responded to the Newsletter survey. We were delighted to learn that 99 per cent of those who replied were happy with the newsletter overall. We received some excellent suggestions for items and plan to include some of them in the future – so watch this space.

In answer to some of your queries, Audlem Parish Council sponsors the printing of the newsletter and unfortunately we do not have sufficient funds to print the Business Directory more than once a year. You can, however, find details of most local business on our village website, Audlem Online, at www.audlem.org.

This newsletter provides news and publicity for local groups, societies and organisations – we do not organise events. We welcome people sending in contributions and you can do that **by email to newsletter@audlem.org, by telephone to Kira Nicholls on 812485, or by leaving your story at the Post Office.**

Although we do not publish party political information, we do include details of social gatherings by local political groups and items of general interest.

Planning developments are discussed at Parish Council meetings, which anyone may attend, and the minutes are published on the village website. Specific details of planning developments are available on the Cheshire East website.

Since this newsletter is quarterly, and space is restricted, we try to highlight forthcoming events but you can always find information about previous events at Audlem Online. The website also has an up-to-date Buy/Sell section of items currently available free or for sale. The British Heart Foundation in Crewe or Peter Wilson Auctioneers in Nantwich can accept electrical items and furniture that the Charity Shop cannot take.

Finally, we hope you will be pleased to hear that the local bus timetables are displayed on the village noticeboard and the village diary with dates for the next quarter is still available to read in the traditional format on request at Williams newsagent.

Competition: we have a winner

A big thank you to everyone who entered the 'Name Your Newsletter' competition. We received over 20 terrific entries and it was hard to pick a winner. David Latchford's entry, *Around Audlem*, stood out, accompanied as it was by a sketch of the design he had in mind.



Kate Down, Chairman of Audlem Parish Council (right), and Cllr Pam Seddon presented David and his partner Sarah, who helped to come up with the design, with their prize – a family ticket to attend the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Party in the Park donated by ASET.

Parish Council meetings will be held in St James's School on Mondays: 3 September and 1 October. 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 for the rest of the meeting.

Audlem & District Community Action (ADCA)

After a successful year of running Thornton House Day Club as well as setting up the Coffee Club, Befriending Service and Voluntary Driver scheme, ADCA held its first AGM on 29 June. The meeting was attended by 26 people and included an excellent talk from Jo Hawkins from the local branch of the Alzheimer's Society.

ADCA has been fortunate in receiving the continued support of the Parish Council, local churches, Audlem Medical Practice, Wulvern Housing, Cheshire East Council and a host of other local people and groups.

We have expanded the Tuesday Day Club membership from 10 to 22 people. We have also recruited 10 new volunteers to help with a variety of tasks alongside our 12 longer standing volunteers and staff team. Speakers, music, reminiscence, chat, days out to a favourite country pub for a meal and our

recent Jubilee Patio Party have all contributed to an active and growing membership. We also have up to 15 people attending our Friday morning Coffee Club.

As a Charitable Trust, we aim to provide physical and mental stimulation, social activity and support to carers, and to promote social inclusion and independence. We plan to recruit more volunteers so we can continue to expand our services. **If you are interested, or think you may benefit from our services, please contact Ronni Briggs, Co-ordinator, on 07813 281614 or email roger.millns@lineone.net.**

Friends of Audlem School Association (FASA)



The FASA Summer Fair was combined with the School Sports day and proved to be a big success despite the summer rain, raising £630. Thanks to your support, FASA has raised over £5,500 for Audlem St James' Primary School during the past academic year to buy equipment and support the out-of-school clubs.

Events planned for the autumn term include Spooky Night and The Big Switch On, and an Auction of Promises in the spring term. Further details of all our events are on the school website.

Audlem District Amenities Society (ADAS)

Ralph Warburton met the Britain in Bloom judges for North West England in Audlem last month. ADAS has won awards in the past two years for its work so it is unlikely that we will win again... but we shall see.

A tabletop sale will be held in the Public Hall from 10am to 2pm on 22 September with bargains galore and lots of fun. If you would like to book a table to sell anything from bric-a-brac to jewellery, toys to furniture, books to candlesticks, please contact **Ralph Warburton on 812125 or 07813 820157.**

Break-in proves popular

Last summer, Audlem Methodist Church offered the 'Audlem Holiday at Home'. This summer, for the younger people, it was 'The Break-in Weekend'.

Instead of going away, a group of between 20 and 30 young people lived at the chapel for a weekend in July. They enjoyed a full range of activities, from ten-pin bowling (not down the aisle) to 'It's a knock-out',

and lots of food – the weekend began with a Chinese banquet and ended with a seven-course formal dinner. Everyone enjoyed themselves fully.

A warm Audlem welcome



We are delighted to welcome Jules Walker to our community. Jules was ordained at Chester Cathedral on 1 July and is now working at St James's Church with the Vicar, Helen Chantry. Originally from Helsby, Jules lives in Wybunbury with her family and, like Helen,

she serves the churches of Audlem, Doddington and Wybunbury.

First Responders need YOU!

When an elderly Audlem resident recently lost consciousness without warning, relatives dialled 999. The operator was still giving instructions when Linda Chatham from the Audlem First Responders arrived, complete with a defibrillator, to take charge.

Audlem is fortunate to have a team of First Responders who are willing to dash to the aid of someone in urgent need: in the case of a heart attack, every second counts. Defibrillators can be found at the following village locations (when open): Co-op; Audlem Cyclesport; The Mill Shop; Audlem Medical Practice; Audlem Fire Station.

The First Responders' recent Heart Start course was well attended and further courses are in the pipeline. Attendees are given vital information and training to help save someone's life in an emergency situation before the First Responders or Paramedics arrive. Young people will be especially welcome so please do come along and learn how to save a life.

For information, visit www.audlemcommunityfirstresponders@btck.co.uk. If you would like to join the Audlem First Responders, please visit the FAQ page at www.nwas-responders.info or email Janet Graham at janet.graham@nwas.nhs.uk.

Audlem & District Probus Club

Our busy programme for the coming months includes talks on 'A Light-hearted Look At Life', 'Mersey River Pilot', 'Not So Solid Ground' and 'Fisherman's Friend'.

During August, we will have a tour of the Joules Brewery at Market Drayton and, in September, a six-

hour cruise on the Manchester Ship Canal, from Seacombe to Salford Quay. In addition, there are lunches, social evenings and monthly walks.

The Club 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. **For details contact our President Rodney Cottrell on 811454 or Rex Rayner on 811896.**

Audlem WI

Our next social event is the annual garden party, to be held this year at the home of Mrs Elizabeth Huntbach. We look forward to a fun day with various games and competitions, and a delicious afternoon tea. Future talks are entitled 'You'll Never Believe It But..' and 'The Seven Deadly Sins'. A day trip to Anglesey and Plas Cadnant Gardens is also planned.

Regular activities include Darts, Scrabble, Dominos and theatre visits. We meet on the first Thursday of the month at the Scout & Guide Hall. Visitors and new members are always welcome. **For further details contact Anne Watson on 811473.**

Audlem History Society

Audlem District History Society aims to record local history and foster local knowledge.

Members of the society, led by Nantwich archaeologist Malcolm Reid, recently visited Old Oswestry Hillfort (*pictured*). Malcolm demonstrated how the ramparts were built and adapted over the centuries from the Iron Age to Roman times, and showed us the large pits whose purpose still remains a mystery. Old Oswestry is a national monument that deserves to be further developed.



The Society meets on the third Thursday of the month (except August) at 7.30pm in the Scout & Guide Hall. Do come and join us – you will be made very welcome. **For details contact Chairman John Whitehead on 812607 or Secretary Dorothy Jones on 811814.**

Diary dates

If you would like to join the Audlem Ramblers Society (ARS) on one of their long or short walks, please first email **Andy Davidson at audlemramblers@hotmail.co.uk** to check you have adequate boots and equipment.

August

- 1 ADAPT meeting, Baptist Chapel, 7.30pm.
- 12 Audlem Ramblers walk from Capel Curig led by John Vickers, 10 miles over varied terrain. Meet in Audlem Car Park, 8am.
- 25 Short Audlem Ramblers walk, seven miles from Marbury near Whitchurch.

September

- 3 Audlem Parish Council meeting, St James's School, 7.30pm.
- 5 ADAPT meeting, Baptist Chapel, 7.30pm.
- 8 Audlem Ramblers walk led by Chris Roche – details TBC.
RNLI Garden Evening – fine dining with music. Details TBC.
- 20 Embroiderers' Guild AGM, Scout & Guide Hall, 10am.
'Memories of Kinsey Heath' slide shows of Hankelow and Audlem, History Society talk by Ruth Cliffe and Ian Jones, Scout & Guide Hall, 7.30pm.
- 22 Table top sale organised by ADAS, Public Hall, 10am-2pm.
- 29 Short Audlem Ramblers walk, six-mile circuit from Loggerheads.

October

- 1 Audlem Parish Council meeting, St James's School, 7.30pm.
- 3 ADAPT meeting, Baptist Chapel, 7.30pm.
- 13 A classic mountain in Snowdonia, Audlem Ramblers walk led by Will Williams – details TBC.
- 18 'Under African Skies', Embroiderers' Guild talk by Magie Relph, Scout & Guide Hall, 10am.
'200 Years Of The Baptist Community In Audlem', History Society talk by Alan Paterson, Scout & Guide Hall, 7.30pm.
- 20 Autumn Fair, Methodist Hall, 10am-12.30pm
- 27 Short Audlem Ramblers walk, five- to six-mile circuit from Wybunbury.

The closing date for items for the autumn issue is 10 October 2012 for distribution during the first week of November. Please contact Editor Kira Nicholls on 812485 or at newsletter@audlem.org, or post your submission in the box in the Post Office. All items will be carefully considered.