



NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2007

AUDLEM PARISH COUNCIL

A Summary of Parish Council business – January 2007

CONGRATULATIONS! And “thank you” to all volunteers and sponsors for their efforts over Christmas and New Year. The Christmas trees and decorations by ADAS were admirable and greatly enjoyed by residents and visitors. The firework display at New Year was jointly funded by ASET, ADAS and the Parish Council.

PROPOSAL FOR A YOUTH COUNCIL

On behalf of the Parish Council, Chairman Richard Furber and Cllr Geoff Stretch are assessing interest in the formation of a Youth Council for the village with the aim of involving young people now in community responsibility and decision-making, whilst also preparing them for civic participation in the future. A similar initiative in Malpas has been successful and is contributing to a safer and, hopefully, a more sustainable community for all residents. Parents are asked to encourage their children to attend the open meeting in March. Look out for the posters in a few weeks’ time.

COMMUNITY PRIDE COMPETITION

Our success in the 2006 competition was celebrated by Cheshire Landscape Trust on Wednesday 29th November by the planting of a native wild cherry tree in the dog walking area near the playing field. The “planting party” included Mrs Helen Carey (Chairman of Cheshire Landscape Trust and former National Chairman of the Women’s Institute), Bob Price (Cheshire Landscape Trust Trustee) and our Chairman, Richard Furber. The Parish Council has already taken the decision to enter the 2007 competition – can we surpass last year’s efforts?

ALLOTMENTS

We are still without a suitable piece of land. Is there anyone out there willing to let a level patch of land for 14 years? (Agreements with allotment holders would prevent the growth of a shanty town.)

BUDGETS & PRECEPT FOR 2007/08

Following a great deal of discussion, the Parish Council has reluctantly agreed that the parish precept must rise from £23,065 to £25,065. As there was no increase in 2005 and 2006, reserves are not sufficient to fund the usual village donations and planned projects as well as the new national agreement relating to the Clerk’s terms and conditions of employment.

MOBILE CCTV - remember that the Parish Council has mobile CCTV equipment to help counter anti-social behaviour. If you would like to suggest a trouble spot, or think the unit could usefully be located temporarily on your own property, then contact PC Ken Maple tel 0845 4580000 or ken.maple@cheshire.pmm.police.uk

Parish Councillors’ Contact Details

Richard Furber (Chair)	811598
Kate Down (Vice Chair)	811160
Frances Christie	811340
Bill Consterdine	811647
Mike Hill	811843
Norman Huntbach	812768
Ken Jones	811532
Peter Morgan	811575
Pam Seddon	811282
Andrew Smith	811969
Geoff Stretch	811011
Irene Stockton	811828

Your Parish Clerk is Jean White 01948 871383 or e mail parishcouncil@audlem.org

During 2007 Parish Council meetings will be held in St James School on:

February 5th, March 5th, April 2nd, May 14th, June 11th, July 16th, September 3rd,

October 1st, November 5th and December 3rd.

At the beginning of each meeting there is an opportunity for residents 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.

Ring Crewe & Nantwich Borough Council’s STREETWISE staff on 0800 387491 to report problems with public toilets, grounds maintenance, rubbish dumping, etc. If the glass recycling banks in the car park are overflowing, ring them on 01270 537834.

Problems with highways – pot holes, pavement and street lighting problems – should be reported direct to Cheshire County Council on 0845 2450558, or e mail engcn@cheshire.gov.uk. If you are reporting street lighting faults, remember to have the lamp number – printed on the face of the standard – to hand.

Your local MP, Stephen O’Brien can be contacted at House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA, Telephone 020 7219 6315 or email: obriens@parliament.uk.

FOOTPATH SUCCESS

Walkers will note that the 'wall of death' section of the Audlem vale footpath, immediately adjacent to the bridge on the Green, has been subjected to a makeover.

Having raised the health and safety issue of this section of path at a Parish Council meeting I was delegated to take the problem up with the County Highways Dept. As a result, they agreed that it was hazardous and arranged for the work to be carried out at no cost to the Parish. I'm sure that you will agree they have made a good job of it. The rest of the path is another issue yet to be resolved, but your Parish Council is working on it.

Peter Morgan – Parish Councillor.

CHESHIRE FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE - HOME SAFETY ASSESSMENT

I would like to reassure all those residents of Audlem and the surrounding area, who have requested 'Home Safety Assessments' to be carried out by Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service, that you have not been forgotten! Due to resources being required elsewhere in the county and the fact that I have been on paternity leave, we had to temporarily suspend our Audlem campaign.

Within the next few weeks it will hopefully gather pace again. I would like to sincerely apologise for the delay and thank you for your patience.

Anybody who requires a 'Home Safety Assessment' including the free installation of smoke alarms should call **0800 389 0053** or alternatively submit your request online at www.cheshirefire.gov.uk

Thank You and Happy New Year,

FF Paul Smith, Cheshire Fire & Rescue Service.

AUDLEM PUBLIC HALL

The refurbishment of the hall is continuing this year. Work planned during the next few months includes the total refitting of the kitchen with new units, worktops and appliances. In addition, the bar will also be totally refurbished. Both of these improvements will enhance the look of the building.

The outside has been redecorated and the garage doors have been painted red, as they were originally, when the local fire brigade was based there.

The 20-week draw tickets are again on sale, with the first draw taking place at the Valentine's Ball on 10th February. Each week there are 3 prizes of £10 and in the final draw on 23rd June the prizes will be £250, £150, £100 and £50. Tickets cost £10 and can be purchased from any committee member.

ADAS (AUDLEM DISTRICT AMENITIES SOCIETY)

We have received many congratulations for the Christmas displays which were considered to be the best ever. Logs from the big tree have gone to the sponsor as is customary. We are now planning for next year which will involve some expense as the lights from the big tree are old and brittle and have suffered

additional damage when a bit too much high spirits have encouraged people to climb the tree

We shall be collecting the annual subs in late February and early March and we do hope for your generous support once again so that we can carry on with the work that we do in and around the village.

The next big event for ADAS is the **Open Garden Weekend and Silent Auction**. This takes place on **June 23rd and 24th**. There will be some new gardens this year but we still need more. So if you would like to take part in this very rewarding event please contact Ralph Warburton on 812125 -or any other ADAS committee member as detailed on the notice board.

AUDLEM ARTS & MUSIC FESTIVAL

This - if we go ahead - will be on **May 25th to 28th** ending with the Annual Audlem Carnival. Issues under discussion are which bands to book; what else can we do to ensure a successful weekend; and of course funding.

It will take a great deal of effort to make it work, but I am still hopeful that it can be achieved and will provide entertainment to meet the best Audlem standards.

Ralph Warburton

ANNUAL AUDLEM CARNIVAL DAY MAY 28TH

Organised each year by a committee led by Gwen & Graham Moss, the Audlem Carnival is well attended and provides a great family day free to all. Plans are well advanced and acts booked, although we still need more groups to provide floats for the parade - perhaps the 100th year of Scouting will encourage some to join in. Call **Gwen on 811467** for information on stalls, floats etc

SHAKESPEARE ON TOUR BUERTON HOUSE June 15th & June 16th.

The touring actors return for the third year with a performance of the very popular "Much Ado About Nothing". More details for this popular event will be available soon – contact Ralph Warburton 812125.

SOUTH CHESHIRE EMBROIDERERS GUILD

Membership is open to all and visitors are welcome. The Guild meets at The Scout and Guild Hall, Cheshire Street, Audlem on the third Thursday of the month (except December and August). We start at 10 am for coffee, followed by a speaker. The exciting programme for 2007 includes "Old Narratives, New Threads", "Feathers of the Firebird: Embroidery From Russia", "Bags for Shakespeare's Heroines", "Costume Embroidery at Tabley", and "The Rise and Fall of the Crinoline Lady".

For further details contact Julie Williams 01630 657535.

AUDLEM BRANCH CONSERVATIVES

A group of 50 from Audlem enjoyed the visit to the House of Commons on Tuesday 31 October 2006 which included a tour of the Palace of Westminster, followed by lunch in the private dining room overlooking the Thames and a visit to the Jewel Tower. A 'Musical Evening and Canapés' is planned on Friday 27 July 2007 at the Brookfield Golf Club, Hankelow and local MP Stephen O'Brien hopes to attend.

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

AUDLEM CRICKET CLUB

2007 brings the challenge of a newly-restructured Cheshire Cricket Alliance and we are looking for new players for both the 1st and 2nd teams. We also have a full list of friendly fixtures on Sundays throughout the summer, in which anyone of any age can participate. Outdoor nets, held at the club, will be starting in late April and we encourage anyone, irrespective of age or ability to come along and have a go. We are also arranging indoor nets before the season starts. For those who are not regular players we are again running the 8-a-side Local Midweek Knockout and welcome interest from any new teams.

We will be setting up a Junior Section this summer and will be putting up posters once details are finalised. If you are interested in joining the Junior Section please contact our Child Welfare Officer, Simon Banks, on 01270 811073 or 07764 202752.

Do you fancy supporting the club and sponsoring a match ball for £15? If you do, or you want any further information about us, contact our Secretary, Tom Measures, on 01270 811105 or 07891 530347.

AUDLEM & DISTRICT PROBUS CLUB

Since the last newsletter the Probus club has continued to flourish. Meetings are held at the Brookfield Golf Club on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month (except August) starting at 10.00am with coffee followed by a guest speaker, after which members can stay for an informal chat and light lunch if they wish.

Our forthcoming programme includes speakers on Disease and Medicine in the 18th & 19th centuries, Confessions of a Landscape Gardener, Beauty and Abuse of the English Language and Jodrell Bank. This takes us up to the AGM on 22nd March 2007 when our Vice President, Peter Ellis, will take over the Presidency from me, and I am sure he will enjoy his year as much as I have, supported by such an excellent committee.

On the social side over 40 members, wives, and friends went to the Halle Viennese concert at Hanley in January; later that month over 90 members and guests

attended a most enjoyable Annual lunch at the Golf Club when the President of Nantwich Rotary Club, Robert Eardley proposed the toast of the Club. Our social secretary has arranged an Antiques Road Show at Adderley Village Hall for the evening of March 2nd and our major event in 2007 will be a 5 day trip to the Isle of Man in May.

For any further details please phone our Social Secretary, Roland Hall, on 01270 812530.

Jim Winfield – President Tel: 01270 812909

NEW LOCAL TAXI SERVICE

Villagers will be pleased to note that after some years without, Audlem now has its own taxi service. The company, called Gilbert's Taxis, is run by Gilbert Hitchens, based at Old Acre, Bagley Lane, Audlem.

Gilbert's Taxis offer good rates, so do contact them for all your taxi journeys, local and further afield. They are listed in the business section of the website under Taxis - but if you need them now call 01270 812617 (mobile 07813 909912) for a prompt service.

COMMUNITY ACTION MEETING -CAM

The next Community Action Meeting (CAM) is to be held at St James' School on Wednesday the 7th of February 2007 at 7pm.

The meetings are held every twelve weeks and are an opportunity for people to voice their opinions about issues of all kinds which concern them and to hear from their local officer about what has been happening in the preceding twelve weeks. At the next meeting I hope to have a local businessman give a short presentation about home security systems, although this is yet to be confirmed.

Ken Maple

DOG CONTROL ORDER CONSULTATION

Those attending a recent Parish Council meeting listened to a presentation by Crewe & Nantwich Borough Council's Keith Davies and his colleague on dog control measures which have been put out for consultation within the whole of the borough.

Full details of the proposals are available at Crewe & Nantwich Borough Council. A summary of the main proposals and the full document is also available on the Council's website. Many of the proposals being put forward make good sense, like the need to exclude dogs from marked playing pitches and enclosed children's play areas. However, those at the meeting were concerned about the suggestion that dogs should be kept on the lead at all times on land owned by British Waterways ie the canal towpaths. It was felt that this was an unnecessary and unworkable restriction.

Do read the proposals in full and send your views in writing to Jan Griffiths, Business Manager Enforcement, marked Dog Control Orders at Crewe & Nantwich Borough Council, Pym's Lane Depot, Pym's Lane, Crewe, Cheshire CW1 3PJ or by email addressed to jan.Griffiths@crewe-nantwich.gov.uk. Because of the interest provoked by these proposals, the original closing date of 26th January has had to be extended, so there should still be time to add your views if you wish.

CINEMA A HIT

"The History Boys" shown on Saturday 13 Jan was a huge success. The Public Hall was packed to capacity and more chairs had to be found. Judging by the laughter throughout the film and the comments of people leaving the hall, everyone thoroughly enjoyed it. Another Alan Bennett triumph – the casting was perfect and the acting superb. A truly great night of entertainment in our own village hall. Why travel to Crewe or Hanley when we can just walk up the road? I for one can't wait for the next showing which is scheduled for Saturday, 24th March. We don't know what it will be yet, but can assure you that on the precedence set by the last two films it should be well worth watching.

Margaret Roberts – Editor

AUDLEM SCOUTS & GUIDES

Audlem Scout and Guide Hall Committee would like to express how grateful we are to everyone who put out their Christmas trees and donations on the weekend of 6th and 7th January. We had a tremendous response and were able to raise the sum of £480.

The lucky winners of the champagne draw were Chris Moore and Shaughna Walburton of Mill Lane, Audlem. Our congratulations to all involved in this very worthwhile exercise and especially well done to the team of volunteers who toured round the village looking for bagged-up Christmas trees in driveways and on the side of the road.

We shall be recycling trees again after this forthcoming Christmas and would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy and prosperous New Year - and thank you once again.

Scout & Guide Hall Committee

AUDLEM SAINTS U8s

Audlem Saints U8s football team is an offshoot of the Saturday morning coaching sessions which offers qualified coaching from local volunteers for around 60 children aged 5-16. The U8s team is made up of 10 boys who all live in Audlem, 9 of whom are in year 3 of Audlem St James School with the tenth attending

Wybunbury School. The team shirts were generously provided by ASET and carry the ASET logo.

The boys have been playing together for just over a year and have a tremendous sense of team spirit. Having finished runners up last season, they are so far unbeaten this season. What a fabulous football team!!!

David Parry

CO-OP AND MOSELEY'S YARD

With notices now up on the fencing around Moseley's Yard detailing the Co-op's application for an alcohol licence for a Late Shop at Unit 1, Moseley's Yard, there's confirmation of what many have known for months - the Co-op will be crossing the road when the new development is completed.

This means Audlem will be getting a larger shop, and presumably a larger range of goods in the planned new Co-op. And with the recent arrival of the Animal Feeds shop on the Square and the news that the Canal Shop will be re-opening at Easter under new proprietors, this is all good news for Audlem.

Now we just have to hope there's also good news about Audlem Post Office when details of the 2,500 post offices to be axed around the country eventually arrives. There was meant to be an announcement in December but at the time of going to press there had been no news on this one so keep scanning the Audlem Website for latest news.

BEWARE BOGUS CALLERS

A reminder for people to be wary of callers at their door. On the 13th December a man called at an address in Weaver View, purporting to be a meter reader. He asked for access to the house but was told that the meter was on the outside wall. The householder was suspicious and reported the matter to the police. Checks with the electricity supplier confirmed that no official meter reader was working in the area that day and so we can be certain that this man was not who he claimed to be."

Remember to ask for identification from any such caller and, if possible, note the registration number of any vehicle used. In this case the man was described as in his mid-thirties, 5' 8" and of average build. He was using a small white van (no other details available).

HAVE YOUR SAY

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

Newsletter editor Margaret Roberts on 812942 or newsletter@audlem.org or post your item in the box situated in the Post Office **Website Team** on webteam@audlem.org or 'Contact Webteam' on the website.