



# NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2009

## AUDLEM PARISH COUNCIL

### A Summary of Parish Council business – January 2009

#### BUDGETS AND PRECEPT FOR 2009/10

In December the Parish Council agreed its budgets for next year and decided against increasing the precept. As a result, we have requested £29,448.25 from the shadow Cheshire East Council. Total annual income from all sources is expected to be in the region of £31,061. Budgets are summarised as follows:

	£
Salaries and payments to contractors	10,310
Planned donations to village organisations	10,000
Audit and insurance	1,750
Audlem Burial Committee	1,232
Administration, newsletters, training, subscriptions, etc.	3,470
Projects and enabling monies	5,760

The Parish Council expects a small overspend for 2009/10, which will be met from reserves.

#### A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY – CHEESE & WINE EVENING 4<sup>th</sup> MARCH

Parish Councillors are planning to host this free event in the Public Hall and hope it will be a popular way of getting together for our Annual Village Meeting. Please make a note of the date and come along if you possibly can. This will be much more informal than previous village meetings - residents will be able to meet and chat with each other, as well as with Parish Councillors and invited guests. Look out for posters nearer the date.

#### GRANT APPLICATIONS

In early December the Borough Council let us know that they had a £400,000 capital grants fund and would welcome applications from Parish Councils. As a result of some nifty work over the Christmas break, bids have been submitted for four schemes: improvements to the children's playground, start up monies for the new allotments association, and improved access arrangements for the Public Hall and the Scout & Guide HQ. Here's hoping for 100% success!

#### **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  
 Peter Morgan 811575 Andrew Smith 811969  
 Pam Seddon 811282 Irene Stockton 811828  
 Geoff Stretch 811011  
 Phillip Bradbury-Smith 811021  
 Your Parish Clerk is Jean White 01948 871383 or  
[parishcouncil@audlem.org](mailto:parishcouncil@audlem.org)

*Parish Council meetings will be held in St James School on Mondays: February 2, March 2, April 6, starting at 7.30 pm.*

*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.*

#### PROPOSED MARINA GAINS PLANNING APPROVAL



Plans for a 200-boat marina about a mile north of Audlem on the Shropshire Union canal were approved on 9th January by Crewe & Nantwich Borough councillors. The plans

had been submitted by Richard, Angus and Janet Maughan of Monks Hall Farm, Hankelow but were opposed by many residents in the Coole Lane area, which will be the access route to the new development. Thirty three conditions have, however, been made to the approval and there were fifty objections lodged.

The proposed marina, which will be named after 'Overwater Farm', the original name of Monks Hall Farm until the late Nineteenth Century, attracted support from Audlem Parish Council, British Waterways, the Inland Waterways Association and the Shropshire Union Canal Society. A borough council report for the meeting had said: "With the absence of any marinas between Nantwich and Market Drayton, it is considered that it would provide a suitable base for a new marina." This view was endorsed by councillors at the meeting in Crewe.

Janet Maughan says their family is very pleased approval has been granted. She said: "The project is an exciting venture for the village with the applicants, Richard, Angus and me, hoping to involve local businesses in the development and future business of the marina."

Concern about the state of Coole Lane will clearly be accelerated by the decision and the added pressure on the road and its current condition has been raised at a meeting on 15th January with the county councillor who will be responsible for highways in the incoming Cheshire East authority.

The farm itself will remain an active dairy enterprise, which is also in Natural England's Higher Level environmental stewardship scheme. As part of this, the Maughan's undertake a range of on-farm conservation measures and regularly welcome visitors to look around and learn more about farming and the environment. If anyone would like to contact the

Maughans to discuss the plans or to arrange a farm visit they are welcome to call on 01270 812748

**GEORGE, BERYL & ME**

**Saturday February 28th** at the Public Hall, Audlem at 7.30p.m.

An evening of entertainment telling the life story of George Formby, an international star who brought fun and laughter through his silly songs and films, but home life was not so grand. To find out more come and have an evening away from the credit crunch and enjoy yourself with music, drama and plenty of audience participation.

All proceeds to go to Audlem First Responders

Tickets are £5.00 and can be reserved by e mail to: [ctcountrytouring@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ctcountrytouring@yahoo.co.uk) or contact Imelda Delve 01630 672266

**AUDLEM SCOUTS & GUIDES**

Audlem proudly boasts full membership in all groups - i.e. Beavers, Brownies, Cubs, Guides and Senior Guides. However they are desperately in need of volunteers to help maintain this membership and hopefully increase the numbers. This is valuable volunteer work helping youngsters acquire a sense of responsibility, independence and awareness of their local community. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer helper please contact: Chris Cottrell on 811454.

*The Audlem Scout and Guide Committee would like to thank all who helped with the Christmas tree collections – this event raised within the region of £300!*

**AUDLEM SCOUT & GUIDE HALL**

The Hall, which was formerly a chapel, seats between 80 and 100 people and offers a medium sized venue for a large variety of groups and organisations which cater for all ages within the area. Besides the groups mentioned above, regular users include: the W.I., the History Society, Embroiderer's Guild, Ju Jitsu, Tai Kwon Do, and Yoga. It is also used for a number of ad-hoc private events – children's parties and funeral receptions for example.

During 2006/07 it was extensively refurbished. The final phase of the internal work is to modernise the kitchen. The plans for the kitchen do not include food preparation but for the safe and hygienic storage, heating and serving of food which is brought into the hall. This will give users more choice in the type of events and activities which they hold, offering a real choice to local people to stay in the village for celebrations etc.

For booking enquiries please contact Mel Grange on 01630-647062.

**AUDLEM W.I.**

The latter part of the year proved to be as entertaining and informative as the first for Audlem W.I. with a

varied speakers programme covering topics such as curios and memorabilia dating back to the 1800's, murderous men who bumped off their wives, the history and humour of music hall, and the job of a children's historical guide at Tatton Hall.

Trips included an outing to Walton Hall for an Edwardian Christmas lunch, a visit to the newly opened Chocolate House in Oswestry for another Christmas lunch and a chocolate making demonstration. In January we had the annual dinner at Brookfield Golf Club entertained by the Kipling singers.

Future events include the 'Life and Times of Vera Lynn' and a trip to the Regent in Stoke to see 'Calendar Girls' prior to its West End opening.

On the 5<sup>th</sup> March we celebrate our 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. Plans for this major event are under way and it is hoped on that afternoon the Scout and Guide Hall will be open for an exhibition of archives and achievements of our W.I.

Our meetings are held on the first Thursday in the month in the Scout & Guide Hall. New members and visitors are always welcome. We are an active W.I. and offer something of interest for all tastes so why not come along and spend an evening with us.

Further details from Christine Salisbury, President, on 811110 or Anne Poole, Secretary, on 811224

**AUDLEM DISTRICT HISTORY SOCIETY - PROGRAMME**

**Thurs Feb 19<sup>th</sup>** - Ben Alexander – “Mary Fitton of Gawsworth-the dark lady of the sonnets?”

**Thurs Mar 19<sup>th</sup>** - Gerald Emerton – “Traditional roofing in South Cheshire”

**Thurs April 16<sup>th</sup>** -7.30 pm start at Whitchurch Civic Hall Peter Edwards – “The development of dairy farming on the North Shropshire plain in 17<sup>th</sup> & early 18<sup>th</sup> centuries”

**Thurs May 21<sup>st</sup>** -Tony Bonson author of 'Mills on the Dane' – “Waterpower on the river Dane

**'SECOND CHANCE'**

The annual musical at the Methodist Church ([www.audlemmethodistchurch.org.uk](http://www.audlemmethodistchurch.org.uk)) is being performed this year between Tuesday 17 and Saturday 22 February. The musical is 'Second Chance', by Susie Hare, and is loosely based on the New Testament story of the Prodigal Son. It will be performed by a sixty-strong company, aged from aged five years to something considerably more than five years.

Admission to a performance is by programme, from [programmes@audlemmethodistchurch.org.uk](mailto:programmes@audlemmethodistchurch.org.uk). Each performance tends to be a sell-out, so don't linger in booking your seat. Performances begin each evening at 7.30 pm.

## Lent 2009

The three village churches are again getting together for Lent this year.

Over five Thursday evenings, from Thursday 5 March, a study course will be followed entitled 'These three: Faith, Hope and Love'. Each session begins at 7.30 pm in the Methodist Church.

Over six Sunday lunchtimes, from Sunday 1 March, a series of Lent Lunches will be served. These will also be held in the Methodist Church and will begin each week at 12.30 pm. A simple soup lunch is served, after which there is the opportunity to make a donation to charity. Each year, hundreds of pounds are raised through these lunches.

All are welcome at either or both of these Lenten series.

### **FIRST RESPONDER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

More volunteers are needed for this service which provides assistance to patients until an ambulance arrives in response to a 999 call for an ambulance within a 6 mile radius of the Fire Station. Full training is provided in addition to the use of a car for this vital link between the patient and the North West Ambulance Service.

For full information contact Parish Councillor Mike Hill on 01270 811843

### **It's our LINK! - Join it !Use it !**

In 2007, Government legislation abolished Patient & Public Involvement Forums (PPI), which had been the bodies that presented your views to local NHS Trusts.

At the same time, each local Council that has a responsibility for Social Care services was given the duty, and the money, to set up a Local Involvement Network (LINK), bringing together individuals and community groups to work to improve both Health- and Adult Social Care services in the area.

In Cheshire there will be two LINKs; one for Cheshire West and Chester, and one for Cheshire East, including Audlem.

The job of the LINK is to help create a local system that will provide each person, from every part of the community, with the opportunity to say what they would like, want or need from their Health- and Adult Social Care services, knowing that the people who plan and run the services will listen, take heed and respond.

I got involved with LINK when I was asked to become a member of the Cheshire LINK Interim Board in May 2008 because I am involved with carers' organisations.

The Interim Board – all volunteers – together with an independent Host organisation (The Carers Federation) has been setting up the formal framework for the two separate LINKs, and we are organising Public Meetings at which Members of each LINK will be asked to consider, and, shortly afterwards, to vote on the adoption of a Constitution.

The Interim Board will also be asking for nominations for the Boards of the two LINKs, with a postal ballot of Members, timed so that the LINKs can be fully established by the deadline of 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009. We have to elect three representatives for the Crewe and Nantwich area on the East Cheshire Board.

It is important that our LINK should have as many members as possible.

Everyone can join !

GP patients; hospital patients; users of care services; carers; volunteer groups, and organisations involved in Health- and Adult Social Care services – in fact anyone who has any contact with or knowledge of these services.

And it's free.

If you would like a Membership Application Form, or an Information Pack, contact me, Celia Bloor, on 01270 811 260, or call the LINK Support Team Office on 01606 45920

It's our LINK ! Join it !Use it !

### **A.R.S.**

Until recently a completely informal group, ARS, the Audlem Ramblers Society, now has an extensive membership list and held its first AGM on Monday 19th January at the Lord Combermere. At the meeting a cheque was presented to the Air Ambulance Service and Ivan Burgess, a paramedic based at Tatenhill Airfield, near Burton on Trent (the home of the air ambulance for Staffordshire) was at the meeting and described the service they provide.

ARS has been fund-raising for the Air Ambulance Service since one of their number, Kate Down, had to be rescued by helicopter from a remote spot in the Peak District after breaking a leg on an ARS hike last year. Most of the money was raised at a very successful sold-out ceilidh in November and walkers have also been making contributions after each expedition.

ARS has already planned its 2009 programme of walks which have been published on Audlem Online and cover walks of 7 or 8 miles to more strenuous expeditions.

If you are interested in joining ARS, please contact Andy Davidson at [andydavidsonatb@hotmail.com](mailto:andydavidsonatb@hotmail.com)

### **AUDLEM MUSIC AND ARTS FESTIVAL.**

May 22<sup>nd</sup> to May 25<sup>th</sup>



Meetings are now taking place to arrange this popular weekend and we hope to once again have some 28 acts in and around the area. All the pubs are supporting this and we hope to have a good Art element too. More detail later.

Any queries please contact Ralph Warburton on 812125.

### **ADAS(Audlem District Amenities Society)**

Plans for our summer displays are in hand and seeds ordered along with new tubs. We are planning to use more weed suppressant membrane and bark chippings in order to try to cope with the problem of weed control. About a 1000 tulips have been planted for the spring along with 4000 English bluebells near the bridge on the canal banks. These were funded by a gift in memory of the late John Roberts of Sycamore Close and will over the years multiply to form a lovely blue carpet each year.

The church bed – planted with shrubs - has become well established now and is a real success for our efforts. Plans are in hand to plant the Heathfield beds in a similar fashion.

The very successful and popular **Fashion Show** held last October has meant that we plan to have another in March/April – again featuring Ladies clothing. More details later.

The drive to attract annual donations will begin in early March with our envelope appeal. We look forward to receiving your donations so that we can continue with our various projects for the village.

Our Christmas display this year was one of the best ever and the Big Tree was superb. We plan to have more lights on it next year and hopefully further displays of trees in the village.

The Carol singing round the tree was a success despite the cold and the pubs were packed afterwards with families enjoying the evening.

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

### **AUDLEM CARNIVAL MONDAY MAY 25<sup>TH</sup>**

*The annual Carnival will we hope be as popular as ever and we have already booked bands and stalls plus the Fun Fair. Lots of local charities do some of their best fund raising on this day and more businesses are seeking to book stalls. We urge all to try to enter a float of any kind to make the parade a success and to take part in what is a truly happy family occasion. Watch this space for more information.*

Contact **Gwen Moss** on 811467 for more detail.

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

*The Audlem Probus Club started 2009 with what has become a traditional and very enjoyable trip to the Halle Orchestra's New Year in Vienna Concert at the Victoria Hall, Hanley. This has been quickly followed by the Club's Annual Luncheon with just under 100 attending including special guests the President of Nantwich Rotary Club John Meadows and his wife Sue. The Club has a varied speakers and social programme and 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. The year ended with a very entertaining talk 'A Christmas*

*Cracker' by the Reverend Michael Burgess and we look forward to Humour in Court, the Funny Side of the Funeral Trade, My Friend Monty and On the Fiddle. Christmas at Chatsworth fulfilled all expectations with the bonus of an almost unbelievable coach journey on the minor roads across the snow covered Peak District. A special Call My Bluff social evening is planned in the Spring and next years visits include a trip to Snowdon's summit and an open top bus ride along the Blackpool Illuminations followed by fish and chips. The 5 day break in Alnwick Northumbria is fully booked.*

*For further details contact our President Alvar Jones 01270 811005 or Derek Rooke 01270 668111*

### **AUDLEM BRANCH CONSERVATIVES**

It has been confirmed that changes to the boundary of Eddisbury Constituency, which includes Audlem will be implemented to take effect for the next General Election The Parishes of Hankelow, Coole Pilate and Austerson will transfer from the Crewe and Nantwich Constituency and become part of Eddisbury.

The Branch will shortly be finalising social events for 2009. For further information about the Branch and its events contact Roland Hall (812530) or Alan Cross (811974) Audlem Branch is part of the Eddisbury Conservative Association, full details of which can be found on [www.eddisburyconservatives.co.uk](http://www.eddisburyconservatives.co.uk).

### **Editor's Comment**

2008 went out on a particularly gloomy note. The state of the economy looks pretty grim and besides that we experienced our first prolonged real winter weather for some years. However, judging by some of the items in this, the first Newsletter of 2009, we still have quite a bit to look forward to in Audlem. I would like to extend a special thanks to all the people who give up their time to bring us the various events and entertainment throughout the year and I for one look forward to enjoying them again in 2009.

### ***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 [webteam@audlem.org](mailto:webteam@audlem.org) or 'Contact Webteam' on the website.

**The closing date for items for the spring issue is 10<sup>th</sup> April 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.