



The newsletter for residents of Audlem & District

Summer/Autumn 2017

Audlem Parish Council

Parish Council News, July 2017

Chairperson's Report July 2017

2016/17 was yet another successful year for Audlem's volunteer organisations with the successful bid for Lottery funding for the Annexe to the Public Hall and many events taking place in the village. Our shopkeepers did us proud, with Audlem coming fifth in the Great British High Street competition. What an amazing community this is! Many thanks to everyone who gives up their time to make Audlem such a special place to live.

For the Parish Council it was (and remains) challenging on the planning front. The Neighbourhood Plan was adopted in April 2016 but already changes in ministerial guidance mean that we have to update it. As part of the next stage of the Cheshire East Local Plan we need to identify potential sites for future development – a process known as site allocation – and this will be incorporated into our Neighbourhood Plan. We shall be working with Cheshire East on this aspect; more details will be available in the next newsletter.

We are sad to report that at the end of 2016 two long-serving and much valued Parish Councillors retired. We extend grateful thanks to Mike Hill for giving over 30 years' service to the community. Amongst his many achievements Mike helped ensure that the public conveniences were devolved to the Parish Council, he was involved in the Parish Plan projects and in establishing the First Responders and ASET. Thanks also to Pam Seddon for her 12 years' service on the Council. Pam also worked on the Parish Plan projects and was one of the webteam who set up AudlemOnline. She also oversaw production of these newsletters. In their place we are pleased to welcome John Latham and Jenny Carlin who have been co-opted to the Parish Council.

Playing field complex

Cheshire East Council has now formally agreed to the transfer of the playing field, play area and woodland to the

Parish Council in conjunction with the charity, Fields In Trust. This arrangement is designed to ensure that the area remains public open space in perpetuity. The draft lease is with our solicitor and we hope that the formal transfer will take place in the near future.

Councillors are always pleased to hear from residents with any issues they wish to bring to the attention of the Parish Council or suggestions for general improvements and projects within the village. Their contact details can be found in this newsletter and on the website.

Parish Councillors' contact details

Heather Jones, Chair - 811836

Geoff Seddon, Vice Chair - 811282

John Latham - 811311 **Bill Consterdine** - 811647

Kate Down - 811160 **David Higham** - 812069

Jenny Carlin - 811733 **Ceri Parsons** - 811176

Dave Siddorns - 811012 **John Thompson** - 812333

Frances Mary Christie - 811340

Your Parish Clerk is **Kirstin Dixon - 07432 332857**
or email audlempc@gmail.com

Parish Council meetings will be held in the Meeting Rooms adjoining Audlem Methodist Church on Mondays, 4th September and 2nd October 2017. At the beginning of each meeting, residents have the opportunity to bring matters of concern to the attention of the Parish Council. Everyone is welcome to stay and listen for the rest of the meeting.

TAVA Production: End to End

Please see the Diary Dates section for details of TAVA's next production "End to End" from The Gramophones. Three women make a daring and unusual journey from one end of Great Britain to the other, on as many varieties of transport as possible with only one pound per mile to do it. The trio take the audience on a unique journey leaving them itching for their own adventure.

ADAS News

The village is now ablaze with colour thanks to all the hard work by committee members and volunteers who helped with the planting of summer bedding. The Britain in Bloom judges will be visiting Audlem during July so hopefully they will appreciate all the effort that has produced such an attractive display.



The children at Audlem St James' School have all received runner bean plants which they will be nurturing throughout the summer. It is hoped they will be taking photographs and recording their growth as they develop until September when they will be able to enjoy eating the beans!

The next ADAS event will be a concert in St James' Church on Saturday 7th October at 7pm. Audlem Voices together with the children from Broad Lane school will be performing.

The ADAS committee members will soon be delivering the annual subscription envelopes. This money is used throughout the year to improve and enhance the village environment by funding summer planting, Christmas decorations and organising social events. Please return your envelopes to Williams Newsagents. This year you will have the option to pay your subscription online.

Finally, if you would like to volunteer to help with ADAS activities please contact adascontact@gmail.com. Your support would be most welcome.

Audlem Lass in its Seventh Season

The Audlem Lass Boat Service began its seventh season, based at the award-winning Overwater Marina, on 29th April 2017. The Bank Holiday weekend was very successful

as many more people were attracted to the village to attend the brilliantly staged Music Festival. By then, new signs had been put up around the village and along the canal towpath. Thanks to the continued support of AudlemOnline and the Canal & River Trust, our passenger numbers continue to rise.

Up to the end of June 2017 we have carried 1,436 adults, 414 children and 143 dogs; an increase in passenger numbers against last year of 244, and an increase of 40 dogs! TripAdvisor shows us with 17 "excellent" and one "very good" review: we remain the No 1 attraction of "things to do in Audlem".

Our volunteer numbers continue to rise, and we now have 30. A big thank you is extended to them for their enthusiasm, commitment and support. We are always looking for more volunteers to become part of our team. If interested, please contact hello@audlemlass.co.uk.

In addition to the routine weekend/bank holiday boat service, we offer various charters for Cheshire Buddies, The Countryside Trust, WI, special birthday party groups and walkers.

For further information please visit our website: www.audlemlass.co.uk.

Cycling and Cabbages

ADAPT have produced free maps, showing cycle routes around Audlem avoiding main roads where possible, which are available from many places around the village. Route map packs can also be downloaded: <http://adapt.audlem.org/maps.html>. In addition, regular cycle rides using the routes are being organised. Please see AudlemOnline for details.

Our regular Saturday stall in the Lord Combermere car park continues into the autumn until produce runs out. Then look out for our popular annual Apple Pressing day.

Take a stroll down to Lock 15 and you will see the "Cottage Gardens" of the ADAPT Lock 15 Gardeners Group. Although all the plots are now fully in production for this year, if anyone is interested in joining the group for next year, we would be very pleased to hear from you.

Please contact Adrian Leighton on 01270 812209 or email adrianleighton@btinternet.com.



All Change at Friends of Audlem St James

This month marked a huge change for the fundraising committee at Audlem St James' School. All previous committee members stepped down due to their children coming to the end of their time at the school. Four parents stepped forward to fill essential committee roles and forge their way to raising funds through various activities and events.



Government funding is at an all time low, which makes this charity's work imperative to enable the school to provide essential equipment and extra-curricular activities for the children.

The new committee of "Friends of Audlem St James" had their first big event, the summer fair, which took place at the beginning of July. It was a huge success raising over £1000. We would like to say thank you to everyone who helped out and donated.

If there are members of the village who would like to help out at the upcoming events or who have skills they feel would be useful they can contact the chair, Lindsey Hockenfull, on the email address below. The next fundraising event is a quiz at the Lord Combermere pub in Audlem in September.

The charity is looking for a donation of a garden shed that can be used to store equipment. Also we would like to hear from anyone with woodworking tools or skills that can be utilised to make games (eg tin can alley) for next year's summer fair.

If you feel you can help in any way please email lindseyhock77@yahoo.co.uk

History Society Out and About

Two most enjoyable outings were undertaken by Audlem District History Society recently. In June we were given a conducted tour of Combermere Abbey. Our enthusiastic



guide charted its long and varied history, the restoration work that has already been undertaken and plans for future developments. Of particular interest was the recently cleaned 1730s painting by Peter Tillemanns that now shows, in great detail, a panoramic bird's-eye view of life and work on the estate at the time.

Then in July, following a talk earlier in the year by Maureen Morgan, we spent a delightful afternoon walking through Queen's Park, Crewe. The morning had been spent at Wistaston Hall, now a retreat for the Oblate Mission.

Our autumn meetings begin again in September - see Diary Dates for more information.

Do come and join us in the Scout and Guide Hall for any of our meetings. It's just £3 on the door (students free). For more information please contact Dorothy Jones on 01270 811814.

Public Hall Annexe Update

The Public Hall Annexe is really taking shape and from the outside we can see what a stunning addition to the village community facilities it will be. Inside, miles of cabling and piping are being installed, ensuring that it has the latest wifi technology and equipment essential for today's life-style. The plasterers have been busy on the internal walls. The existing Public Hall is also having a facelift to the entrance to match the Annexe.

The user groups including Youth Club, Football, ADCA Senior Citizens, 5A's and the Gym have toured the inside and are looking at the furniture, fixtures and fittings required. The current completion date is 29th October 2017 but this is subject to confirmation.

There will be a grand opening ceremony to match the one that took place for the original hall in October 1908 and the High Sheriff of Cheshire, Sarah Callander Beckett, has agreed to perform the official opening.

The whole village will be invited with tours and demonstrations in and around the Annexe and refreshments and entertainment will be provided without charge in the Public Hall.
Roland Hall - APHAX

Audlem Gym

One of the key features of the new Public Hall Annexe is the gym. On the first floor, with an imposing triangular window facing the car park, it will be kitted out with cardio-vascular machines, resistance equipment, a bench and mats for floor exercises.

Access will be by key fob, which will be given to members (minimum age 16 years) when they have paid their membership fee, and attended an induction session run by a qualified personal trainer. The key fob will give access from 7am to 9pm, seven days a week.

Details of membership fees, with discounts available for payment by standing order, can be found in the explanatory leaflet and application form.

This is a not-for-profit project, run by the community with any proceeds going to Audlem Public Hall. We hope the residents of Audlem and district will take full advantage of this excellent new facility.

Audlem Methodist Church

Please see the Diary Dates section for details of our autumn concert and fashion show. Proceeds for both are to be divided between the chapel and Macmillan Cancer Care, and tickets will be available nearer the time. The coffee morning on 14th June raised £320, to be shared with Macmillan – many thanks to all who attended and donated.

Audlem & District Community Action - ADCA

Our Tuesday Club at Hankelow Chapel Community Hall continues to thrive. In June nearly 30 members and volunteers enjoyed an excellent musical treat from Sheena and Alan, a husband and wife duo who shared with us their “War Years” songs.



Everyone sang along with gusto to the medleys and certainly knew all the words! We are told that singing together is just about the best thing for health and wellbeing, so we will be arranging for Sheena and Alan to come back to help us with a “Good Old Days” concert on a Tuesday afternoon in October. All will be most welcome.

We are all looking forward to moving the Tuesday Club to the new Public Hall Annexe in November and are busy choosing new carpets, curtains, chairs and table along with a new projector. However, we will still be running a club at Hankelow Chapel on a different day and will be advertising this nearer the time. It will be an “All Ages” Lunch Club run in partnership with the Methodist Chapel.

ADCA are also looking for even more volunteers to help our staff at the Day Club and new Lunch Club including more volunteer drivers. If you are interested, please contact us on 01270 747163 and leave a message and we will get back to you. **Roger Millns - Chairman**

Audlem RNLI Festival at Overwater Marina

The annual RNLI Festival in Audlem will be held at Overwater Marina on 9th and 10th September 2017.

A Boatshare event takes place on the Saturday with refreshments, licensed bar and BBQ, followed by live entertainment provided by ABBA Re-Bjorn (tickets available from Cyclesport and Overwater Marina office).

On Sunday, Steve Leonard, the famous TV vet hosts the Dog Show, followed by the Donkey Derby. There will be a Tote in operation to add to the fun. There will be demonstrations, stalls, licensed bar and many other activities, including donkey rides for children and face-painting.

The Audlem Lass will be providing its boat service between Overwater Marine and the village (Lock 15).

Diary Dates . . .

September

- 21 History Society Meeting at 7.30pm in the Scout and Guide Hall. Speaker: Tony Bostock on “Cheshire’s Ancient Parish Churches”.
- 30 TAVA Production: “End to End” at 7.30pm at Audlem Public Hall. Tickets: £10 adult, £7.50 students & concessions, family £30. Suggested audience: teenagers & adults. Tickets: Janet Warrington 01270 811250 or email: tava325@gmail.com
- 30 Winterley Brass Band concert at Audlem Methodist Church at 7.30pm.

October

- 12 Fashion Show at Audlem Methodist Church by Edinburgh Woollen Mill.
- 19 History Society Meeting at 7.30pm in the Scout and Guide Hall. Speaker: Bob Poole and others on “Audlem Fire Brigade”.