

# Whixall Parish Council Newsletter

Autumn/Winter 2018

## Chairman's Report

Hello All

The last couple of months have seen a lot of changes at the Parish Council.

Katie Hatton, the Clerk, resigned to pursue other interests. Katie left with our best wishes and thanks for all the work she did for the whole community.

Amanda Roberts, Mandy, replaced Katie and is settling in nicely—even managing to find her way around Whixall without getting lost, much! Mandy comes to us after a career in local government and brings a wealth of experience, ability and a real interest in the role and the Parish. A big welcome to Mandy whose contact details are overleaf.

John Fitton and Jo Hardiman have decided to step down as councillors due to difficulties in giving, what they consider, sufficient time and effort to the role. Again our best wishes and thanks to John and Jo. They will be missed.

We now have two vacancies and there is a process we have to go through to in order to fill them. By the time you read this we will be part way through the process but if you are interested in being a parish councillor please contact Mandy. If you want to have a chat about the role please contact me or Bob Harris, the Vice Chair.

On a more positive note we have been very fortunate in recruiting a new councillor, Darren Farrington a relative newcomer to the area who

has an IT background which has proved very helpful. Whilst Darren's work background has its benefits the most important qualification is that he cares about the future of the parish, the parishioners and wants to get involved and make a difference.

Work is proceeding on the Moss and in particular on the scrapyard site. The council has received regular updates on the work and would like to thank all involved. Final use of the site is still being considered but we will try and keep you all informed as matters evolve.

Happy Christmas and all the best for the New Year.

Ian Mercer, Chairman

## Senior Citizens' Christmas Party

Friday 14 December

6.30 for 7pm

Whixall Social Centre

All Whixall's Senior Citizens are invited to supper, drinks and entertainment at this year's Christmas Party.

Children from Whixall Primary School will start the evening by singing Christmas songs and carols.

If you need a lift to and from the party please contact Mandy, our clerk. Her contact details are overleaf.

## North Salop Wheelers Community Bus

North Salop Wheelers is a voluntary organisation supported by local fundraising and by donations from town and parish councils including Whixall Parish Council.

We are always on the lookout for volunteer drivers so if you can spare just a few hours now and then you could help us to provide this vital service.

For more information go to [www.northsalopwheelers.co.uk](http://www.northsalopwheelers.co.uk) or ring 01948 880037

**Did you know** that members of the public are welcome at all Parish Council monthly meetings? There is even a slot in the meeting for the public to speak.

The Council meets on the 2nd Wednesday every month except August and December. The agenda is always posted on our website at least 4 days before we meet.

## Our Community

### Remembrance Events 2018

Over 100 members of the community came together for the Battle's Over Beacon event to commemorate the centenary of the end of WWI.

Thank you to everyone who worked to make all our commemorations such a success including Whixall Primary School, St Mary's Church, Welsh End Chapel, Bridget Hodges, Jim Short and Natural England.

### Whixall Social Centre

Defibrillator: Keep watching for the yellow box on the wall and look out for news of training courses to be offered in the future.

The Community Christmas event will be held at the Social Centre on Mon 17th December.

### Whixall Primary School

The school opens its doors to the community and provides a two course lunch on specific dates. For more information contact the school on 01948 880330

### Community News

Details of all local groups and activities can be found in this monthly magazine which covers Whixall, Tilstock, Edstaston and Coton.

Contact Madeline Harris on 01948 880494 to get a copy.

## Neighbourhood Watch



There are two Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) Schemes active in Whixall:

- Hollinwood, Sandy Bank, Stanley Green and Welsh End Scheme (Whixall North East) has 63 members and is coordinated by Graham Turnbull (01948 880856).
- Waterloo has approximately 20 members and is run by Rita Welch (01939 234243)

All members receive a monthly newsletter which provides local NHW news, West Mercia Police information, North Shropshire area incident reports plus home security and safety guidance briefs. We also arrange for regular visits to the village by the Whitchurch Police Safer Neighbourhood Team.

### Why join our NHW scheme?

Due to the size of the parish there are still several areas of Whixall that are not covered by the Scheme which aims to:

- Prevent crime and the opportunities for crime and anti-social behaviour.
- Reassure local residents and reduce the fear of crime and anti-social behavior
- Reduce the incidence of domestic fires and environmental damage to residential property.

- Encourage neighbourliness and community cohesion

- Improve the quality of life for local residents and tenants.

It does this by being a community-based organisation with residents and tenants working together, sharing information and working in partnership with the police and other agencies to prevent crime and disorder, anti-social behaviour and the risk of fire and environmental damage.

NHW works best when you and your neighbours are all part of the scheme – then you can look out for each other and your part of the village. If you are interested in joining the NHW scheme then please contact the Whixall lead coordinator, Graham Turnbull, for details. We can expand the scheme into your area. Membership costs only £2 per annum.

Police Neighbourhood Team visits are arranged for the following dates:  
Sunday 27 January 2019  
Saturday 2 March 2019  
Each visit: 1000 Hollinwood; 1100 Stanley Green; 1130 Social Centre.

For information about services provided by Shropshire Council go to [www.shropshire.gov.uk](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk)

## Whixall Marl Allotment (The Marlot)

The Marlot is an area of common land of about 6 acres, situated alongside the canal at Roundthorn Bridge. Under the stewardship of the Parish Council, it is managed as a wildlife site and maintained by volunteers.

Cattle were introduced in early October to try to keep the grass and regenerated willow growth under control. A team of volunteers carries out year-round work including cutting back the overgrowth in the pond and meadow areas and dealing with fallen or damaged tree branches. This ongoing work often carried out with hand tools, despite the dense vegetation which returns year after year. Ditch maintenance work will be required this winter.

There is a great sense of achievement and satisfaction among the volunteers, knowing that their work helps the survival of wildlife. Without the support and guidance of Natural England staff and volunteers, the current small local band would struggle to cope and so we are looking for more volunteers from the local community.

If you can spare some time to assist with the maintenance work, then please do step forward to join the Marlot Conservation Group. Enquiries to the parish clerk or to Martin Spenser on 01948 880818 or 07784 907523, e-mail [m.spenser@btinternet.com](mailto:m.spenser@btinternet.com).

## Contact Us

Parish Councillors contact details can be found on the back of the Community News or on [www.whixallparish.org](http://www.whixallparish.org)

Our Parish Clerk (Mandy) can be contacted on 01939 234830 or [clerk.whixallpc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:clerk.whixallpc@hotmail.co.uk).

