



NEWSLETTER

Fourteenth edition of the Newsletter for Upper Pleasley, New Houghton, Stoney Houghton and Pleasley Vale.



The **Verney Institute**, built 1906 as a Library and Reading Room, is the headquarters of Pleasley Parish Council who meet usually on the first Monday in the month. Many residents will now have seen this building at the scarecrow festival.

It is available for hire for meetings, parties and functions contact the caretaker Phillip Briggs 01623-810732 or Email johnwright828@btinternet.com

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

We have by now had our national elections, had our very successful scarecrow festival, had our Annual Parish Meeting and the annual Parish Council Meeting.

The Annual Parish Meeting was held before the Annual Parish Council Meeting on Monday 10th May 2010

This is a meeting the law requires that we hold annually to give Parishioners and representatives of the different organisations that meet within the parish the chance to make comment on Parish affairs during the open forum part of the agenda.

Members of the parish council who attend this meeting prior to their own meeting are considered as members of the public and can ask questions not applicable to parish council business. Other members of the public, from different organisations within the parish, were noted by their absence.

The Chairman of the Parish Meeting read his chairman's report according to protocol and for it to be placed on record. The meeting was as follows.

AGENDA.

1. To confirm the minutes of the last Parish Meeting held In May 2009.

2. Apologies for absence.

3. The precept for the coming year, 2010/2011 is £75.000. This has remained the same since 2007/06

4. The Chairman's report pointed out that parishioners can now keep up with the activities of the parish council through reading all about it in the Parish Council Newsletter and on the Parish Council's Website.

He explained that Councillors are elected by the people as their representatives and voice. They are there to look at local issues and raise concerns when they arise.

They should not feel that they are in a position of authority for what seems to be their own patch or area. They are there to serve the whole parish and community and assist wherever they can.

He said that a parish councillor is seldom OFF duty so to speak, they do not work to regular hours.

The Parish Council has made several donations under Section 137 Fee Resources. This year 8 in all. All these are just causes.

Both our community buildings are used fairly extensively but there are still plenty of hours available.

Two of projects two that have been on the agenda ever since 2007 are the upgrading of the two recreation grounds. This has been very frustrating. These are now a priority for this year.

After so many knock-backs things do look very favourable now.

The cemetery is still in need of a completed plan on a data base system.

He reported that all the allotments are taken; the bus shelters are well maintained — damage has been minimum this year.

He explained the Open Door computer session is due to open next month in June and hoped it would be well used by residents.

The Parish Council has been most supportive to local residents over many issues.

The main two were fighting for the bus service, which has proved to be fruitless and the access to our footpath (this has now been resolved and residents can now use this as access to the Welfare and Doctors' surgery.)

There could be more legislative powers regarding planning for Parish Councils, such as the LDO, Local Development Orders, which would be a good thing.

There are five Parish Councils already doing this pilot scheme. This will be monitored very closely.

The Chairman thanked the Vice chair Pauline Bowmer who also is one of our District Councillors and a big thank you to all the parish councillors for their support over the last year

He thanked the parish council employees, Brian Carnall, our Clerk, who we rely on to keep us informed of events. Phillip Briggs and Lauretta Brudenell, the two caretakers, and Jimmy, our litter picker, all who do a marvellous job. He then thanked members for listening.

The Annual Parish Council Meeting followed the Annual Parish meeting.

Councillor Howard Wright was once more proposed as Chairman, Cllr Pauline Bowmer as

Vice Chair. Cllr Wright was also elected on the Pleasley Park Vale Area Partnership Scheme advisory committee.

Cllrs Holland and Gamble will represent the parish council at the Bolsover Local Strategic Partnership and Parish Councils Liaison meetings at Bolsover.

The Police crime report for April was:

2 Criminal Damage, 2 Violence, 1 Theft of Motor Vehicle, 1 Theft from Motor Vehicle and 1 of Fraud.

The serious matter of dogs fouling public places was reported. Several people have been warned. Until there is a stricter action taken by way of prosecution this will never be resolved. It is a serious issue which may lead to children being blinded.

The parish council hopes to install more dog bins. Residents should report any one they see violating the rule.

We have once more Dennis Skinner elected as our MP who can always be contacted on dennis.skinner@ntlworld.com or skinnerd@parliament.uk

Dennis was quite concerned about the access to our footpath near the Welfare being denied, and the withdrawal of the bus service. He contacted various people to raise questions and try and resolve these problems. He wrote a strong letter to Bellway Homes demanding that the footpath be opened. This was one of his first duties after the general election.

Just to inform those who missed a previous article about the footpath. This is a short repeat of the agreement.

An application for an official land search was made by solicitors Bryan and Armstrong in 1969 after a certificate of search was obtained from Blackwell Rural District Council in 1968 and Derbyshire County Council.

The agreement was drawn up on the 10th of June 1969 between the trustees of the Pleasley Institute and Recreation Grounds (Pleasley Welfare) of which Douglas Simpson was one, and the Pleasley Parish Council.

A R Griffin, Chairman, two councillors and the Clerk signed the agreement

Preventing Crime

Police in Chesterfield, Bolsover, North East Derbyshire and Amber Valley are urging residents to keep their shed and outhouses securely locked to prevent crime.



Superintendent Gary Knighton said: "Traditionally thefts from gardens and shed burglaries increase as the weather gets warmer. We want to make sure this type of crime doesn't get more common and by taking a few simple precautions owners can keep their property safe.

"Many people store items such as mountain bikes, motorbikes, golf clubs, DIY power tools, lawn mowers and other garden equipment in their sheds. Let's make it difficult for the criminals and fit good locks to our property."

Supt Knighton offered the following tips:
* Protect the boundary and access of your garden.

* Locate your shed in your garden so you can clearly see the door and window of your shed while you are still within your home.

- Use a good quality padlock/hasp or mortice lock on the door. If using a hasp, ensure the screws are covered and cannot be accessed by a screw driver. Alternatively use non returnable security screws or coach bolts instead. A closed shackle padlock is less easy to access and cut with a bolt cutter.
- If fitting a mortice lock ensure the door panel and frame are strong enough to hold the fixtures.

• Ensure the hinges cannot be easily removed.

* Make sure the doors and panels of the shed are strong enough not to be kicked in or forced by bodily pressure.



* Cover the windows and fit Perspex or laminated glass which will offer good protection.

- Cover the shed with a PIR security light.

* Fit an alarm.

* Use a ground or wall anchor to secure your bike or other valuables in the shed. Lock valuables together to prevent them being easily removed. Visibly and permanently mark your property. It helps identify it as yours and is less desirable for a thief.

For further advice contact your local police on 0345 123 33 33.

SCARECROW FESTIVAL

Before the commencement of the July Parish Council meeting the Chairman, Cllr Howard Wright, presented the prizes to the winning entries chosen by the public of the Scarecrow Festival.

First prize of £75 Laretta Brudenell
Pavilion Gardens New Houghton
Second prize of £50 Sally Hardy
The Paddocks Pleasley.

Third prize of £25 Joanne Barker
Newboundmill Lane Pleasley

A second presentation was made to St John Ambulance Pleasley Section of the profits from the event which were £152.50

The Chairman thanked everyone for their efforts on the preparations for the Scarecrow festival and over the weekend of the event. He emphasised that it had been a team effort and congratulations should go to everyone. He particularly thanked all the residents who made the effort to participate, without their response there would have been no festival .

The feedback from everyone who entered and those who came to view their efforts was very positive, with a wish that the event be repeated next year.

Following the Chairman's remarks there was a discussion on the lessons that had been learnt and what changes could be made for next year. A meeting will be arranged to discuss next year's festival.

It was RESOLVED that

The Chairman's thanks to everyone be noted and the Scarecrow Festival be repeated in June next year.

Scarecrow Competition

Regardless of a certain amount of scepticism, doubt and trepidation at some point, which there must be on a new venture, and lets not forget the hard work, the first Scarecrow Festival was a great success. The exhibitions of people's efforts were a credit to all who entered.

The parish council was very grateful to the residents who entered and wishes to thank them all. They proved to be marvellous efforts. Let's hope next year we can do even better. There is plenty of time to think of a subject. Some people are already planning their next scarecrow.

Once again, a big thanks to all who participated. Without you this could not have taken place.

A full list of participants is available.

Pictures of all the scarecrows can be seen on the board outside the Verney Institute and on our web site.

Letter from a resident:

I am writing to express my thanks to all the members of the Pleasley Parish Council, for your foresight and efforts in launching the Scarecrow Festival. (The first of many I hope)

The standard of scarecrows was very high, The number encouraging, and the fact that the winning entries spread between New-boundmill Lane and Pavilion Gardens proves that people were prepared to follow the whole route.

It was good to see how many people were Walking round and talking to each other.

Truly an event that created a real feeling of "Village Life" within the parish.

The whole event was well thought out and well Executed. Congratulations are due to everyone who was involved.

Yours Sincerely.

When letters like this are received it gives great pleasure to the parish council to know that someone is appreciative.

Report of the Police

Local Crime figures in June: 7 in all

Criminal Damage 2

Violence 3

Non Dwelling Burglary 2

Pc Browett commented that there was no significant increase in these figures and answered questions raised by members.

COUNTY CRIME

Crime in Chesterfield, North East Derbyshire, Bolsover and Amber Valley has fallen by eight per cent in the last two months.

Statistics for April and May 2010 show that serious acquisitive crime, such as burglary and vehicle crime, has reduced by nine per cent, anti-social behaviour is down six per cent and criminal damage down by 15 per cent compared with the same two months last year. House burglary is at the same level as last year and other burglaries have reduced by 15 per cent.

Divisional Commander Chief Superintendent Roger Flint said: "The reduction and detection of crime is more and more challenging in the current climate of an economic recession.

I am particularly pleased with the reductions in crime and anti-social behaviour during the last two months as this means there are 348 fewer victims than at the same time last year.

The number of cases where an offender has been dealt with is increasing and nearly 32 per cent of victims are now seeing an offender brought to justice, an increase of five per cent compared with last year. Nine per cent more serious acquisitive crime is detected and five per cent more serious violent crime."

Mr Flint added: "Increases in the detection of crime means that more offenders are being brought to justice and the victims in those cases have the reassurance of knowing that someone has been apprehended for the offence against them. We are not complacent and are working hard with our partners from the councils and other agencies to improve things even further.

The public can assist us by ensuring that they keep their property safe and secure at all times.

Also we are grateful to receive any information no matter how insignificant it might seem which could lead to the arrest of those people who commit crime. If you see something suspicious please call the police, we are grateful for the public's support and assistance in keeping this area safe."

Anyone with any information about crime or criminals can call the police on 0345 123 33 33 or ring Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Local Events up to Christmas.

September 25th

Harvest Supper 7pm N/H Centre
6pm Michaelmas Service St Michael's.

Oct 10th

7pm Family fun and games in the Verney

November 14th

Remembrance Service St Michael's at
10-15am, 11-30am at N/Houghton Memorial

November 27th

Parish Christmas Fayre 2pm
New Houghton Centre.

Friday December 3rd

Christmas Tree Festival:
7-30pm Carol Concert with Pleasley Band
Festival continues until Tuesday 7th
Closes with a Choir Concert at 7-30

Thursday 16th Carols by Candlelight St Michael's.

Friday 24th 8pm Carols in Meden Square

1130pm Midnight Mass St Michael's

Sometime during the second or third week in December will the yearly carols in the Verney and a festive drink with the Parish Council Chairman. Date to be confirmed next newsletter.

Herbal Treatments for relief of some skin problems

Internal Applications

[Plantain](#) – take an extract or capsules of plantain internally for relief.

[Chickweed](#) – This herb is well-known for its affinity for skin. Take capsules or a tincture of chickweed to ease itchy skin. You can add the fresh herb to your salad.

[Yellow dock](#) – this herb is full of minerals the body needs. Take a tincture or extract as directed on the label to get the best results.

External Applications

[Witch hazel](#) – this herb is astringent and can relieve the itch caused by rash, psoriasis and eczema. Apply cool witch hazel with a clean cloth and leave it on for half an hour.

[St John's Wort](#) – well-known as a treatment for

depression. This is also astringent and can be used to refresh and moisturize itchy skin.

[Aloe vera](#) – the gel from the leaf of the aloe plant is often used to treat skin problems like burns. It is also useful for itchy rashes. Aloe is anti-inflammatory, antibacterial and antifungal. Apply the gel directly to the affected area.

[Mullein](#) - apply as a compress to relieve itchy skin.

[Chamomile](#) – this herb is an anti-inflammatory and helps relieve itchiness. If you are allergic to ragweed, you may not want to choose chamomile.

[Calendula](#) – this herb reduces inflammation and stimulates the production of white blood cells. Simmer 2 teaspoons of calendula in 1 cup of water for ten minutes. Allow the solution to cool before applying to the affected area.

[Jewelweed](#) – this herb provides relief from the stinging and itching caused by poison oak, poison ivy, stinging nettles and insect bites and stings. Crush the fresh leaves into a ball and rub over the itchy areas.

[Wild pansy](#) – this little herb soothes itches associated with eczema.

[Oats](#) – this herb soothes irritated skin and has traditionally been used to ease itching from chicken pox and other causes. Add finely ground oatmeal to a lukewarm bath and take a long soak for the best results.

[Neem](#) – boil neem leaves and add to your bath water to relieve itchy skin. Neem is good for many kinds of skin ailments.

[Camphor](#) – this herb is analgesic and antiseptic. Apply a cream or salve topically to relieve itching.

[Tea tree](#) – for persistent itches, apply a small amount of tea tree oil. Relief is immediate. Tea tree can also be applied via a cream base.

Update Open Door Computer Group

The Clerk reported that the sessions had started and that the Thursday morning sessions had been well attended.

No-one had attended the evening sessions for young people. Information would be passed on to school children to remind them of the sessions.

It was resolved that the evening session continue for another week. If attendance did not improve the evening session would be curtailed until September.

Check Out Department Errors (CODE)

Pensioners may receive incorrect tax codes as HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) is introducing a new computer system to manage employees and pensioners' records.

This could lead to pensioners overpaying tax from April when these codes will be supplied.

Pensioners should not be worried as the problems have been identified, but every pensioner should check their coding notice and if they are uncertain as to whether it is correct then they should contact HMRC or, if they are on low income, Registered Charity **TOP** (Tax Help for Older People)

www.taxvol.org.uk or Helpline 0645 601 3321. The problems and actions that pensioners should take are outlined by the Low incomes Tax Reform Group (litg.org.uk)

To work out how much tax you should be paying use Age Concern's online tax calculator (ageconcern.org.uk)

B D C PRESS RELEASE DOG FOULING**TACKLING THIS MESSY PROBLEM**

Bolsover District Council is getting out and about in the community as we try to combat the foul problem of dog mess.

High visibility, early morning dog fouling patrols have been in operation for the past couple of months during this time, Council officers have gathered information on persons who don't clean up after up after their dogs. Further more **discreet patrols** are now taking place.

In fact since April 2010, the Council has issued thirty-nine Fixed Penalty Notices of **£50** for litter, six for dog fouling and two for fly tipping.

The whole of Bolsover district is covered by an order under The Dogs (**Fouling of Land**) Act 1996 which makes it an offence for any person to fail to clean up after a dog within their control fouling in a public place. Anyone caught breaking the law would be issued with an on the spot fine of **£50**.

We have been working with Pleasley Parish council to raise awareness in the parish and they have made a contribution to the purchase of poop scoop bags for the community.

Cabinet member for environment Cllr Dennis Kelly said, "We have found the majority of dog owners act responsibly and clear up after their dogs have fouled, However from the amount of dog cleansing that we have to carry out there clearly remains a problem".

Further initiatives are being planned, including targeting parks and green spaces to try and clamp down on irresponsible dog owners.

(Areas that £50 penalties have been issued are Creswell, Clown, Bolsover and Shirebrook). Areas in Pleasley which will be targeted: foot-path off Terrace Lane to Country Park, Recreation Ground, Chesterfield Rd, near Booth Ave and Newboundmill Lane.

MONEY BACK on ENERGY BILLS

The Government is working with energy suppliers on a data sharing initiative to help tackle fuel poverty. The Energy Rebate Scheme will benefit poorer older pensioners by giving them a one off rebate in 2010 of £80 on electricity bills

To be eligible a person must, on 26th March 2010, (qualifying date) be:-

Receiving Pension Credit - guarantee credit only (no savings credit element) ,aged 70 or over (or live with a partner who is) , living in a household where either they, or their partner, are responsible for the electric bill.

The Government will write to eligible customers around the time that rebates are expected to begin in June 2010 with information on the scheme and provide assurance that the rebate is on its way.

People will NOT need to make a claim in most cases the rebate will be paid automatically. Where it is not possible to pay the rebate automatically customers will be contacted with further details on eligibility and how they can receive their rebate.

As well as helping vulnerable older people with fuel bills the scheme will pilot data-sharing as a possible approach to delivering the mandated social price support scheme from 2011.

Under this scheme energy suppliers will target the support they give with fuel costs to vulnerable groups. Consultation on this scheme is expected in 2010.

Overhanging Branches

Just to recap on overhanging hedges and trees. This is the general effect of current common (unwritten) law. A tree or hedge belongs to the owner of the land it is growing on and, under common law, that person is responsible for managing and maintaining it so that it is not a nuisance to anyone else - in the same way that they are responsible for looking after any other part of their property.

Where the branches of a tree or hedge cause a nuisance by trespassing onto an adjoining property, the common law allows the neighbour to remedy this by cutting back to the boundary any overhanging branches - provided there are no other legal restrictions in place, such as a tree preservation order.

The other way of enforcing these common law responsibilities is through the civil courts, by pursuing an action against the owner of the tree or hedge for trespass, nuisance and/or negligence. The law on nuisance/negligence is complicated and so such a step is not to be taken lightly. Anyone considering such action would be well advised to seek specialist legal help. [Community Legal Advice](#) (external link) (tel: 0845 345 4345) can help people to find the right legal advice.

Another problem that will arise at this time of year is the inevitable garden fires. The law on this was in a previous newsletter. Only garden refuse can be burned, **NO** plastic or household rubbish and **NO** fires left unattended. There is no time limit on fires.

Any one inundated with rats, or troubled with wasps' nests, contact 01246-242424 and report it and the pest control officer will only be too pleased to help. They do not reply to bees' nests. There may be a charge.

Rev Gordon Bevan

Holy Trinity church was filled to capacity with people paying their respects at the funeral of Rev Gordon Bevan on Tuesday 20th April. Amongst the many clergy that were in attendance were two past priests of St Michael's Church Pleasley. Canon Ian Winterbottom and his wife Irene, Ian went to Derby Cathedral from Pleasley, and Rev John

Goldsmith and his wife Rev Mary Goldsmith who now live in Monyash in Derbyshire. Gordon was a Bevin boy during the WW2. .

The vast amount of people who attended the funeral probably didn't realise or notice that the tradition or rule of the coffin which during the ceremony has the feet turned towards the altar is reversed in the case of a priest with the head facing towards the altar. The idea is that the priest in death should occupy the same position in the church as he has always done in life; that is facing his people whom he taught and blessed in Christ's name. This rule also applies when he is buried: he should face his people as opposed to facing the traditional way of pointing East, where the altar is situated in a church.

PLEASLEY BRASS BAND

As many of you may already know Pleasley has its very own Brass Band alive and kicking and still going strong after 125 years.

The band returned to the contest arena in 2008 and played at the area contest in the fourth section. On 14th March this year it once again took to the stage along with 24 other similarly ranked bands from across the local area.

Although there was no prize this time the band was pleased with its performance and spirits remained high.

Since August 2009 the band has been led, very successfully, by Keith Buxton, cornet player at Thoresby Colliery band and formerly a member of the Grimethorpe Colliery and Carlton Main Frickley Colliery Bands.

He made his debut as Musical Director to the band on the day of the contest and was encouraged with how the band performed. The band is looking to build on this achievement and already has several concerts and contest arranged for the forthcoming year.

If you are interested in booking the band for a concert, fayre or special occasion or if you are interested in joining the band either as an established or new player then contact Lisa Buxton on 01623 424254 for more details.

COMPETITION TIME:

This Wordsearch is . . . find eleven TV Detectives. Entries to be received **before August 31st**

LEWIS. HOLMES
MORSE COLUMBO
LINDLEY CRABB
POIROT BARNABY
BERGERAC KOJAK
GEORGE GENTLY

Send your entries to Wordsearch, The Verney, Newboundmill Lane Pleasley, NG19 7PL or post in the Verney post box or give to any Councillor.

The winner of our last word search was Mrs M Stelling of Meden Ave New Houghton Who received a £10 garden voucher presented by Parish Council Chairman Cllr J H Wright.

L	S	E	M	L	O	H	Y	B	B	A	G
E	E	L	S	I	E	O	E	B	G	E	E
N	R	W	C	R	E	B	B	A	O	H	R
N	G	E	I	A	T	O	R	R/I	O	P	S
Y	E	S	R	S	A	D	G	C	Y	A	K
B	R	L	C	A	R	E	G	R	E	B	A
A	K	O	J	B	G	E	E	N	L	Y	J
R	H	Y	G	E	E	I	S	T	D	T	O
N	O	M	N	E	S	N	O	L	N	O	K
A	L	T	S	O	R	A	O	Y	I	R	O
B	L	I	N	D	O	B	M	U	L	O	C
Y	K	A	J	O	M	T	O	N	Y	P	J

REMINDER

This a reminder to anyone who would like to put an advert in our Newsletter, The rates are very competitive. It will reach at least 1000 homes in the area and it will go on our Web Site: www.pleasleyparishcouncil.org.uk

It's a chance not to be missed, telephone 10623-810486 or email johnwright828@btinternet.com

Also remember we have two village halls with rooms and kitchens to hire for parties of various sorts.

Many of you will have seen these rooms when they were used as polling stations for the general election. They will be used again next May for Parish and District elections.

Contact the caretakers:

for Pleasley contact Phillip on 01623-810732
for New Houghton contact Lauretta on 01623-811390

YOUR COUNCILLORS

- Ian Allan 810346
- Pauline Bowmer (Vice Chair) 811492
- David Clarke 810754
- Val Douglas 811761
- Pat Fisher 810926
- Mick Gamble 810035
- Christine Holland 810824
- Neil Jordon 811615
- Jackie Jones 811207
- Howard Wright (Chairman) 810486

The Parish Clerk is Brian Carnall
01246-273239 brian_carnall@yahoo.co.uk

District Councillors:
Pauline Bowmer and
Anne Syrett 01246-850215

County Councillor
Marian Stockdale 01623-742197.