

# Our Parish Matters

The newsletter for Cockshutt cum Petton Parish residents

Issue 7 March 2012

## Welcome .....

to the March issue of 'Our Parish Matters' and you will notice from the article below that there is a Councillor vacancy. This is because after many years of service, Allan Biggs has decided to retire. I'm sure you will join me in thanking Allan for his dedication in representing Petton Ward. If you are interested in taking over Allan's position why not speak to one of the Councillors or the Clerk to find out more.

It is hoped that by the time you read this the Parish Council will have its new notice board erected on Church Green and soon, following requests from residents, it will be joined by a new street light. It is hoped that the new light will help visibility at both the School and Church. Just room for a short reminder that the Annual Parish Meeting is being held on Thursday 26 April— full details inside.

John Dickin

Chair, Cockshutt cum Petton Parish Council

## Parish Councillor vacancy

The current vacancy for a Parish Councillor is for the Petton Ward of the Parish. As this vacancy has arisen between the ordinary round of elections (normally every 4 years) it is classed as a Casual Vacancy. The Parish Council will advertise the vacancy by placing formal Notices around the Parish and on its website on 30 March 2012. The Notice is required to be displayed for 14 days (not including weekends and bank holidays).

During the 14 days of the Notice being displayed, ten electors from within the Ward of the Parish of the vacancy can call for an election to be held. To do this they will need to make their request **in writing** on a form obtained from the Parish or Shropshire Council to: The Returning Officer, Shropshire Council, The Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6ND. In the event of such a request being received, the Returning Officer will decide on the date of the poll, which must fall within 60 working days (computed in the same way as the Notice) from the date of the Notice. If an election is not requested the Parish Council will be notified to co-opt a member to fill the vacancy as soon as practicable. Should this be the case with this vacancy further guidance notes will be issued on the Parish Council's website or on request.

The Returning Officer is appointed by

Shropshire Council, and he/she is responsible for the conduct of, and arrangements for filling vacancies. However, the Parish Council will assist, where able, with giving advice to prospective candidates prior to elections and, when appropriate, the preliminary arrangements for the filling of Casual Vacancies by co-option.

If you need any more information, please contact the Parish Clerk, or alternatively, Shropshire Council's Elections Office on 0345 678 9015.

## Petton with Cockshutt Horticultural Show

The 2012 show will be held on Sunday 2nd September and the schedules will be available in late March. In response to the request in the last 'Our Parish Matters', members welcomed Rosemary Allen (01939 270 739) and Janet Hankey (07775 864 496) to the team as the new secretary and treasurer respectively at the 2012 AGM. I think it is great that we have two **volunteers** so please continue to give them your support in the future. Gordon Whitfield (01939 270 366) was re-elected as our chairman. If you have any queries please telephone any one of us.

Bim & Alf Johnson (01939 270 245)

# HALL

## Forthcoming and Past Events

**FREE Family Disco on 24<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm. Burgers and Hot-dogs will be on sale as usual.**

The New Year's Eve supper and disco was very successful and it was lovely to see so many local people at the hall. We plan to hold a similar, modestly priced party again on New Year's Eve this year, so make a note now in your diaries. For Valentine's evening the hall joined forces with the Ellesmere Rangers Football Club to host a supper and live band. This event was excellent and we are hopeful that this will become an annual event, so watch this space.

### Play area

Hopefully by the time you receive this newsletter our refurbished play area will be open. At the time of writing it has taken over a year to reach this stage but we are nearly there. Due to the frosty weather in late January, the newly laid turf is taking a while to become established, but as soon as it is, we will be officially opening the area for the children to have fun on.

### Doctor's Surgery

A doctor's surgery is held twice a week in the hall, so if you need an appointment, ring the surgery at Ellesmere 01691 623256 and ask for an appointment at Cockshutt.

Remember, we need to keep using the Cockshutt surgery so that we don't lose it.

### Bingo

There is Bingo at the hall every other Saturday evening. For details telephone: Pam 01939 270812

### Short Mat Bowls

There is bowling every Thursday evening. For details telephone: Ron 01939 270358

### Broadband

The hall will shortly be going onto broadband, which will be an extra facility for Pre-school as well as other users.

## Village Fete

The hall committee would like the village fete to happen again, but need a team of volunteers to organise it. If there is anyone living in the village or surrounding area who would be prepared to help, please contact Peter Griffiths: 01939 270463, Kevin Williams: 01939 270831 or Gill Webb: 01939 270265.

## General Information

At the hall there is Pre-school, mother and toddlers, bowling, bingo, doctor's surgery, parish council meeting, WI, Zumba, keep fit and aerobics. There are also private functions eg weddings, parties, Caravan Club etc. To book or find information about the hall telephone: Sandra Morris 01939 270890 or look at our website; [www.cockshuttvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.cockshuttvillagehall.co.uk) We also have a facebook page [www.facebook.com/Cockshutt-Millennium-Hall/269320643098809](http://www.facebook.com/Cockshutt-Millennium-Hall/269320643098809).

## Ellesmere Customer Service Point

... was formerly known as Ellesmere Infolink on Wharf Road and is now providing services in Ellesmere Library on Victoria Street.

Here are some of the Services we can offer:

- **Blue Badges** – application and renewal
- **Transport information** – times of trains and local buses
- **Concessionary travel** – Bus Pass or Rail Card applications
- **Issuing RADAR keys**
- **Issuing Parking Permits** (Residential & Season Tickets)
- **Copy certificates** – births, deaths and marriage applications within Shropshire
- **Payments for some Shropshire Council services**
- **Waste permits** – for taking waste to an amenity site in a commercial vehicle or when towing a trailer
- **Reporting problems** with litter, bins, dog fouling, street lighting, highways (including blocked footpaths)

**Our opening times are:**  
**Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday**  
**10.00am – 4.30pm**  
**Saturday**  
**10.00am – 1.00pm**

On the days the Library is open we are situated in the reference section, and on

Wednesdays when the Library is closed, we are in the room at the back of the Library (the old CAB office).

You can access Shropshire Council services at this location, on our website: [www.shropshire.gov.uk](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk), email: [customer.service@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:customer.service@shropshire.gov.uk), or by phoning our Customer Service Centre on 0345 678 9000.

## Cockshutt Pre-School

Cockshutt Pre-School is pleased to report an increase in numbers of children attending, resulting in providing employment for five local people. Being part of the community is important to us and we have been pleased to be asked to put flowers on the War Memorial, attend the Senior Citizens' Carols Service, watch the Nativity at the Church and be consulted on the type of apparatus we would like to see in the park.

Our rag-bag scheme is extremely well supported, raising us vital funds to pay our rent to the Millennium Hall, therefore supporting this vital community building. Thank you to all of those who donate clothes: please continue to do so.

We would like to invite you to our 'Jubilee Bingo' on Tuesday June 12th at 6pm at the Millennium Hall: everyone welcome, entrance £1.

Today the children planted the potatoes in the garden and we are looking forward to planting seeds to grow our own snacks. We also welcomed 'Diddy Dance' into our setting and even the most reticent children joined in with the 'silly dancing'.

Working closely with Sure Start, Ellesmere Nursery, Ducklings, Welshampton and Cockshutt Primary Schools we all held a focus day on 'mark making' and we are preparing for another one which will be 'problem solving, reasoning and numeracy' day. Recently we took our children to Cockshutt Primary school to join in with their music morning led by the Reception Teacher.

If you would like to come and have a look around the Pre-School, please either drop in or telephone 01939 270816.

Vivien Holloway FD (Open)

## Annual Parish Meeting

Last year, for the second time, the Annual Parish Meeting was held on an evening dedicated solely to it. These Meetings have been well attended and everyone considered them informative and very beneficial. This year the Annual Parish Meeting will be on Thursday 26 April at 7.30pm.

To remind you, the Annual Parish Meeting is not the AGM of the Parish Council. It is the meeting for residents to hear what has done for them over the last year and ask their opinion on future matters. There will also be an opportunity for residents to express their concerns or question things that are important to them. To put it simply, it is the residents' meeting!

The evening is the ideal opportunity to meet and talk with Parish Councillors and others in the community. A warm invitation is extended to all!

### COCKSHUTT cum PETTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Thursday 26 April 2012  
Cockshutt Millennium Hall

This is YOUR chance to share YOUR thoughts on Parish matters!

**Come and find out about:**

**The land behind Wimbourne Cottages**  
*Come and agree the name and put your views forward!*

**Future Development in the Parish**  
*What will the Parish look like in 2026?*

**Parish Councillor Vacancy**

**Parish Council Chair's Report**

**Meeting starts 7.30pm**  
**Refreshments from 7pm**

**See you there!**

## Broadband in the County

In a world of ever-increasing reliance on an effective, reliable and secure communications infrastructure it is essential that both rural and urban communities and businesses are able to benefit from the convenience provided by online services. However, thousands of people in rural parts of Shropshire are still struggling along with snail-like broadband speeds.

Shropshire Council was recently granted £8.2 million (shared with Telford and Wrekin) by the Government's Broadband Delivery UK Scheme to help roll out high speed internet in the county.

Shropshire Council plans to use this funding to achieve 3 aims:

1. to allow 100% of Shropshire access to a minimum of 2mbps broadband speed
2. to deliver superfast broadband to as much of the county as possible
3. because mobile broadband is envisaged to be a growth area, ensuring this is catered for as well

### What can we do to help?

Demonstrating demand for superfast broadband by individuals and businesses in Shropshire is crucial.

YOU can show your interest by filling in the personal and/or business questionnaires on

the website [www.connectingshropshire.co.uk](http://www.connectingshropshire.co.uk) This will help Shropshire Council understand where the need and demand for broadband in the county lies and this will help to prioritise investment.

(If you are unable to access the website because your internet connection is too slow, please call Shropshire Council's information and research team on 01743 252598.)

Shropshire Council intend to issue quarterly updates to the Parish Council on progress with the project and this will be passed on through the newsletter.

### Got a Bus Pass?

Then please check the date. If it is due to expire this year you will need to apply for a new bus pass. Renewals are free but you must apply in the correct month. Forms are online at [www.shropshire.gov.uk/buspass](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/buspass) or by completing a renewal form available from the local library.

#### Pass Expires

June  
August  
September  
October  
November  
December

#### Apply During

April  
June  
July  
August  
September  
October

---

## Useful Contact Details

### Parish Council

John Cooling	01939 270 309
John Dickin (Chair)	01939 270 240
Helen Eatough	01939 270 364
Alf Johnson	01939 270 245
Eddie Jones	01939 270 285
Geoff Ralphs	01939 270 664
Gill Webb	01939 270 265
Vacancy	

### Shropshire Councillor

Brian Williams	01939 234198
----------------	--------------

*Our Parish Matters* is produced by:

Cockshutt cum Petton Parish Council  
Orchard Cottage, Rowe Lane  
Welshampton, SY12 0QB

For further information please contact the Clerk: Carole Warner on 01948 710672  
Email: [cockshuttparishcouncil@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cockshuttparishcouncil@hotmail.co.uk)  
[www.2shrop.net/cockshuttcumpettonpc](http://www.2shrop.net/cockshuttcumpettonpc)

### Millennium Hall

To book the hall:

Sandra Morris	01939 270 890
For information about the hall:	
Peter Griffiths	01939 270 463
Gill Webb	01939 270 265
Kevin Williams	01939 270 831

### Cockshutt C of E Primary School

School Office (term time only) 01939 270 616

### Cockshutt Community Pre-School

Vivien Holloway (term time only) 01939 270 816

This newsletter can be made available in large print and audio tape. Please call 01948 710672 for further details.



This newsletter is printed on recycled paper. When you have finished with it please recycle.