

Our Parish Matters

The newsletter for Cockshutt cum Petton Parish residents

Issue 23 February 2017

Welcome ..

to the February edition of the Parish Council's newsletter.

The November edition included appeals for volunteers for several community projects. It's very pleasing to read that a Parish Paths Partnership (P3) Group has been set up and over the winter members have attended training, both on the legal aspects and the practical skills required. They are well placed to carry out their role. Volunteers have also come forward to be part of a Steering Group to coordinate a Community Led Plan. Thank you to all who have given their time to help our community.

This edition includes articles on topics which will be of particular interest to residents: a briefing on Shropshire Council's review of its Planning Policies and also updates on traffic calming projects. If you have views on these issues please contact your Parish Councillors.

John Dickin
Chair
Cockshutt cum Petton Parish Council

COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Local Elections will take place on Thursday 4 May this year. This means that all Shropshire Council Town and Parish Council seats will be open to candidates. All 8 seats on Cockshutt cum Petton Parish Council will be open for nominations.

So, do you want to help get things done in your neighbourhood? Are you already active in your community? As a councillor, you really can make a difference. Being a councillor is a rewarding form of public service that puts you in a unique position where you can make decisions about local issues and improve the quality of life for people within Cockshutt cum Petton Parish. It gives you the opportunity to help your local community and be part of a dedicated team influencing and providing key services for your area.

The councillor's role takes in:

- Representing the parish ward
- Decision making
- Policy and strategy review and development
- Community leadership and engagement

Community Leadership is at the heart of modern local government and councils are taking on new responsibilities for working in partnership with other organisations, including Shropshire Council and the voluntary and community sector, to improve services and the quality of life for citizens.

The notice of elections will be published on Monday 13 March and it's only from that date that nomination forms can be submitted to the Returning Officer at Shropshire Council. The law now states that nomination papers may only be delivered to the Returning Officer in person, and can't be received through the post. Shropshire Council will publish further information where you can submit nomination papers in person, shortly before the nomination period opens. The deadline for nominations is 4pm on Tuesday 4 April.

Full details can be found on Shropshire Council website: www.shropshire.gov.uk/democracy/voting-and-elections/local-elections---may-2017/ or phone Electoral Services 0345 678 9015.

Planning Policy Partial Review

Local Authorities are required to produce documents which set out proposals for the use of land and policies to guide future development. These are known as the 'Local Plan'. Shropshire Council is currently consulting on a partial review of its Local Plan.

Shropshire Council is keen to maintain a robust and defensible Local Plan for its area. The partial review will help to ensure that there is an up to date and deliverable Plan which will help to ensure that local, rather than national policies act as the principal benchmark for planning decision.

The consultation invites feedback on choices for each of the following strategic options:

- i. Housing requirement
- ii. Strategic distribution of future growth
- iii. Strategies for employment growth
- iv. Delivering development in rural settlements

Cockshutt is currently classed as a 'Hub' where development is allowed. Petton is 'Countryside' within Planning Policies which means residential development is restricted with no 'open market' housing. The review of 'Delivering Development in Rural Settlements' is therefore of particular importance.

The Parish Council will be taking part in the consultation process and encourages residents to take time to understand the consultation options and give feedback to their local Parish Councillors. Copies of the consultation documents are available on Shropshire Council's website and paper copies at main libraries. The deadline for responses is 20 March 2017.

Battle's Over: A Nation's Tribute

11 November 2018

In commemoration and remembrance of the end of the First World War, and the many millions who were killed or came home dreadfully wounded, a chain of 1,000 beacons will be lit throughout the United Kingdom, Channel Islands, Isle of Man and UK Overseas Territories at 7pm on the 11 November 2018. A century after the guns fell silent.

The event will also commemorate the huge army of men and women on the home front who, often in dangerous and exhausting conditions, underpinned the war effort by keeping the wheels of industry turning,

bringing the harvests home and ensuring the nation did not starve.

The beacons will symbolise the 'light of hope' that emerged from the darkness of war, and we hope that the local communities will join us in this important national event.

If you would like to be involved in organising the beacons please contact any Councillor or the Clerk.



We are experiencing a major problem with dog fouling on the football field, its surrounds and near the play area. This is extremely worrying as it is a serious health hazard to not only the footballers but children who use the playing fields; it also makes the football field unusable.

We know that there are many responsible dog owners who use the fields and clean up after their dogs and we would hate to have to take the step of banning all dogs from the playing field and its surrounds because of one or two irresponsible dog owners.

So if you should see any irresponsible dog fouling happening could you please report it to me on 270888 or to the Dog Warden Keith Clorley on 03456789000.

Loft Longhurst

Parish Paths Partnership (P3)

The Cockshutt Parish Paths Partnership group has been busy replacing stiles in the field behind the Village Hall with kissing gates. The sleeper bridge has also been replaced. This was achieved with the help of Shropshire Council Outdoor Partnership following negotiation with and consent from the farmer.

The gates enable walkers with dogs to use the public rights of way and also keep the boundaries of the fields stock proof. Please keep to the paths, keep dogs on leads and pick up after them.

If you would like to join our friendly P3 group, we meet every Wednesday to walk the paths of Cockshutt, assessing their condition while having fun and getting fresh air and exercise.

Please contact me if you would like to join us on 01939 270565 or email hank@mypostoffice.co.uk

Janet Hankey (Cockshutt P3 Co-ordinator)

Parish Council Budget 2017/18

Soon you will receive the Council Tax Demand from Shropshire Council which includes elements destined for other public bodies including the Parish Council. You will notice that the Parish Council has increased its 'precept' (the official name for the amount of tax paid through the Council Tax). Raising the precept is never an easy decision but having discussed plans for the next financial year over several meetings the Council considered that to fulfil its role it had to raise the precept to £18,500. The average Band D tax payer will pay £65.42 per annum and equates to £1.26 per week.

During the next financial year the Council will assist with the development of a Community Led Plan and has contracted for improved grounds maintenance of the playing and Jubilee fields. The Council acknowledges the Clerk's and Councillors' roles continues to expand and will ensure all are fully trained to fulfil their roles.

Community Led Plan

By the time you read this newsletter the introductory meeting organised by the Parish Council and Shropshire Community Council will have taken place. A number of interested residents came forward at the Christmas Fayre and it is hoped they will become the Steering Group.

BUT it is not too late for you to become involved. If you would like to help find out what the community's needs and aspirations are for the future please contact the Parish Clerk, Carole Warner on 01948 710672 or email clerk@cockshuttcuppetton-pc.gov.uk

Traffic Calming update

Shrewsbury Road

There are many residents who have voiced their concerns to the Parish Council about the speed of traffic along the Shrewsbury Road and recent incidents at the roundabout at The Meadows have brought these concerns to the fore again. The Parish Council has frequently raised these concerns with Shropshire Council and the Shrewsbury Road is one of the Council's Road Safety planned schemes.

Traffic monitoring took place during 2016 and is the first stage of the design process of the scheme. Shropshire Council has confirmed they will share any proposals with the Parish Council. Due to budget constraints Shropshire Council can not confirm when the scheme will be implemented. The Parish

Council will continue to lobby for the earliest possible date.

Willowbrook Manor

Although this is a residential area on the edge of Cockshutt there are no speed restrictions. The unrestricted speed limit of 60 mph applies. Families living there and the Parish Council have successfully lobbied Shropshire Council to gain their agreement to seek the introduction of a 30 mph limit. The process is a long one starting with consultation with the Police and other statutory bodies and advertising in the local press. It is hoped this will take place soon into the next financial year.

The Countryside Code.

With the Cockshutt P3 Group encouraging residents to get outside and walk the parish paths it was felt appropriate to remind walkers and land managers of their responsibilities under 'The Countryside Code'.

For walkers: '*Respect, Protect, Enjoy*'

Respect other people:

- Consider the local community and other people enjoying the outdoors. Don't block gateways or other paths with vehicles. Co-operate with people at work in the countryside.
- Leave gates and property as you find them and follow paths unless wider access is available. Leave machinery and farm animals alone; don't interfere with animals even if you think they're in distress. Try to alert the farmer.

Protect the natural environment:

- Leave no trace of your visit and take your litter home.
- Keep dogs under effective control. This means keep your dog on a lead or keep it in sight at all times. Do not let it stray.

Enjoy the outdoors:

- Plan ahead and be prepared.
- Follow advice and local signs.

For land managers:

Know you rights, responsibilities and liabilities. Contact Shropshire Council to check. By law, you must keep rights of way clear.

Make it easy for visitors to act responsibly. Keep paths clear and waymarks and signs in good order. Where there is public access through a boundary feature such as a fence or gate, create a gap.

Identify possible threats to visitors' safety. Although visitors have the first line of responsibility to keep themselves and their children safe while in the countryside, you do need to ensure that your activities do not knowingly put them at risk.

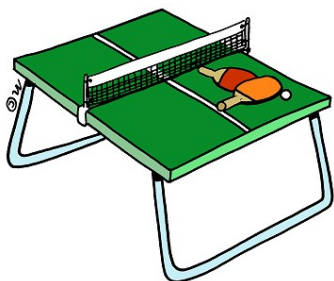


Would you like to join a Youth Club in the Millennium Hall?



Membership for 10 to 18 year olds?

Pool table, table tennis, dart board, free wi-fi, refreshments and chat



To find out more about joining or helping please contact
01939 270888



Useful Contact Details

Parish Council

Linda Baumgartl	01939 270 340
David Carr	01939 270 517
John Cooling	01939 270 309
John Dickin (Chair)	01939 270 240
Christine Hodnett	01939 270 339
Canice Lawrence	01939 270 330
Ian Morris	01939 270 890
Andrew Shakeshaft	07815 861 566

Shropshire Councillor

Brian Williams 01939 234198

How do I report it?

To report problems including:

- Potholes
- Dog Fouling
- Overgrown verges and hedges
- Litter problems and fly tipping
- Dead animal on the road
- Vandalism or anti-social behaviour
- A stray or lost dog
- Low supplies in salt/grit bins

Millennium Hall

To book the hall:	
Rosemary Milns	01939 270 816
For information about the hall:	
Loft Longhurst	01939 270 888
Gill Webb	01939 270 265

Cockshutt CofE Primary School & Nursery

School Office (term time only)	01939 270 616
Email: admin.cockshutt@shropshire.sch.uk	

Our Parish Matters is produced by:

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For further information please contact the Clerk: Carole Warner on 01948 710672
Email: clerk@cockshuttcupetton-pc.gov.uk
www.cockshuttcupetton-pc.gov.uk

Contact Shropshire Council customer services on 0345 678 9006 or email: customer.service@shropshire.gov.uk or report it on-line at <http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/report/>

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