

BARNWELL PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Winter 2014

Dear Barnwellian,

Now that our beautiful summer and our even more beautiful autumn are a fast fading memory, I realise that it is time to update you all on Parish Council news.

We are now very engaged in preparing a **Neighbourhood Plan** for Barnwell Parish. Although we have a full complement on the Working Party, we would always welcome volunteers to help us. If you are interested in helping please contact me on 270311. We are hoping to hold an Open Day in the village hall in the spring, which we have applied for a grant to fund. At this event we hope to get everyone's ideas and advice so that we can move the plan forward. Please look out early next year for flyers and posters with further details.

I am sure that you will have noticed that the **village notice board** is in need of a little TLC. We are planning to have it stripped down and oiled, and to have two doors put on the back which will not be locked so that anyone can place a notice there without it getting wet! We are also planning to move the board across to the village green, and site it next to the phone box away from the outfall of the lime trees, which is presently damaging the wood.

We have now been advised by the Environment Agency that they have established that there is a colony of **water voles** living in the area around the ford. As water voles are a rare and protected species, we have decided to erect an **information board** at the ford detailing relevant facts about water voles which we hope everyone will find interesting. It is hoped that this project will be funded from County Councillor Wendy Brackenbury's Empowerment Fund, and we are very grateful to her for her kind support. We have also been offered possible funding by a couple of Wildlife Trusts if we need extra finance, which is greatly appreciated.

At the end of September the village gathered at the Village Hall to thank **Ron and Pat Rutterford** for their many years of service to Barnwell in running the Post Office and Village Shop, and to wish them a long and happy retirement. We all enjoyed the wonderful tea party and many thanks to be everyone who helped to organise it. We are pleased to welcome Jay, Vicky and Judy who have taken over from Pat and Ron, and we hope that they will enjoy many happy years living here in Barnwell. This village is very privileged to have both a shop, a Post Office and a pub and they all contribute so much to making Barnwell a very special place. (They even enhance our house prices!). We must remember that if we don't use them we will lose them.

Here is a message from Jay:

Hello Barnwell,

A message from Jay, Vicky and little Judy. We have now been in the beautiful village of Barnwell for over two months and are enjoying life here.

We would like to thank everyone for their support and warm welcome over the last months. We hope to improve both the Post Office and shop to give the local community better facilities for the future. Thank you again for your continued support.

Post office Tel: 274345

Shop Tel: 358449

Footpaths & Cycleways - the Parish Council is again pursuing the idea of clearing and re-instating the **footpath to Armston Road**. We have heard from Sarah Barnwell, the Community Liaison Officer, who is going to have the footpath inspected and then do a site visit with County Councillor Wendy Brackenbury and local representatives to assess what needs to be done and how much it will cost. It is unlikely that anything will be achieved in the current financial year, as budgets have already been allocated, but, in principal, Sarah will consider doing the work next year depending on available finance.

In the meantime Sandra Cartledge has agreed to co-ordinate a letter writing campaign in support of the project. On behalf of the Parish Council, I would urge you to give this your backing.

On the subject of the creation of a **cycleway towards Oundle**, we have received some encouraging news from Neil Holland, Access Development Officer (Walking & Cycling) for Northamptonshire Highways. He advises that his colleagues in the design team are currently putting together a detailed design for the shared-use path along the one-way section of the old road to Oundle and also on the Barnwell side of the A605.

It looks as if they may have sufficient funding left in this financial year to construct the path, although this is subject to the final target cost of the scheme, which will be calculated as part of the design work. Any Section 106 funding they subsequently obtain from the Marina development can then potentially be passed over to their budget to offset their outlay and help facilitate cycle/foot way improvements elsewhere in the area.

Neil Holland will liaise with Councillor Nick Bould, who has been monitoring this project on our behalf, and let us know if they get the go-ahead and when construction is likely to take place.

We are still looking to recruit a **Flood Warden** for Barnwell following the retirement of Gerry Allen after many years of valuable service, thank you Gerry. Please contact our Clerk, Lorna Lovell on 733689 if you are interested in taking up this post.

As you are all no doubt aware, next year is an **election year** so if anyone is interested in standing for election to the Parish Council please contact our Clerk, Lorna Lovell, to obtain the relevant forms. The election will be held in May 2015.

It is perhaps a little early, but, nonetheless, I would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and great 2015.

Heather Hanlon, Chair of Barnwell Parish Council

Parson Latham's - it is my great pleasure, on behalf of the Trustees, to tell you that the builders, Peacock and Hogan, have started the work on the extension to Parson Latham's Chapel Hall.

After many years of trying to please the Planning and Conservation officials, our Trustees, Gerry Allen and George Marriott, gained permission to begin. Our grateful thanks go to Dorothy Warner-Jones who, on our behalf, was successful in securing a grant of £17,000 from the Augean Community Fund, thank you Dorothy. This amount will be matched by the money we have raised over the years from the Annual Summer Fayres and donations. Our thanks, therefore, to ALL of you who have supported the Trust so generously.

This year's **Annual Autumn Fayre** on September 20th was held in the Village Hall because of the possibility that the extension work would begin before that date. Well over 100 adults and children came to enjoy all the usual stalls, games and a chat over a cup of tea or coffee. Terry and friends,

once again, came with the magnificent model steam railway which was very much enjoyed.

On behalf of the Trustees, I would like to thank all our helpers who so generously gave their time to make this event such a happy occasion. A magnificent sum of £1,076.00 was raised, thank you to everyone.

Our Trustee, Phil Cook, has retired after an amazing 43 years in office. A valued and committed Trustee, Phil has been instrumental in the modernisation of the cottages. Now, with the double-glazed windows, storage heaters and walk-in showers, our Grade II listed buildings are well-maintained and have lovely gardens. Our best wishes go to Phil and his family and thank him for his long years of service.

Pat Rutterford

Superfast Broadband - the fibre optic cable has now been activated, so Superfast Broadband should be available throughout the village. Thank you everyone who completed and returned the questionnaire. We will never be sure that it helped, but our area is one of the first to be upgraded. To get connected you can contact your service provider or go to www.superfast-openreach.co.uk for more options. You may end up paying more but some have found there are deals available that will save money on current rates.

Councillor David Brown

Barnwell Youth Club has got off to a good start this year with an average of 15 members each week and all from Barnwell and surrounding villages. We have now moved indoors and are keeping busy with the crafts, games and equipment we purchased with our grant from Spire Homes.

Hopefully, we will be getting a volunteer who is currently undertaking their Duke of Edinburgh award in the next few weeks, so that will help during the winter months.

Youth Club is open every Wednesday in term time from 7-9 pm in the Village Hall, and the cost is £2 per session. New members welcome.

Julie Dunn Tel: 01832 272373

Barnwell WI holds meetings on the first Thursday of the month (excluding August) at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

We have a growing membership of various ages, and have interesting and humorous speakers at our meetings. Next year will be the 100th anniversary of the WI, which was brought over from Canada to Wales and then to England, so we will be celebrating this event. We are a very friendly group and newcomers are most welcome

To join please phone our Secretary, Andrea Croft on 01832 272382

The **Mobile Library** visits Barnwell on the third Saturday of each month from 14:00 to 14:45. It stops at the village green next to the phone box.

Dates of visits - December 2014 to July 2015

20 December, 17th January, 21st February, 21st March, 18th April, 16th May, 20th June, 18th July

Parish information - with the onset of winter weather, problems may occur in the Parish. If anyone sees damaged trees or power/telephone lines, flooding, road surface damage etc., please report it immediately to the Parish Clerk who will arrange for the appropriate agency to effect repairs.

And just a reminder that **Parish Council meetings** are held bi-monthly on the third Tuesday of the month at the Village Hall at 8pm, all welcome, watch out for agenda on the village notice board.

Meeting Dates for 2015

January 20th, March 17th, May 19th, July 21st, September 15th, November 17th

Parish Councillors

Chairman	Heather Hanlon	270311
Vice Chairman	Graham Wise	273771
	Nick Bould	270043
	David Brown	273729
	Phil Holden	272802
	Geoff Shacklock	274549
	Chris Soans	
Parish Clerk	Lorna Lovell	01832 733689 or 07752 080222