

Parish Council Meeting Dates

All meetings held at the Village Hall Green Room.

Anybody present can address councillors on any subject they wish from 7.30pm onwards. The full council meeting starts at 7.45pm and members of the public are free to stay and watch proceedings.

It should be noted that, if an answer to a specific query is urgent, the earlier the clerk has an indication beforehand of the nature of the question the more information can be provided at the meeting itself.

On dates marked * meetings will only take place if there are urgent agenda items.

Tuesday March 9th 2010 7.30pm Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday 17th March at Sparc Bishop's Castle 7pm LJC meeting

Wednesday May 19th 2010 (Parish Council AGM) 7.30pm

Contact your Parish Councillor

Roger Plowden (Plowden) email to: lydburycouncil@tiscali.co.uk

Jim Collin (Brockton) email to : jamescollin@tiscali.co.uk

Ian Kidd (Lydbury North) Phone: 01588 680 511

email to: ian.kidd7@btinternet.com

Judith Bowen(Lydbury North) email to :lydburycouncil@tiscali.co.uk

Shona Bluhm (Lydbury North) Phone 01588 80651

email to: shona@lydburynorth.net

Robin Beaumont (Lydbury North) email to: lydburycouncil@tiscali.co.uk

Jackie Williams (Lower Down) Phone: 01588 680595

email to: jackiewilliams@bishopscastle.co.uk

Tony Harris (Lower Down) Phone: 01588 680 450

Georgie Ellis (Totterton) Phone: 01588 680512

Lydbury North



Parish Council Newsletter

Issue 5 March 2010

Letter from the Chairman

Now that Christmas is 'out of the way', we look forward to 2010, and in particular to updating our Parish Plan Action List, and then promoting it through the Rural Community Engagement process of Shropshire Council. In this way Lydbury North will, we hope, be recognised as a Rural Hub within the Shropshire Core Strategy. An interactive approach specially tailored for rural areas, called a rural toolkit, is being piloted in certain parts of Shropshire – and the council needs people to get involved to help make it work. Up to 30 people are needed for each event, which are a great way to make sure the council has the best quality information possible about where you live, to help make long term decisions about housing development and needs for services.

An event will be held for residents of Lydbury North. It will include up to three parish council representatives and the local Shropshire Council councillor for the area, Councillor Peter Phillips. The event is to be held on Thursday 27th May, between 6 - 9pm, it will be held in Lydbury North Village Hall. If you would like to be involved please contact Mrs Lois Dale, Principal Rural Policy Officer, before 10th May. Contact details are 01743 255667, or email lois.dale@shropshire.gov.uk.

We are delighted to welcome Georgie Ellis onto the Parish Council – her experience as a District Councillor will be invaluable and is in addition to Jackie Williams who represents us so energetically on the Local Joint Committee.

The weather and in particular the snow and ice on our roads has, of course played a significant part over the Christmas holiday. Generally the Highway Department has been praised for their response, but there is no doubt that in order to get the best from them, you need to report problems, either direct or via our Parish Clerk. (see details inside this issue)

So I look forward to seeing as many as possible at the Community Engagement meeting on the 27th May, and subsequently at our AGM on 19th May - please put both these dates in your diary.

RGP Plowden
Chairman

PARISH NEWS

Local Joint Committee at Marton Village Hall 20th January. Report from Cllr Jackie Williams

Attendance was low due mainly to adverse weather conditions.

Budget decision report was received and the recommendations as submitted by the committee after their meeting on 4th December were approved with the exception of one application which was deferred. There were no applications from organisations within Lydbury North parish.

The amount now remaining in the Community Chest is £14,775 but a shortfall in the Match Funded projects fund of £2503.97 will be accommodated from the C/Chest fund leaving a current total of £12,271.13. in the C/Chest.

The next round of applications will be considered by the committee of parish reps. In March for approval at the April meeting of the LJC.

Housing

A presentation by the cabinet member from S.C. on Affordable Housing followed. Some of the details emerging reported that there are 4,400 empty properties in Shropshire. Owners of second homes in the County will become liable for Council tax (not holiday homes). Shropshire has a new build allowance of 1300 houses annually, while there is a need for 1583 with a waiting list of 6000 names. Of the houses built in Shropshire, 26% are now equipped more efficiently than in 2006, i.e. wheelchair access, solar panels, downstairs toilets, staircases suitable for stair lifts. etc.

Roads

Chris Edwards, S.C. Highways Manager for this LJC area, answered questions from the floor, mostly concerning the effects of the recent extreme weather conditions on our roads. Jackie was pleased to be able to give credit to him and his team for the way in which L.N. Parish had been served on the whole, with grit and snow ploughing. She has collected information from around the parish, and has submitted these comments to his department, hoping that this will be helpful in determining future strategy. There were adverse comments from some other areas, but most were in agreement that we had been well served. We were told that £1 million (twice the normal budget) has already been set aside to enable reserves to be accumulated in case of such extreme conditions prevailing in the future.

Potholes in the roads can be notified direct to his department for attention, giving road numbers and precise location: chris.edwards@shropshire.gov.uk.

PLEASE BEAR IN MIND THAT YOUR PARISH COUNCIL IS NOT A HIGHWAY AUTHORITY.

Correspondence and reports on Teme Leisure were discussed in respect of the Sparc Centre in Bishop's Castle. They come before the S.C. Scrutiny Committee on Monday 15th February at the Sparc Centre.

With regard to Rural Community Engagement, our Parish Council was asked to reply urgently on the sustainable requirements for this area. (Because of the weather conditions the parish council had been unable to meet to formulate this reply).

Future agenda items requested for discussion include:

- Insurance for Village Halls
- Provision of broadband in rural areas
- Royal Mail

PARISH NEWS

Hedge at Brockton

The Parish Council's application for planning consent for the removal of a small section of hedgerow at the junction to Brocton has been accepted and validated. Assuming there are no objections work will be carried out after 12th March, hopefully this will increase visibility to traffic approaching the bend.

Shropshire Mind Charity Walk Saturday 15th May 2010

'With each mile raise a pile' for mental health charity, Shropshire Mind, on Saturday 15 May 2010. Based at the Shropshire Hills Discovery Centre in Craven Arms you can choose between 3 walks with stunning scenery along the Shropshire Way. It's a great day out for all the family. For further information and to download registration and sponsorship forms, please visit www.shropshiremind.org or call us on 01743 368647.'

Village Playground

The Parish Council has begun the process of applying for a 'Playbuilder Fund' grant which will enable us to purchase play equipment for the school field. The lack of a play area was one of the issues raised in the Parish Plan.

PACT surgeries

If you would like to discuss any problems call in for an informal chat with representatives from your local Police Force. PACT meetings are held regularly in the back room of Lydbury North Community Shop.

Thursday 4th March 9.30 - 10am

Friday 19th March 3 - 3.30pm

Planning

Recent planning applications dealt with by the parish council include:

Planning permission has been granted for

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Planning has been applied for

- Hedgerow removal (PC) by Acton View Ref: 10/00189/HRM
- Alterations to Plowden Mill Ref: 09/03651/LBC and Ref: 09/03910/FUL
- 2 Grain stores at Meadowend Farm, Acton. Ref 10/00159/AGR
- Extension and alterations to Windsor Cottage, Lydbury North and replacing garage Ref:10/00484/FUL

Planning applications can be viewed by contacting the clerk or online at

www.shropshire.gov.uk.

Database

The parish council holds an email database and regularly sends planning lists, meeting details and other interesting information to those on the list. If you would like to be included please send an email to the clerk at lydburycouncil@tiscali.co.uk.

The Parish Council is responsible for some of the local services in the parish including street lighting, community buildings, community spaces, bus shelters, footpaths, tree planting, verge maintenance and litter. Contact the Clerk regarding any of these services.

Mrs Nikki Pugh, CLERK to the Parish Council

Gravenor House, Lydbury North 01588 680 449, email at: lydburycouncil@tiscali.co.uk