

## PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

**March 16th, 2016**

Eccleshall Community Centre

**April 20th, 2016**

Broughton Parish Rooms

**Annual Parish Meeting  
April 27th, 2016**

Eccleshall Community Centre

Residents of Eccleshall parish are welcome to attend meetings and may address the members during the Public Participation session at the start of the meeting. All meetings commence at 7.30pm unless otherwise stated.

### USEFUL CONTACTS

**Street lights, pot holes, standing water or highway matters -**

contact the Highways Hotline 0300 1118000

email:-

[highways@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:highways@staffordshire.gov.uk)

To report problems associated with

**grass cutting, play areas, fly tipping, street sweeping and name plates** contact - Street Scene - 01785 619401

**Recycling collection** - 01785 619402

email: [info@staffordbc.gov.uk](mailto:info@staffordbc.gov.uk)

**Dogs** - dog fouling and stray dogs - 01785 61900

Email: [dogs@staffordbc.gov.uk](mailto:dogs@staffordbc.gov.uk)

## ANNUAL PARISH MEETING APRIL 27TH, 2016

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held at Eccleshall Community Centre on April 27th, 2016 at 7.30pm.

This is not a Parish Council Meeting but an opportunity to hear from groups in the Parish who have benefitted from funding during the year, as well as receiving reports from Council Committees and details of the accounts.

The meeting is open to anyone who lives in the Parish and items of concern can be raised.

### REFUSE LORRY

The Civic Amenity Lorry will be on Stone Road opposite the Methodist Church from 9 - 11am.

**March 19th, 2016**

### SUPERFAST BROADBAND

Staffordshire County Council is building on the commercial rollout to bring superfast broadband to 95% of premises by 2017.

To check the progress of the project and the coverage in your area see the interactive map and details on the website:- [www.superfaststaffordshire.co.uk](http://www.superfaststaffordshire.co.uk)

Tel: 0300 11 8000

Or Twitter: [@superfaststaffs](https://twitter.com/superfaststaffs)

# ECCLESHALL PARISH COUNCIL



## NEWSLETTER MARCH 2016

## PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

### TOWN WARD

Mrs E. Amos  
6, St. Chad's Road, Eccleshall.  
Tel: 851827

Mr P. Baskerville, 'Church Lodge',  
72, High Street, Eccleshall.  
Tel: 850764  
Email: philandwendybaskerville@btinternet.com

Mrs B. Davies  
47, Badgers Croft, Eccleshall.  
Tel: 850571  
Email: beckydavieslitmon@btinternet.com

Mr P. Jones,  
28, The Burgage, Eccleshall.  
Tel. 851381  
Email: peterwjones@btinternet.com

Mr G. Garner (Vice-Chairman)  
9A, Newport Road, Eccleshall.  
Tel. 850110  
Email: g.garner360@btinternet.com

Mr C. Marshall  
21, Badgers Croft, Eccleshall.  
Tel: 851329  
Email: chris.marshall19@btinternet.com

Mr M. Starkey  
24, Claremont Road, Eccleshall.  
Tel: 850502  
Email: mike.starkey@talktalk.net

Ms L. Taylor-Potts  
Hunters Lodge, Pershall, Eccleshall.  
Tel: 859307  
Email: Lindsay.taylorpotts@gmail.com

### CROXTON WARD

Mr B. Delanchy, 5, Highfields,  
Croxtan. Tel. 07837 296472  
Email:  
bryan.delanchy@staffordshire.gov.uk

Mr D. Jacques  
Sugnal Hall, Sugnal.  
Tel: 851711  
Email: dlj@sugnal.co.uk

Mrs R. Langford  
Ferndale  
Woodwall Green  
Croxtan  
Tel: 01630 620545  
Email: roslangford.home@gmail.com

### HORSLEY WARD

Mr P. Mullee  
Johnson Home Farm, Eccleshall  
Tel: 851500  
Email: paulmullee@btinternet.com

Mr D. Pimble (Chairman)  
Cobbler's Cottage,  
Kerry Lane, Eccleshall.  
Tel. 850116  
Email: davidpimble@hotmail.com

Mr D. Dyer  
13, The Crescent, Eccleshall.  
Tel: 851140  
Email: davejgdyer@gmail.com

### SLINDON WARD

Mr C. J. Leather  
Ankerton House  
Eccleshall  
Tel: 850888  
Email: ankertonhouse@gmail.com

### County Councillor

Mr F. A. Chapman  
17, Redhills, Eccleshall.  
Tel. 850838  
Email: frankachapman@btinternet.com

### Borough Councillors

Mr P. Jones (details as opposite)  
Mr J. Pert  
Bank Farm, Croxtan  
Tel: 01630 620274  
Email: jeremyp@jeremypert.co.uk

### Clerk to the Council

Mrs C. Heelis, 42, Badgers Croft,  
Eccleshall.  
Tel. 850989  
Email: eccleshallpc@btinternet.com

## PRECEPT 2016/17

After considerable discussion at a meeting held on January 20th, 2016 the Parish Council resolved to increase the precept for 2016/17 by £1000.00 to £51,160.00. The last increase to the precept was applied in April 2014.

The increase is considered necessary due to various additional administration costs and also the receipt of an invoice in respect of the elections held in Eccleshall Ward in May 2015, amounting to £4430.90. Although a sum of money had been earmarked for election recharges this amount will considerably reduce the reserves held.

## TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

The committee continues to meet periodically with Mr R. Rayson (Community Highways Liaison Manager, Staffordshire County Council).

At the last meeting issues discussed included:-

- A request from Slindon residents for a reduction in the speed limit on the A519 through the village.
- The design and size of the new roundabout on the Stafford Road at the entrance to the new development.
- Flooding in Stafford Street / Castle Street.
- Gateway features
- Bus stops - (Newport Road).
- Pavement - Newport Road.

## FESTIVAL / STREET MARKET 2016

The 2016 Eccleshall Festival Street Market takes place on Saturday 25th June in the Town Centre with all of the usual attractions. We are returning to a Victorian theme with a special celebration for Her Majesty's 90th Birthday and asking stall holders and visitors to adopt suitable fancy dress. The town centre will be decorated by the Ecclesian Society with flower baskets and Union flags.

There will be the usual live music including items from Broughton Community Choir and the Blackwater Concert Band, and a wide variety of food and stalls. The Town Centre shops will be providing their usual array of goods and services. We look forward to kind weather and lots of visitors.

Once again we have the Monster Truck thanks to Springfield Nursery and the Holy Trinity Church will have a Scarecrow event. Town centre people will be able to book stalls first and bookings for other stalls will be taken at the library on Saturday March 12 between 10am and noon. Visit the festival website for details as they are confirmed [www.eccleshallfestival.co.uk](http://www.eccleshallfestival.co.uk) To book a stall ring Libby Dale on 01785 850124 or email her at [libbydale@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:libbydale@tiscali.co.uk).

Local organisations who wish to take part by organising an event during the Festival week should get in touch with Peter Jones on 01785 851381 / 07815 419166 or email him at [peterwjones@btinternet.com](mailto:peterwjones@btinternet.com)

## NEW DEVELOPMENTS

Work has now commenced on the Bovis development of new homes off the Stafford Road. However, the Company is in the process of applying for an amendment to the application to include a further eight homes on the site.

At the time this newsletter was printed this matter had yet to be considered by the Parish Council and representatives were to meet with a senior designer from Bovis Homes to discuss these proposals.

Other issues were also on the agenda for discussion including the design of the roundabout at entrance to the new development and also the provision of a gateway feature on Stafford Road.

Representatives of Taylor Wimpey had attended a meeting of the Parish Council Planning Committee held on February 3rd, 2016. The meeting was advised that an out of date Flood Risk Assessment had been submitted as part of the Planning Application and a revised assessment would be submitted to Stafford Borough Council shortly.

Objections were raised to the layout of the site which showed a house and garage being built over a land drain, insisted on by the Environment Agency and also to the design of a terrace of nine houses at the rear of Trinity Road.

Councillors also expressed concern at Highway issues raised previously, which remained unaddressed. The proposed roundabout was very close to the school entrance and would impede access to

existing properties on Shaws Lane. The Parish Council considered that more should be done as part of a highway scheme to reduce the risk to children, pedestrians and road users.

Taylor Wimpey held a further consultation on February 17th, 2016 when amended layout details and a revised Flood Risk Assessment were available for inspection.

## RIGHTS OF WAY



The 132 Rights of Way in Eccleshall Parish have been divided between 20 local walkers who have offered to walk the paths and report problems. The Parish Council is grateful to those who have come forward to participate in this project.

Anyone who walks the local Footpaths is asked to report any problems with vegetation or damaged / broken stiles or fingerposts, to the Parish Council Clerk or any Councillor.

## VACANCY - SLINDON WARD

Two candidates had expressed an interest in being co-opted onto the Parish Council to represent the Slindon Ward. The candidates gave a presentation to at the Parish Council meeting held on January 20th, 2016 and Mr Leather was duly elected. Thanks were extended to Mr P. Alcock for his interest in the Parish Council and members indicated that they hoped it would not deter him from reapplying should another vacancy arise in the future.

## NEW COUNCILLOR - MR C.J. LEATHER



John and his wife Mary, are both from farming backgrounds. They have three sons and have lived at Ankerton House for 40 years.

John is a Fellow of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors and of The Association of Agricultural Valuers. From 1977 to 2011 he was a partner in the firm of Fisher German, formerly John German, and he operated in the main from the Eccleshall and Stafford branches. He is now semi-retired but still acts as a consultant for the company for one or two days per week.

Throughout his professional life John was involved in planning and development work as well as the management of rural estates. He is a committee member and former Chairman of the Staffordshire Country Land and Business Association and as such he served on the national committees dealing with legal, taxation and political matters.

He is currently treasurer of St Chad's Church, Slindon and takes an interest in local matters. He feels it will be an advantage for a local resident to represent Slindon on the Parish Council and is keen to become involved by distributing the Parish Council newsletter to local residents. Initially John has expressed an interest in joining the Traffic Management Committee.

**TREES:-** Work to remove two of the diseased Horse Chestnut Trees on Stone Road is due to commence shortly. However, the Arboriculturalist is confident that it may be possible to retain the middle tree. Discussions are ongoing with the Borough Council regarding the installation of a Norwegian Spruce or an alternative

species, together with a power supply.

Western Power has expressed concerns about the proximity to overhead power lines of the oak tree within the rotary bench on Stone Road. It is proposed to remove one of the two limbs of the tree ensuring that only minimal pruning works will be required in the future.

## **ECCLESHALL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN AND REFERENDUM**

For the last three years, Eccleshall Parish Council, together with a steering group comprising councillors and interested local residents, has been producing a Neighbourhood Plan to cover planning issues across the whole of the parish. The plan will be a document giving planning policies specific to the parish of Eccleshall and, if approved in a referendum, will have statutory status and must be adhered to by the planners when determining planning applications.

To recap, the council instigated the start of the process at a well attended public meeting in January 2013 which led to the formation of the steering group and the Parish Council applying to the Borough Council for permission to prepare the Neighbourhood Plan. After permission was granted, the steering group and council then prepared questionnaires and other activities to gauge the residents' concerns, which led to the production of a draft plan in January 2015. The Plan was then suitably modified in consultation the Stafford Borough Council and was subject to a 6 week consultation process which necessitated further changes. Finally, it was sent to an independent examiner in September 2015. Subsequently, after amendments required by the examiner to comply with the appropriate planning regulations were made, the final plan was submitted to the Borough Council on 11th December 2015.

The Borough Council is now in the process of clearing the Plan before it goes to the referendum. This will be held at the beginning of May on the same day as the poll for the Police and Crime Commissioner. The Parish Council hopes that this does not deter parishioners from voting or being confused by two different types of election being held on the same day.

The Parish Council has been very disappointed that it is going to take 6 months from receipt of the information by the Borough Council to delivery of the referendum but the systems in place mean that the Plan cannot go before the Borough Council's cabinet before the 3rd March for the final approval.

The Neighbourhood Plan contains various planning policies on Housing including a Settlement Boundary to establish areas of land suitable for proposed development, Traffic and Parking to mitigate the impact of additional vehicles created by development, Local Green Space to protect areas from development and Historic Environment to maintain the town's distinctive character and local architecture. The Plan also details aspirations of the local community gathered from the initial survey work, including improvements to the road infrastructure, provision of accessible green space including a walk along the bank of the River Sow, additional car parking, the construction of a footpath along the B5026 to Pershall and the football ground and also a refuge along the Stone Road to allow residents on the Burgage to cross to the pavement on the opposite side of the road.

The completed plan will be available for inspection on-line, in Eccleshall Library or at other locations in the Parish.

As this is the last Parish Council newsletter before the referendum, the Parish Council urges the residents of the Parish to support the Neighbourhood Plan and vote **YES** in the referendum. The Council believes that it will offer suitable planning policies appropriate to the parish in conjunction with the policies of the Borough Council's Plan for Stafford Borough.

## **BESPOKE RAILINGS - STONE ROAD / CASTLE STREET**

Sadly the railings, which were erected in June 2013, were damaged by a lorry on February 9th, 2016. The damage is considered too great to carry out a repair and a new set of railings will be manufactured by Partumis Metal in Rugeley and installed as soon as practicable.



P.C. Karl Green has been investigating the incident, but unfortunately, there is insufficient information to provide conclusive evidence to identify the vehicle concerned. Anyone who witnessed the incident is asked to contact Mrs Heelis or PC Green at Eccleshall Police Station.

## **SEVERN TRENT**

At the Parish Council meeting held on February 17th, 2016 Mr A. Jones, Senior Network Technician, Severn Trent Water, gave a presentation about flooding in the town, especially in Stafford Street. It was noted that very few incidents had been reported to Severn Trent over the last six years and the Company has very little evidence of any flooding in the town. Residents and property owners are encouraged to report all incidents to Severn Trent to ensure they have an up to date record of the problems faced by local residents and businesses.

**Emergencies including leaks and flooding:-Customer Operations Service Centre on 0800 783 4444.**

Below is a link to the "Report a Problem" Page of the Severn Trent Website where customers can complete the form to notify of the issue – They can also attach photos of the incident using smart phones etc.  
<https://www.stwater.co.uk/my-supplies/report-a-problem/?text-only=show>

For general information customer can go to the main web page:-  
[www.STwater.co.uk](http://www.STwater.co.uk)