

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

January 20th, 2016

Eccleshall Community Centre

February 17th, 2016

Eccleshall Community Centre

March 16th, 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

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

Dogs - dog fouling and stray dogs - 01785 61900

Email: dogs@staffordbc.gov.uk

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

REFUSE LORRY

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

January 23rd, 2016

March 19th, 2016

FIRE TENDER



An information board has now been erected alongside the Fire Tender at the front of the Co-op store detailing the history of the pump.

Front cover - Elford Pool.

ECCLESHALL PARISH COUNCIL



SEASON'S GREETINGS FROM ECCLESHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Newsletter DECEMBER 2015

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
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Mr C. Marshall
21, Badgers Croft, Eccleshall.
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Mr M. Starkey
24, Claremont Road, Eccleshall.
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Ms L. Taylor-Potts
33, The Crescent, Eccleshall.
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Email: Lindsay.taylorpotts@gmail.com

CROXTON WARD

Mr B. Delanchy, 5, Highfields,
Croxton. 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
Croxton
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 VACANCY

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, Croxton
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



FLOODING

During recent heavy rain Castle Street was flooded from the roundabout at the junction of the High Street and Stone Road to the entrance to Castle Lodge.

Previously when Severn Trent have been contacted about flooding issues in the town the response has been that they have viewed their register for reported flooding and it currently has only one entry for Eccleshall, which was last recorded in 2002 – this was for a storm event that only occurs statistically once every 20 years. Therefore, it is important that individuals report flooding incidents when they occur.

For issues and complaints concerning Severn Trent water and sewerage services, please call the **Customer Operations Service Centre on 0800 783 4444**. available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This number can also be used to report emergencies such as leaks and floods.

At this time of year the situation is exacerbated by leaves collecting and blocking the gullies. Any assistance from people living close to roads and gullies to help keep them clear will greatly help the situation.

**Flooding on the highway can also be reported to Staffordshire County Council:- -
highways@staffordshire.gov.uk
Tel: 0300 111 80000**

THE WASHPITS

Following the relocation of the Fire Tender, the lectern on The Washpits has been refurbished and the details updated. Thanks to County Councillor Chapman for contributing towards the cost. of this project from the Staffordshire Local Community Fund.



SCOUTS' CHRISTMAS FAIR

The Scouts are holding a Christmas Fair at the Scout Hut on 5th December; 11am – 3pm.

Fun for all the family

* Raffle * Cakes * Tombola *
Christmas Trees for sale
Refreshments including:-
Mulled wine
Sausage and Bacon baps

CHRISTMAS POST

Have your Christmas Post delivered within the 30mph area of Eccleshall by your local Scout Group.

Post will be collected outside Eccleshall Library on December 5th and 12th from 9am to 12 noon

BOVIS DEVELOPMENT - LAND OFF STAFFORD ROAD



During early November the hedges on Stafford Road fronting the new development were removed and preparatory work on site commenced. A temporary roundabout is to be constructed to access the site from Safford Road. There will be no access for construction traffic off Badgers Croft.

The site will provide not only housing but also a large amount of open space, a multi use games area, equipment for teenagers and a well equipped play area for the under 12's.

The Parish Council is negotiating with Bovis Homes to enter into a legal agreement concerning the transfer of the public open space on Badgers Croft. The space would remain in its current condition, but a footpath would be constructed to link Badgers Croft to the new development and a management company would be responsible for future maintenance of the area.

FOOTPATH NETWORK

Many thanks to everyone who has volunteered to help monitor public rights of way in the Parish. A meeting of the Footpaths Committee held on November 4th, 2015 was also attended by members of the Ramblers Association.

Volunteers will be contacted shortly with maps and details of the footpaths allocated to them.

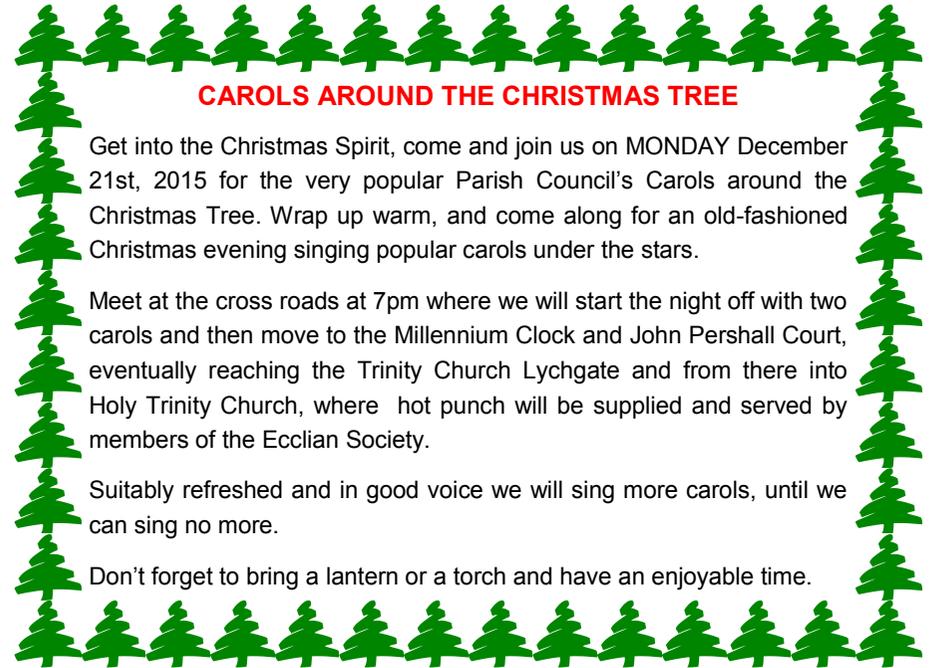
Problems encountered on footpaths in the Parish can be reported to the Parish Council Clerk.



The Dells Footpath

CHRISTMAS TREES

Thanks are extended to the Ecclian Society for erecting the 62 Christmas Trees in the town and testing lights and brackets, Woods Christmas Tree Farm at Solihull for supplying and delivering the Trees, A.S. Electrical Services for installing the lights on the tree by the lych gate and Traction Equipment for the loan of a cherry picker.



CAROLS AROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE

Get into the Christmas Spirit, come and join us on MONDAY December 21st, 2015 for the very popular Parish Council's Carols around the Christmas Tree. Wrap up warm, and come along for an old-fashioned Christmas evening singing popular carols under the stars.

Meet at the cross roads at 7pm where we will start the night off with two carols and then move to the Millennium Clock and John Pershall Court, eventually reaching the Trinity Church Lychgate and from there into Holy Trinity Church, where hot punch will be supplied and served by members of the Ecclian Society.

Suitably refreshed and in good voice we will sing more carols, until we can sing no more.

Don't forget to bring a lantern or a torch and have an enjoyable time.

CHRISTMAS IN ECCLESHALL

As usual the town will be decorated by Christmas trees and lights throughout December. The trees and lights will be erected by Ecclian Society members on Sunday, 29th November.

Preparations have already begun with checks on lights, transformers and brackets.

The lights will be switched on at 5.00pm on Monday, 30th November.

The event will start at 4.00pm by the lych gate of Holy Trinity Church when Santa's sleigh arrives, courtesy of the Rotary Club of Eccleshall Mercia. The sleigh will park there for the younger children to tell Santa what they would like for Christmas and sweets will be given out.

The sad part of the season will come on Sunday, 10th January, 2016, when the trees and lights will be removed. Are you able to help prepare for the festivities? There is a range of jobs in which everyone can participate and if you can help the committee would be very grateful.





The Late Councillor Mary Dodkins

At the Parish Council meeting held on October 21st, 2015 a one minute silence was held in memory of Mary Dodkins, who sadly passed away on October 13th, 2015.

Mary joined the Parish Council in May 2011. She liaised with the Slindon residents, representing their concerns and worked enthusiastically with the Yo-Yo Youth Club and the young people.

Vacancy - Slindon Ward

The Vacancy to represent the Slindon Ward was advertised from Monday October 19th to Friday November 6th, 2015. In that time no requests for an election were received by Stafford Borough Council.

The Parish Council is now required to co-opt a person to fill the vacancy as soon as practicable in accordance with the Local Elections (Parishes and Communities) Rules 1986.

Candidates will be requested to complete a short application form indicating why they are interested in the role. Each candidate will then be invited to give a short presentation to the Council at the meeting on January 20th, 2016 and a vote will be held to determine the successful applicant.

If you are interested in being co-opted onto the Parish Council please contact the Clerk for further details.

Applications for co-option must be received by the Parish Clerk no later than Friday January 8th, 2016

Quality Council Logo

The Parish Council was first accredited with Quality Status in 2004. Following a recent revision of the scheme to include three levels of awards, the Council agreed that accreditation to any level of the new scheme would not be pursued until a comprehensive review of the scheme is undertaken by the National Association of Local Councils and inadequacies are addressed. It is considered that the format of the current scheme is unsatisfactory.

The Policy and Resources Committee commented that here are no tangible advantages of being a Quality Council. The initial scheme had benefitted from the availability of funding, but this is no longer available.

Participation requires a great deal of work to collate the information for submission and involves the display of more details on the website.

The scheme in its present form is not promoted by County Associations.

The Quality Logo will consequently be removed from letters and other publications.

Toilet area - Stone Road



Discussions have been held between representatives of Stafford Borough Council, County Council, Parish Council and the Ecclesian Society regarding the possible enhancement of the area around the toilets on Stone Road, with a view to reducing the amount of maintenance required.

Sadly, two of the horse chestnut trees are diseased with bacterial canker and need to be removed. The trees have already been cut back but this has not stopped the disease.

There is also a strong likelihood that the remaining horse chestnut tree (in the middle) will also need to be removed, but this can only be identified when felling work starts on the other two trees.

It is planned to remove the privets and laurel bushes to open up the space enabling the whole area to be brought back into use and grassed over.

The four silver birch trees at the far side of the area, in front of the brick wall will be trimmed but not removed.

A review of the existing street lighting will be undertaken as there are street

lights on the pavement as well as lighting columns in the toilet area some of these may be unnecessary – although the area does need to remain lit and safe for users .

It is proposed to plant a Norwegian Spruce to the rear of the telephone box and provide a power supply to enable the tree to be decorated with lights each Christmas.

Community Action - Litter Pick

A litter pick on October 17th, organised by Cllr B. Davies, went well with 6 volunteers turning up. The group collected litter and weeds from the High Street and enjoyed coffee and shortbread afterwards at Eccleshall Cricket Club.

Thanks are extended to the volunteers who donned the HiVis Vests and filled bags with the weeds and litter. The working party attracted many comments from passers by and many remarked on the improved appearance of the town.

'Community Action' is an opportunity for everyone to do something to make 'our home' a better place to live in!

The next date is December 5th, 2015 meeting at the crossroads at 10am.

Please contact Cllr Davies if you are able to spare a few hours. It is planned to concentrate on Castle Street and also revisit the High Street, time permitting.

“Don't miss out on next time....we had a great morning..... all finished off with a cuppa in the cricket club!! Perfect!”