



Tiverton and Tilstone Fearnall Parish Council Newsletter March 2017

What's On

Tiverton Village Society Village Day – Hockey Club, Saturday 1 st July. (Jean Toyn 730739)
Tiverton Village Society Evening Event (details yet to be decide) -Village Hall, 21 st October (Jean)
Tiverton Village Society Christmas Party – Village Hall, Saturday 17 th December from 6.30 pm. (Jean)
Tiverton Village Society Evening Event (details yet to be decide) -Village Hall, 17 th March 2018 (Jean)

Feedback

In this edition we are asking you for responses on a number of current issues, so we have included a feed-back form insert, with all the issues listed. If you have responses to any of the requests please use the form then hand it to one of your councillors, or scan and e-mail the form to me. Or you can just give me a 'phone call or e-mail message. The various issues on which we would like your views are detailed under the various headings below, so please give them some thought and let us have the benefit of your views.

*If you do send us your views don't forget your name and telephone number.
Thank you.*

Parish Councillors

At the recent Council meeting I was pleased to welcome our two new councillors; Ash Sharma and Leanne Vimalachandran. Ash lives opposite Townfield Lane while Leanne is from the Red Fox four-lane ends. Since their appointment, however, Cllr. Bernard Byrd, of Tilstone Bank, decided to step down to make way for younger blood, so we still have a vacancy. My thanks go to Bernard for his loyal service over many years. It would be great if we could find a Tilstone Fearnall replacement for Bernard but the vacancy is open to anyone and all applications are welcome.

If you wish to serve your community let me know.

Parish Council Tax Precept

You may have noticed that the Tiverton and Tilstone Fearnall element of this year's Council Tax has increased by 4.3%, which was only decided after long deliberation. This is more-or-less in line with the overall increase in Council Tax but I feel we should explain your council's reasoning. Our finances have been adversely affected by a number of factors. Last year we incurred a Neighbourhood Plan expenditure which was not covered by grants and the long-overdue maintenance of Smithy Green exceeded the budget provision. These items reduced our reserves somewhat. CWaC policies also have an impact - the Council Tax Reduction Scheme Grant, which is "what it says on the tin", is gradually being phased out. The Community Homes Bonus, which contributed over £1,000 in 2015-16, based on the increase in rateable value of all your homes has been scrapped after only one year. The new notice board was funded by the CHB and the de-fibrillator by various grants and gifts. In future, such one-off projects, plus any unforeseen contingencies, will have to come from our own resources; hence the need gradually to re-build our reserves. Our annual income is only around £3,200 and all but £1,000 of that is committed to necessary overheads, so extra costs of only a few hundred pounds can have a serious impact.

Smithy Green Chestnut Tree

In the same vein we have to decide what to do about the damaged and condemned Chestnut tree, which will involve considerable expense. We are still exploring all the options and seeking reduced quotes, but it is likely that we may have to ask for voluntary contributions from the public, for example from those of you who can make use of the large amounts of firewood that

will become available. We are also actively looking for ideas as to what we should do, maybe not simply to replace the tree, but to ensure that Smithy Green remains a distinctive village feature.

Any suggestions or comments?

De-fibrillator Training

The de-fibrillator training session on December 8th was a great success, with about sixteen attendees. The combination of DVD, instruction and hands-on sessions with defib. training equipment and manikins was excellent. We would like to arrange another session for those who were unable to attend last time and we would also run through the practicalities of accessing the cabinet outside the Village Hall and using our own equipment.

Let us know if you are interested.

Neighbourhood Plan

We are in the "Publicity Period" for the Beeston, Tiverton and Tilstone Fearnall Neighbourhood Plan, which is now the responsibility of CWaC. All the relevant documents can be viewed on CWaC's web-site or at Tiverton Village Hall, Tilstone Fearnall Village Hall, Peckforton Village Room, Wright Marshall's offices and Morgan's Garage. The Plan will then go for official Independent Examination.....and we are nearly there. Cllr. Roger Cheshire has master-minded the whole process and done a prodigious amount of work, assisted in the latter stages by Cllr. Ray Mould, so many thanks to them.

Operation Shield

Many neighbouring parishes are now participating in Operation Shield which is being promoted by Cheshire Constabulary. The main objectives are to deter theft and to make any stolen property easier to identify and return to its rightful owners. In simple terms, at a cost of about £10 per household, the householder "paints" an invisible, indelible, unique "DNA-type" identifier on all valuable items, whether in the home or in outbuildings. Street signs, which we would provide, inform would-be felons that the village is participating in Operation Shield, which is proving to be a successful deterrent elsewhere in Cheshire. We would like to know if this scheme is viable for T&TF.

Let us know if you are interested in participating.

Tiverton Village Hall

Looking for something different to do in Tiverton? Why not try one of the activities that are held in the Village Hall (near to junction A49 and Huxley Lane)?

The Hall offers a warm welcome to those interested in Gardening (first Tuesday in the month), Bridge (Monday evening and Weds afternoon), Line Dancing (Tuesday mornings, restarts in April), History Society (fourth Thurs in month), and Coffee Morning - just come and have a chat on last Thursday in month.

Go on, give it a try....

And also; the Village Hall is experiencing a fall-off in regular bookings which, inevitably, puts something of a strain on its finances, so I am repeating the appeal for support that was in our last edition.

The Hall is an excellent facility for the village so please do all you can to book it for your family or club functions and to publicise it more widely. The Hall represents a well maintained, cosy warm venue, with a good floor for dancing, newly refurbished kitchen for light refreshments, and very competitive hire rates;

- £5 per hour (minimum £20) weekdays, except Friday evening
- £35 Friday, Saturday, Sunday evening, 6pm – midnight
- £20 children's parties, 1-6pm

See the Parish website, www.tiverton-cheshire.org.uk. or 'phone Janice Farrall (01829-732855) for more information and for all bookings.

A Final Word From The Chairman

The open session at the start of every Parish Council meeting gives members of the public an opportunity to air their views and ask questions of the council on specific or general matters that concern them. We welcome these contributions and would encourage more of you to come along now and again. Whether it is about planning applications, local bus services, overgrown footpaths, potholes or speed limits, we prefer to talk to you about them face-to-face. And if you hang around you can see if we are doing a good job or not!

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