



Rural Review

The Newsletter of Wem Rural Parish Council
Issue 30 Spring 2020

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WELCOME....

My new saying is 'Volunteers are Golden'. Locally, events in the Autumn and at Christmas, such as Wem Carnival, the Newtown Peace Picnic, the 10k run, the Harvest Supper, the events in Edstaston Village Hall, the Santa Sleigh organised by Wem Rotary Club – and lots more I haven't named, could not run without people from Wem and Wem Rural Parish who give their time freely to make things happen. Of course there also needs to be thanks to the supporters of these events who pay for their tickets, provide a draw prize or give money to help. We are so lucky here in North Shropshire because these events are an opportunity to get to know people in our communities, especially if you are new to the area, to join in and laugh!! In large towns and cities life can be impersonal and people may even feel more isolated than we do in our rural countryside. Watch out for the Edstaston Village Hall Community events!

Speaking of volunteers! Many thanks to Glynis Nicholls who put herself forward and was co-opted at the February Council meeting to fill the vacant Councillor position in Edstaston Ward. The Council still has a vacancy though, in Roden Ward — what about you? Also, I'm calling for volunteers to join me again on the Edstaston to Horton Spring Clean Event on Saturday 21st March. Please see inside the newsletter for further information.

It is very pleasing that three defibrillators will be installed at The Horse and Jockey, Bull and Dog and Edstaston Village Hall. We are holding a Community Defibrillator Seminar on 28th March at Edstaston Village Hall — see flyer for details. Come and hear all about this life saving equipment. One day, you may need to use it.

After the Christmas and New Year break, we are distributing free Smartwater kits again. These kits worth £25 will help protect our residents from thefts and criminal activity in the area. Contact us for your free pack (one per property).

Lastly, a reminder that the Annual Parish Meeting, which is your meeting, not a Council meeting, will take place on Tuesday 7 April at 7pm in Edinburgh House, Wem. If there is any topic you would like raise with fellow residents please let me know.

Liz Vernon,
Chair, Wem Rural Parish Council

Rural Review

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Community Speed Watch in Northwood

Northwood Community Speed Watch (CSW) is up and running! Training by the Police took place before Christmas and since then teams of 3 residents have been out checking the speed of vehicles travelling through the village.



There is a formal procedure set by the Police, including warning signs, that the team follow. If you would like to join them or if you live in another village with a 30mph or 40mph speed limit within it and want to start up your own CSW Team please contact the Clerk.

Community Round Up

Edstaston To Horton Great Spring Clean!

This year's event will take place on Saturday 21st March meeting at Edstaston Village Hall at 10pm. The route to Horton will be the same but this year we will clean as many of the road signs as we can.

Equipment will be provided, all you need to bring are suitable gloves and wear appropriate clothing. Lifts back to Horton will be available

All are welcome to join us and for those not living in Edstaston and Horton maybe you will carry out a litter pick in your area of the parish!

Highways

Some residents will have noticed in the local and national press about the struggle Shropshire Council's Highways Dept is encountering to repair the roads and lanes in the county in a timely and satisfactory way.

Late December, the Chair and Clerk met with the Highways Technician for the Parish and highlighted some of the key issues: potholes, drainage and flooding. The Parish Council cannot guarantee remedial work will be carried out but it will continue to pursue these issues on your behalf.

Community Grants

Every year the Parish Council put aside an amount of funds to help local community groups. There are an agreed criteria and application form which can be obtained from the Clerk.

This financial year the Council is extending the deadline for completed applications to be submitted to 29 February. Applications will be considered at the March Parish Council meeting.

All applications will be considered on their individual merits.

Climate Emergency Wem Area Forum

"We simply cannot waste any more time...."

...said HRH Prince Charles when he spoke to world leaders recently (January 22 2020) about addressing climate change, at the Davos World Economic Forum.

Some of you may know that Wem has already taken up the initiative, in forming the Wem Area Climate Forum (WACF). Three meetings have taken place, and the next one is due in mid-February. It is supported by the Town and Rural Parish Councils, but it is firmly in the hands of the community, and anyone in the Wem area can attend and contribute.

What's already being done?

Wem Town Council has already drawn up an Emergency Plan, which can be found on their website. WACF is led by Hilary Canto, and the Forum has its own email address – wemclimateforum@gmail.com. Contact this for more information. Also, Wem Town Clerk has created a page on the Town Council website for notices about the forum which is a useful beginning <https://www.wem.gov.uk/wem-area-climate-change-forum>.

In their last meeting three groups worked on different aspects of actions that could be taken, and the next meeting will cover fundraising, funding, publicity and the groups' reports on their initial activities and networking, and deciding on the key things talked about in that meeting.

Meanwhile, what else can I do?

Find out more by attending the next WACF meeting, February 19, 7.30pm at Wem Sports and Social Club, it's quite informal, and it won't necessarily commit you to anything, and you don't have to go online. If you can, then try the Wem Town Council website link.

If it's all a bit overwhelming, there are a couple of things you can take note of. First, be aware that Shropshire Council is one of the better (?best) councils for recycling waste. Just do what you already probably do, follow the guidelines on how to separate your waste for collection, and use recycling centres.

Another thought is just to do ONE GREEN THING that you may not already do, every individual action, however small, makes a contribution to reducing carbon dioxide and reducing waste. So if you have central heating, try turning it down a degree, check that radiators that are not in use are turned off. Or if you have a plastic water bottle, refill it, and if you are in town, you'll find that café's will be happy to refill it for you. If you can, walk or bike instead of driving, share a car wherever possible. The list goes on, try searching online for 'one green thing' for many more suggestions.

So please take note that it is no longer enough to talk about climate change, we have a global climate emergency that requires immediate action. WACF aims to identify positive, practical action to develop projects in which Wem can realistically contribute, and it provides an opportunity for everybody to get behind actions that have to happen. Wem is a small enough place to be able to work together as a community to achieve some effective action. It can't be said too often – there is no Planet B!

Wem Rural Parish Councillor Len Staines

EDSTASTON VILLAGE HALL

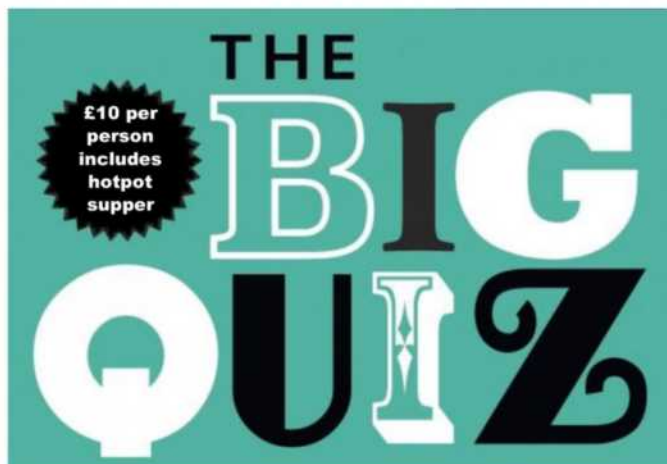
www.edstaston.org.uk

Come and do your bit for the environment and help us plant a wildlife hedge

Saturday 22nd February from 11am

We need your help to plant a new hedge around the land generously donated to Edstaston Village Hall by the Price family. The committee successfully applied to the Woodland Trust for a grant of 440 hedging plants to attract wildlife. The land will be used as a multi-functional amenity area for summer events as well as much-needed space for overflow parking.

Bring a spade and we will provide soup and rolls for lunch as well as hot drinks.



THE BIG QUIZ

£10 per person includes hotpot supper

EDSTASTON VILLAGE HALL
SATURDAY | 28th March | 7.30pm
BAR

Tickets from Elaine Brown | Bev Horsley | Sandra Price | Anna Thomas
Neale Sadler | Don Gregory | Carolyn Shingler | Corrine Brown | Ruth Williams
Trevor Gough | Hazel Rees

Raising funds for the Edstaston Village Hall Extension Project
Charity no. 1095886

FREECYCLING

The Edstaston Village Hall committee is planning to trial regular Freecycle events.

If you have unwanted "stuff" at home, bring it to the hall and see if someone else can make use of it.

Unlike a car boot sale no money will change hands and if your "stuff" doesn't attract a new owner you will have to take it away with you.

Tea and coffee (and perhaps cake) will be on sale.

See website for more information

EASTER ACTIVITIES

with Shropshire Wildlife Trust

Saturday 4th April 2 - 4pm



Bring the children to Edstaston Village Hall for Easter fun and games - including an Easter Egg hunt in the woods if weather permits!

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

See website for more details

NEW AED at Edstaston Village Hall

It is estimated that 85% of sudden cardiac arrest victims could be saved by rapid access to an AED. For every minute a patient is delayed in receiving defibrillation – their chances of survival drop by 10%.

What is an AED?

Modern portable Automated External Defibrillators have made defibrillation a much simpler process (the stopping of fibrillation of the heart by administering a controlled electric shock, to allow restoration of the normal rhythm) and only basic training is needed to use an AED effectively. They're designed to be used by members of the public, easily guiding the operator through the process of administering a shock (but won't allow a shock to be given to a victim who doesn't need one)

Funding for the AED has been made available via Wem Rural Parish Council via a Lottery Fund Grant.

A Community Defibrillator Seminar will take place at Edstaston Village Hall on Saturday 28th March from 10 to 12am

NEW TOWN



EDSTASTON

RODEN

Wem Rural Parish Council

www.wemrural-pc.gov.uk
www.facebook.com/wemruralPC

PARISH COUNCILLORS

12 Councillors represent the 3 wards

EDSTASTON

Huw Edwards	07834 252412	Bank House Farm, Paddol Green, Wem, SY4 5QZ
Glynis Nicholls	01939 234371	Pool Head Farm, Pool Head, Wem, SY4 5QY
Pete Slack	01939 236990	Fairview, 7 Paddol Green, Wem, SY4 5QZ
Liz Vernon	01939 234896	The Park, Edstaston, Wem, SY4 5RF
Ruth Williams	01939 233389	Pool Cottage, Pool Head, Wem SY4 5QY

NEWTOWN

Julia Goode	07971 102569	3 Oakhurst Villas, Newtown, SY4 5NT
Stella Whyte	01948 710302	Grange Villa, Northwood, Wem, SY4 5NP

RODEN

Peter Broomhall	01939 232573	3 Swains Close, Wem, SY4 5NZ
Peter Marsh	01939 232498	Aston Hall, Wem, SY4 5JQ
Vacancy		
Len Staines	01939 234415	The Hawthorns, Barkers Green, Wem, SY4 5JW
Tim Wilton-Morgan	01939 235703	Palms Hill House, Palms Hill, Wem, SY4 5PQ

Councillors invite members of their ward to contact them to discuss any issues or matters of concern.

You can also contact the Parish Clerk, Carole Warner, Orchard Cottage, Rowe Lane, Welshampton, SY12 0QB 01948 710672 or email clerk@wemrural-pc.gov.uk

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

Tuesday
3 March 2020

Tuesday
7 April 2020

Tuesday
5 May 2020

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Tuesday
7 April 2020

M E E T I N G S

Wem Rural Parish Council meetings are held at 7pm on the first Tuesday of the month in the Roden Suite, Edinburgh House, New Street, Wem. The Parish Council occasionally holds Extraordinary Meetings to consider planning applications when the time stipulated for response to Shropshire Council (31 days) does not allow them to be held over to the monthly Council meeting.

Agendas for all meetings are available on the website and are placed on notice boards around the Parish at least 3 days before the meeting.

Members of the community are welcome to attend all meetings and there is time set by at the start to allow you to address the Council.



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LOCAL COUNCIL
AWARD SCHEME
QUALITY GOLD