

Shropshire Council's Community Tree Scheme

Shropshire Council are taking applications for free trees from now until Friday December 2nd 2011. Successful applicants will be notified in early January, with an intended tree collection day of Saturday 4th February 2012.

Community groups, schools, landowners and the general public are welcome to apply for free trees and shrubs. The scheme is open to anyone as long as the trees will be planted where they will provide some public amenity value.

Full details of the scheme, can be found on the Council's website: <http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/environment.nsf/open/3B24CB246C9A A7908025755A00696685> Applications can be made online, or by submitting a form. For further details please contact Martin Sutton Tel 01743 252422 or email: martin.sutton@shropshire.gov.uk.

LONGNOR COUNCILLORS CORNER OUR FIRST ATTEMPT AT LOCALISM

It's time for the maintenance work on the Longnor (A49) bus shelters and notice board. They all need a coat of preservative so we the residents of Longnor have a choice:

- It can be done by volunteers (unpaid of course; materials supplied); or
- By a local professional contractor.

Also from time to time the foliage which obscures the road signs in Longnor village needs clearing. Would any Big Society enthusiast like to volunteer? It helps if your tall but we will certainly not discriminate! Should anyone like to offer their services please contact the Clerk, Sue Hackett Tel 01743 719012 or email leebotwoodpc@btinternet.com

Every effort has been made to ensure all details provided in this newsletter are accurate at the time of publication. Should you prefer to receive this newsletter by email please let the Clerk know.

Our thanks to the network of volunteers who distribute the newsletter

Editor Sue Hackett

LEEBOTWOOD & LONGNOR PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER JULY 2011 Edition 8



Chair's Annual Report by Cllr Lorna Pardoe

During the last year the Council has been consulted on many important Shropshire Council draft policies including:

The Local Development Framework which includes policies such as the Site Allocations and Management of Development (SAMDev); Types and Affordability of Housing; Community Infra-Structure Levy; and Place Plans particularly Church Stretton's.

As a result of last year's Annual Parish Meeting the Council responded to the SC SAMDev last year that both communities wished to be categorised as countryside as per the policy; which restricts future development. Having been again asked to confirm our response this year the Council has reiterated this wish as it reflects the community feedback received last year.

By dramatically increasing the precept two years ago in 2008-09 the Council has been able to build on its reserves and has given substantial financial support to two major projects vital to both of our Villages:

- £3,000 has been awarded for the extension of the car park for Leebo Wood Village Hall;
- £3,000 has been awarded to Longnor Village Hall's refurbishment.

Your parish councillors have recently met with and accompanied High Ways officers from Shropshire Council walking the villages recently to establish their maintenance needs. Local community activity days have been organised where local residents and councillors have spent time cleaning up, litter picking and bulb planting to improve the appearance of both villages.

The Council has a website which is getting on average 500 hits a month! Here you can find contact details for all your councillors, and the clerk along with all the dates and times of our meetings and local news items which we feel will be of interest. All of the Council's approved minutes are uploaded onto the website and are available for all to read who have access to the internet. Our website address is: www.2shrop.net/leebotwoodparishcouncil The Council strongly believes in transparency and being accountable to the residents of the parish.

The Council's quarterly newsletter has also been expanded in order to more effectively communicate with the community particularly as this year's priority is to **encourage you all to take an active part in the Parish Plan meetings in your villages which are scheduled to take place in both villages in September**. Please come along as these will affect your local villages and the services sponsored by your Parish Council. Localism is driving the redirection of spending powers and local decisions being made at local levels. The Council needs to know your priorities to accomplish this effectively. Please look out for notices of the meetings on the local notice boards and the website. I welcome Cllr Jennie Griffiths to the post as Chair and thank all the parish councillors who have supported me whilst acting as Chair to the Parish Council.

Parish Councillors Telephone Contact Details	
Leebotwood	Longnor
Mrs Joan Davies <i>01694 751325</i>	Mrs Lorna Pardoe <i>01743 718695</i>
Ms Jennie Griffiths (Chair) <i>01694 751326</i>	Mr Des Jacques <i>01743 718853</i>
Mr Roderick Probert <i>01694 751337</i>	Mr John Ludlow <i>01743 718044</i>
Mr John Wilson (Vice Chair) <i>01694 751266</i>	Mr Paul Harris 01743 718028

In summary to quote the OFSTED report " Longnor rightly judges itself to be a school which is extremely effective overall, and which has many outstanding features."

YOUR SHROPSHIRE COUNCILLOR'S SUMMER REPORT

It is now two years since Shropshire Council was borne, and what a couple of years they have been! We have had the internal changes coming out of merging the old councils together and, before the changes were complete, the dramatic changes to Central Government funding following on from the change of government and the need to tackle our country's immense financial problems. As you know, spending reductions have already been achieved by Shropshire Council (some £50M to date) and although some service changes have been necessary, our determination to protect front line services and the welfare of the most vulnerable in our communities, have been successful. In the next phase of service transformation we need to re-profile spending and reduce it by a further £50M whilst changing the way the Council works and manages itself. My personal mission has always been (and remains) that of hard work to protect the vulnerable whilst ensuring us rural dwellers have a fair deal out of the changes. Council tax needs to be kept down (and reduced) in the long term by working for continuous improvements and efficiencies in the ways the Council works. Planning and local issues are always high on everyone's agenda and I'm always available and happy to help with these and any other matters so please contact me if you need help or advice. Best wishes to all

Tim Barker
Tel : 01694 731318 e mail: tim.barker@shropshire.gov.uk

cost is only marginally greater than for refurbishment with the advantage that new-build would not, I understand, attract VAT. The architect is drawing-up initial plans for a new-build village hall for discussion, and there are some existing plans for the refurbishment option. To gain experience from similar recent projects, during June members of the committee visited the new village halls at Ryton and at Sherrifhales and received some very useful information on the building designs, features and layouts used there. To complete that part of the village hall project it is planned to visit another recent new hall and then to consolidate all that has been gained on the various features and layouts which they have used. Work continues on establishing sources of the necessary funding for construction now that cost estimates have been prepared, and it is planned to hold a public meeting in the village to enable the villagers to view, and comment on, the planned hall layout and design.

By Cllr Paul Harris

LONGNOR SCHOOL REPORT 2010-11 - By Tim Corbett
Chairman of School Governors

Longnor School continues to flourish there are 111 pupils attending the school and the school has a waiting list. This brings with it resource issues with space and staffing. The school has managed to keep within its tight budget and a small surplus is forecasted for March 2012.

Our recent OFSTED report compliments the school on the high standards achieved and use of outdoor facilities, outstanding attention to personal development and well being and excellent provision for less able children.

The school comprises of 4 classes staffed by 8 fully qualified teachers some of whom job share and 5 class room assistants, 2 of whom are studying for exams in teaching. The school was sorry to lose Rev Robert Payne as a governor and RE teacher.

BUS SERVICES UPDATE 435 & 540 - By Cllr John Ludlow

Shropshire Council has decided that the following services:

435 will continue unchanged i.e. a mostly hourly service;

540 weekdays but in term time only; times unchanged.

The Saturday service will continue to run throughout the year, but with only one journey each way.

These changes are expected to take effect from Sept/ Oct'11.

Your Parish Council collaborated with neighbouring parish councils and strongly petitioned Shropshire Council to retain these services as they were recognised as a valued community service.

Strettondale Local Joint Committee - by Cllr Jennie Griffiths

The Strettondale LJC met on 16th June and awarded several grants to local groups; one of which was the Parish Council who received £450 towards funding the update of the parish plans. Leebotwood Village Hall received a grant towards replacement of furniture within the hall. Cllr Des Jacques is to represent the Council in the future as I have now been elected as Chair.

The move to Strettondale LJC has meant that the Parish Council is now working closer with its neighbours; Church Stretton Town Council, and the parish councils of Cardington, Rushbury, All Stretton, Smethcott and Woolstaston. Tim Barker was recently voted Chairman of the LJC and urges people to come along to the LJC meetings which are very informative and cover a wide range of topics of public interest. The next meeting will be held in our parish on **19th October at Leebotwood Village Hall.**

Your Local Mobile Library Service The service now runs on alternative **Tuesday**; calling at The Pound Inn Car Park, Leebotwood between 9.00 -9.15 am and at Longnor Village between 9.25 - 9.40 am.

CLERK'S CONTACT DETAILS:

Sue Hackett, Gonsal House,
 Conover, Shrewsbury, SY5 7EX
 Telephone: 01743 719012, there is a
 telephone message service available.
 Normal Office hours Thursday's
 9.00 am - 12.00. Meetings by
 appointment only. Alternatively E:
leebootwoodpc@btinternet.com

**Your Parish Council Meeting
 Dates in Autumn 2011**

21th Sept Longnor V Hall
19th Oct Leebootwood V Hall
 The meetings start at
 7.30pm when a public session is
 held. Why not join us & find out
 more !

Your Local Police Team

PC David Harte (2681) & CSO Dave Baron (6417)
Tel 0300 333 3000 ex 66644
email david.harte@westmercia.pnn.police.uk
Voice Message 01743 264 788

Summer Police Report:

West Mercia is a safe place to live and crime levels remain low. Burglary remains rare – less than one per cent of homes are burgled each year. West Mercia's summer home security campaign aims to remind local residents to keep windows and doors secure in the warm weather, and how to keep your home secure when going away on holiday. The force is committed to targeting persistent burglars and bringing them to justice to ensure your community remains a safe place to live.

Safety Check List:

- Ensure doors and windows are locked at all times. Fit sturdy deadlocks (BS3621) to all external doors
- Take care of your keys! Keep door and car keys in a safe place.
- Let a neighbour or friend know that you're going away. Arrange for them to – collect mail, open / close curtains.
- Remember to cancel your milk and newspapers
- Encourage a neighbour to park on your drive.
- Use timer switches to turn lights in during the evenings.
- Keep all valuables out of sight & set your alarm.
- Don't put your home address on luggage label when travelling out to your destination – write them out before your return journey.
- Effective garden security will help to keep your home secure.

For more information visit the force website www.westmercia.police.uk

Details of Recent Parish Planning Applications:

Micklewood Farm, Micklewood Shrewsbury
 11/01208/FUL Erection of dairy cow cubicle building.
SC Decision Permission Granted.

School House Longnor, Shrewsbury
 11/01142/FUL Conversion of vacant school building to 4 bedroom dwelling and erection of rear extension. Revised submission re10/01453/FUL **SC Decision Permission Granted.**

Yew Tree Cottage 6 Leebootwood Church Stretton SY6 6ND
 11/01081/FUL Alterations and additions to provide a 2-storey extension forming new living/dining room with additional bedrooms above.
SC Decision Permission Granted.

Cobblers Cottage 14 Longnor Shrewsbury Shropshire
 11/01603/LBC Works to facilitate the re-positioning of rear extension (amendment to previously approved consent reference 10/04460/LBC).
SC Decision Permission Granted.

Further details of each planning application can be found on the Shropshire Council website.

Longnor Village Hall Report Project Status, June 2011

The Longnor Village Hall Management Committee has now received cost estimates for the two options of refurbishing the existing hall and for building a completely new hall. These estimates will be reviewed at the next committee meeting to be held in mid-July, but it is looking like a new-build could well be the preferred option since the