

Your Parish Council

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The Council meets on the first Monday in the month (except Bank Holidays),
at 7.30pm in the Lyppard Hub.

**PARISHIONERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND AND SPEAK DURING THE FIRST
30 MINUTES BY PERMISSION OF THE CHAIRMAN**

Please contact the appropriate Councillor(s) or the Clerk on any matter with comments,
complaints or if you just need advice or information.

Council web site: www.WarndonParishCouncil.org

Warndon Parish Council Newsletter



WARNDON PARISH COUNCIL

Autumn 2017



One of the oldest Oak trees in the Parish

Parish Council Chairman's message

Welcome to the latest edition of your Parish Newsletter. The way things are at the moment, we are in for a very busy 12 months with many large planning applications on the horizon, the new allotments site having complications and subject to the weather, a very fast-growing environment. Much of this will define the future of this area so it's important to get things right, in order to reap the benefits later.

The by-pass (A4440) is witnessing an unprecedented amount of large planning applications. The field south of Warndon Woods has an application for some very large warehouses which is not in accordance the local plan (SWDP), Gtech is coming back with a larger building application and now rumours are on us that suggest the Worcester City Football Club wants to come and play in a field north of Warndon Woods! This will inevitably have a serious long-lasting effect on the bypass and through traffic in the Villages. It's critical that we get the correct results and lock in our future using the new Neighbourhood Plan initiative.

Many of you will have been impacted by the greenery around your homes not being maintained by the City Council, in a lot of cases this is because the original developers of your property retained ownership of small plots of land throughout the Villages. Plans are underway to get all this sorted out, but it will take time because no-one involved gains anything, but must fund legal fees to transfer the land ownership. We realise that this is frustrating and annoying to many of you, but please understand that there is very little that your Parish Council can do to help.

There is good news on road safety and speeds through our feeder roads. The number of vehicles doing over 35mph is down from an average of 25% of the motorists, to a new average of 6 -7%. We are very pleased with this and want to thank the police and other agencies, for their cooperation in this matter.

We still have the odd few people that do 65-70mph in the 30mph speed limit

Police Matters



Community Messaging Service (CMS)

This is a system which alerts local people to what's going on in their area. The Community Messaging Service is an invaluable tool which will allow us to quickly disseminate more urgent community messages as well as the publication of regular notices and newsletters. The service will better connect us to the public and the public to their local policing teams. Communicating more effectively with our communities will help us reduce and prevent crime and help those most vulnerable.

Register: <https://www.westmercia.police.uk/cms>

Please do continue to report things however small or insignificant you think they are. Providing this information allows the Police to build up a picture of any criminal or anti-social activity in the area, enabling the allocation of appropriate monitoring and resources.

There are a number of ways to contact **West Mercia Police**

Dial **999** in case of **Emergency** or crime in progress

Dial **101** for non urgent incidents and crimes that are not in progress

Crimestoppers on **0800 555 111**

Where you can make a report relating to a crime anonymously

Non-emergency email

contactus@westmercia.police.uk

Allotments update

The status of the allotments and the new allotments site has caused a lot of activity over the last few months. In an effort to keep all residents informed the following is an update, as of this month.

All the current allotments are fully occupied by residents from the Warndon Parish, no-one is allowed an allotment, on the Mabs Orchard site, that lives outside the Parish boundary. Any vacancies that occur will be dealt with by allocating a space to someone from our long waiting list, which currently has 24 people on it.

The current allotments extension is delayed, possibly until March 2018. There are a number of reasons for this but it's mostly due to the discovery that we need to complete an archaeological survey on the site before commencement, this is likely to be in Sept/Oct 2017 and people will be invited to get involved.

The City Council has now put forward it's proposals for the remainder of the site at a public meeting and is now considering the feedback they received.

If you have a particular interest in the site, please let us know by emailing allotments@warndonparishcouncil.org and using "Allotment Extension" in the Subject box so that you can be added to our email list for circulation of further details as they become available. All current waiting list persons will not need to do this, as we will already circulate updates to them.



Chairman's message cont'd

areas, but they will be caught sooner or later, hopefully before we have a serious accident.

Finally, off-road motorbikes have been causing a lot of noise and problems. All areas of the villages are being affected by these motorcyclists, as they thread their way through the Parish and across to the footbridge over the motorway. The developers of Worcester 6 are co-operating with us and so are the Police. Numerous motorcycles have now been seized. Any help you can give in identifying these people will be appreciated, by reporting any incidents to the Police through their **101** telephone reporting system.

If you are aware of any issues that are not being addressed please contact us.

Ray Morris
Chairman



A Reminder from the Police



- ◆ Ensure your vehicle is locked and remove all valuables, particularly when parked overnight.
- ◆ With hopefully some balmy Autumn days ahead of us, don't let your guard down, remember to keep your home secure, close and lock all windows and doors, when you leave the property, or even if you are just outside in the garden. You may not be aware, or hear people entering your home, through an unlocked door, until it is too late!

Parish Warden News



As a busy summer for the Wardens comes to an end, it is with a smile that I recall some of the wonderful projects that we have been involved with. These include working with volunteers, Councillors, Police Officers and residents, to resolve issues and deliver practical enhancements throughout the Villages. My personal highlight is being able to work with volunteers; enabling and assisting the continued development of active groups. Volunteering is now almost synonymous with life in Warndon Villages - this wonderful leafy green landscape is a joyous place, but it does require a lot of work. One cannot underestimate the importance of volunteers in maintaining and enhancing the environment around us.

Whilst we are on the subject of volunteers; a colossal thank you to everyone that has volunteered in Warndon Villages since the last Newsletter! **Friends of Warndon Villages** volunteers (FoWV) have revisited **Tattershall** and **Trevithick** parks to carry out shrub and footpath management. The group have also helped with accessibility around **Lyppard** and **Corfe Avenue** ponds.

Earlier in the year volunteers worked to extensively renovate the footpath to alleviate a flooding issue at **New Plantation Wood**. This project was only made possible, through funding from County Cllr. Roberts divisional fund, which provided the surfacing materials; thank you!

The highlight of the summer volunteer season has been the FoWV picnic in **Sudeley Park** in July. Seventeen volunteers joined forces to completely revamp the seating areas within the park, including hand weeding and resurfacing with gravel. The results look stunning.

FoWV meet on the **fourth Tuesday** of every month always at **10:30am**.

Are you interested in joining the volunteer revolution in Warndon Villages? I'd love to hear from you. Please contact me directly on alex.booth@worcester.gov.uk

Keep an eye on the **Friends of Warndon Villages** FaceBook page, which always has the latest information and updates, regarding all events in the Parish.



Worcester City Council -Tree Policy (cont'd)

If you are reporting a dangerous tree, you will need to provide evidence why you believe it is a public danger.

Common concerns;

A tree swaying in the wind does not in itself make it a dangerous tree, trees will naturally sway in the wind, the pliability in the branches is a natural mechanism that helps prevent fracture.

A tree that has grown with a lean does not in itself make it dangerous; a tree will develop fatter growth rings on one side to make it more stable. There may be a problem if a previously upright tree suddenly develops a lean.

If you are still concerned that a tree on a private property/land or if you believe that a Tree on council land or a highway is dangerous or is a public danger then please contact the **Tree Protection Officer** at the **City Council** at planning@worcester.gov.uk. If the tree is imminently dangerous the council may undertake a site visit to confirm if any action can be taken under the Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1976.

Falling leaves/fruit/flowers/seasonal debris

Although they can cause a lot of inconvenience, falling leaves and debris are not regarded as a 'nuisance' in the legal sense and a tree owner has no obligation to clear them. It is usually up to the tree owner or the neighbours affected to clean up or undertake their own maintenance in the case of gutters blocked by leaves.

Tree roots/ subsidence/ damage to property

If a tree is found to be causing damage to a neighbour's property it may be classed as a legal nuisance and the tree owner may be liable for any costs or damage caused. If you believe that a neighbour's tree is causing damage or subsidence to your property you must inform your neighbour and your building insurance company as soon as possible. Insurance companies will usually deal with subsidence issues on your behalf. Technical reports demonstrating the tree is the cause of the damage are normally required.



Worcester City Council -Tree Policy

As our green environment is maturing and as referred to in the Chairman's message, regarding ongoing issues over land ownership, we felt it might be useful to share Worcester City Council's Tree Policy, full details of which can be viewed online <https://www.worcester.gov.uk/trees>

Overhanging branches/Loss of light/ Dangerous trees

Under English common law there is a general right to cut overhanging branches back to your property boundary (The owner of the tree is not obliged to cut them back, although they may do so) If you or they intend to cut overhanging branches you must not go beyond your boundary or top their trees without their permission.

It is advisable to agree any work with your neighbours beforehand and offer back any arising's from the tree, although they are not obliged to accept them and therefore you will need to make arrangements for their disposals. It is always advisable to check with the City Council if the tree is protected by the **Tree Preservation Order (TPO)** or in a **conservation area** as you will need to apply to the council with the owners consent to do the work.

Loss of Light or Satellite/TV Reception

There is no absolute right to light, a view, or satellite signal, therefore if trees are an obstruction you will need to talk to your neighbour or the land owner regarding the management of their trees.

It may be possible for the council to intervene in extreme cases in the form of a high hedge complaint under the anti-social behaviour act.

Dangerous Trees

Every tree owner has a general duty of care to ensure their trees do not pose an unacceptable risk to other people on or adjacent to their land. You will however only be liable for injury or damage caused by trees if you are found to be negligent in some way e.g. by not taking reasonable care to regularly inspect or undertake essential work to your trees.

Forthcoming events

Notable upcoming volunteer opportunities, all meeting at **10:30am** on site:

23rd September Join volunteers on a community litter pick around the Parish meeting at **Lyppard Hub**.

26th September Join FoWV as they embark upon a new project to enhance the surrounding areas of **St Nicholas Church and Hillwood Meadows** in Warndon Villages. At this session, the group will be pruning vegetation obstructing the paths and looking to renovate the path network.

3rd October Join volunteers at the **Lost Gardens site** on the corner of Woodgreen Drive and Snowberry Avenue to maintain the current crop of plants and restock where necessary.

14th October Join Transition Worcester and Trotshill Orchard volunteers at the Annual Fruit Pressing day. A fantastic event suitable for all the family, see your fruit turned into fresh juice before your eyes! Join us in at **Lyppard Hub** from 11am – 3pm.

24th October Green space between **Barrass Avenue and Trotshill Orchard** Another new project for the FoWV group; this is a lovely hidden area in need of a little TLC, join us and make a difference.

28th November Join FoWV at **Howcroft Green** (the green space between Broadfield Gardens and Old Tolladine Road) to create an area of Wildflower Meadow! This will include site prep, rotavating and seeding.

19th December Join FoWV at **Lyppard Ponds** to continue the excellent recent work to increase access to the ponds.

Two 'star volunteers' who deserve a mention are **Mr Richard Fowler** who works hard on a variety of projects including volunteering with FoWV, litter picking and is also a path Warden in the Dugdale Drive area, keeping the paths clear and bramble free! Our second star performer is **Mrs Suzy Roberts**, Tesco Community Champion, she helps at Friends of Warndon Villages events and participates in Community litter picking in the area. Well done Suzy and Richard and thank you for all your hard work, we appreciate it!

As Parish Wardens we prioritise our workload by liaising with the Parish Council and taking swift action to resolve customer enquiries, as soon as possible. If you have a query or concern that you would like us to investigate please contact the

Worcestershire Hub on 01905 722233.

Parish Finance

Council Tax Bills are confusing and our 5.6% increase for this year needs to be put in perspective. For a Band D property in the Warndon Parish area this represents a £1.34 per year increase or less than £0.03 per week increase in our precept. Overall our precept is just 1.6% of your overall Council Tax Bill. The table shows the impact for other Bands.

Valuation Band	Total collected by Worcester City in Non-Parished Areas (£)	Worcester City + Warndon Parish (£)	Parish Total Cost per annum (£)	Parish as Percentage of Whole	Parish Cost per Week (£)
A	1066.46	1083.31	16.85	1.6%	0.32
B	1244.2	1263.86	19.66	1.6%	0.38
C	1421.94	1444.41	22.47	1.6%	0.43
D	1599.68	1624.96	25.28	1.6%	0.49
E	1955.17	1986.07	30.90	1.6%	0.59
F	2310.65	2347.17	36.52	1.6%	0.70
G	2666.15	2708.28	42.13	1.6%	0.81
H	3199.37	3249.93	50.56	1.6%	0.97

The Parish spends approximately £100,000.00 per year and this is all funded by our Precept which is collected as part of your Council Tax Bill, we have no other substantial income. The money is spent in several different areas such as Environmental Maintenance (Major funding of our local Environmental Warden, Enhanced Grass Cutting, Tree and Shrub Maintenance and the cost of dog bins), Community Services (Lyppard Hub support, allotments, play areas and the annual Parish Fete). In addition, this year we will commence the development of a Neighbourhood Plan and be positioning Three Community Defibrillators across the parish to help safeguard our local residents. We also have some small administration charges.

Planning procedure cont'd

Insufficient parking - particularly relevant to larger developments; lack of public transport (i.e not situated on an existing bus route) may cause 'nuisance' parking in your immediate area or on other roads in the wider area. (i.e similarly to the situation residents in other areas of the Villages have experienced, close to Worcester Royal Hospital / Kings Court)

Traffic concerns - impact on the immediate road network and for larger developments, the wider effects up to the motorway Junctions 6 &/or 7 - M5.

Noise nuisance - close to residential area (Change of use for a site may give rise to additional noise levels which may be inappropriate with a residential area) i.e B8 usage; it is not uncommon for such activities to operate on a 24 hours basis.

Traffic noise nuisance - (ie increased traffic volumes, type of business usage shift change times, HGV vehicle deliveries and despatch particularly if business is in 24 hr operation)

Light pollution - particularly associated with B8 business usage as opposed to B1 offices. Generally brighter lighting and required to remain on a 24/7 basis.

Increased traffic - impact on residential streets.

Ecological - Green spaces/wildlife habitat - additional noise/ light pollution generated by 24 hour operation, may have an adverse effect on wildlife in the area.

Conservation areas - consider if the proposed development have a detrimental impact on a Conservation area in the Parish (**Warndon Court and Trotshill Conservation areas**) - more details of these can be found on the **Worcester City Council** website.

Archeological interest – impact on ancient remains.



Planning Procedure

If you wish to make a comment on a Planning Application, whether it is a neighbour's extension to their home, or a large development of land, there is a formal process in which to do this. Should you not be familiar with this process we have provided some guidance on how you can do this.

Your comment can be either *in favour* or *against* a Planning application. If you wish to object to the application, to carry weight, your comments should be constructive and relevant to Planning matters.

Please follow the instructions below;

Go to: Worcester City Council website: <http://planning.worcester.gov.uk/OcellaWeb/planningSearch>

Search for the Planning Application by Planning Reference No (if known) or by address in the appropriate box provided.

- Click on the reference (in blue font) to show the full details of the application
- Click on the box marked '*Enter Comment*'
- You will then be presented with a box to complete with your personal details and add your comments.
- Click on '*View Documents*' to see other Consultation responses, documents, drawings and plans.

Alternatively you may express your views by writing to the Planning Department.

For general guidance, when making an objection the key points to consider are listed below;

Change of use of the land/property- the **South Worcestershire Development Plan**, adopted in early 2016, sets out land allocated for development and the type of development i.e **B1** Business (Offices), **B2** or **B8** storage or distribution.

Parish Finance.... continued

Your Parish Council does a lot to maintain the green environment we live in to a high standard and is probably not recognised by many people for what we do on behalf of the local community, mostly we suspect because it's unclear what the split of responsibilities of the County/City/Parish Councils are.

Unfortunately, there are still many people who do not understand the Parish Council role. We will continue to try and overcome this by issuing regular Newsletter articles and we have our website, which we also plan to enhance over the coming years.

www.warndonparishcouncil.org.

If you would like to know more about the Parish Council and it's work there is an opportunity every month to attend our open public meetings on a Monday evening at 7.30pm. We meet on the **first Monday** in every month (except where Bank Holidays clash and there is no August meeting). At these meetings there is an opportunity at the start of every meeting for any resident to ask questions or talk about matters which concern them.

Nextdoor

Next Door Community Forum is a free private social network for your neighbourhood.

If you would like to keep up to date with things happening within the Lyppards, Berkeleys and Harleys, then sign up to **Nextdoor**.

Find local tradesman, list articles for sale, discuss anything happening in the Villages, keep up with local events

<https://nextdoor.com>

Neighbourhood Plan

Firstly a big “**thank you**” to all residents who attended the launch meeting of the **Neighbourhood Plan** at the Lyppard Hub, earlier in the year. It was encouraging to see so many people showing an interest in where they live and willing to commit to some involvement in the process.

If you missed the meeting on 1st March, a copy of the presentation can be found on “Publications” page on the Parish Council's website, which is hosted through the **Worcestershire County Council** website.

Go to: www.warndonparishcouncil.org

What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

Creating a Neighbourhood plan gives communities direct power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and shape the development and growth of their local area. The word ‘planning’ can lead people to think that this process is all about adding more ‘buildings’ in the area. It may not be possible to prevent ‘some’ further development in the future, but at least the community can have some involvement in where that takes place and what it looks like. The plan can also act as a way of protecting our valued green space.

Many communities nationally, are drawing up their own Neighbourhood Plans, giving them the opportunity to have a say, in their future. With enough support from residents, this community of Warndon Parish can do the same.

No two communities are alike, so although there will be similarities to other Neighbourhood plans, each one is tailored specifically to that community. This is where **you**, as residents become important in the process.

For more details about **Neighbourhood Plans** please see the following websites:

www.neighbourhoodplanning.org & www.mycommunity.org.uk



Fete (continued)



This year there was an additional special guest on the Parish Council stand.....our very own dinosaur, **Wally the Warndonosaurus** which kept the younger members of the community interested, whilst the adults were tested with their knowledge of the Parish. Winner, **Jason Reynolds** of Grosmont Avenue won a meal for two including a bottle of wine, kindly donated by the **Lyppard Grange** and **Harry Larnar**, runner up, won two bottles of wine. However, as Harry is only 8 years old, his mum was given a bottle of wine, with Harry given the option of something a little more appropriate. This event

could not happen without the support of **Warndon Parish Council**, **Tesco** and the **Lyppard Grange**. A BIG ‘thank you’ goes out to all the volunteers who helped on the day and in the lead up to the event. Any funds raised will be used to buy equipment, which in turn will benefit the community.

Play Areas update

Earlier in the year, some refurbishment works were carried out to three of the play areas in the Parish.

These are **CAISTER AVENUE**, **OAKLANDS** and with **TROTSHILL LANE EAST** receiving a full refurbishment.



New equipment at the play area at the end of

Summer Fete - July

As the sun shone the crowds flocked to the ever popular annual **Summer fete**, organised by **Lyppard HUB**, with numbers exceeding previous years. It was officially opened by the current Mayor of Worcester, **Steve Mackay** who is no stranger to the community, being a Trustee of the **Lyppard HUB** and former Parish Councillor.

As well as the usual stalls and activities there were traditional fairground rides, a soft play double-decker bus, bungee trampoline, the ever popular pony rides and for the more adventurous, a climbing wall and surf board simulator.



'Sherlock Bones'

This year the fete organisers were also able to boast more than one type of 'hot dog', as temperatures rose, dogs and their owners eagerly awaited the start of the newly introduced dog show. It proved to be very popular, classes included 'Waggiest Tail' and 'Golden Oldie'. The 'Fancy Dress' competition proved very popular, with this entrant 'Sherlock Bones', with his hand knitted coat and hat, along with his pipe and magnifying glass, being awarded first prize. A worthy winner, I think you will agree!



Neighbourhood Plan cont'd

We are pleased to advise you that **Warndon Parish Neighbourhood Plan** is now underway, with a Steering group in place, taking their first steps in progressing this project forward. (illustrated below).



It is still early days yet and there is much to do. We would love to include anyone, regardless of skills and experience. There will be many different ways in which people can help, however, if you happen to have web development, planning policy, environmental or heritage skills, or an aptitude for research and evidence gathering we would be particularly keen to hear from you at this stage in the process.

If **you** would like to be involved, but have not yet shared your details, please use the email address below;

neighbourhoodplan@warndonparishcouncil.org

Or, there will be a website coming soon, so if you would like to be kept informed please sign up to the mailing list on **www.warndonpcnp.org.uk**

or alternatively speak to either

Andy Taylor on **01905 25146** or **Roger Harris** on **01905 27045**

Defibrillators in Warndon Villages

Warndon Parish Council has considered installing publicly accessible defibrillators in the Parish for several years. Recently we found a charity scheme, which will enable us to fit three defibrillators in key areas of the Villages. The charity offering match funding is **Hereford & Worcester First Responder Charity**, sponsored by local charity **Four Acre Trust** and supported by **West Midlands Ambulance Service**, to deploy defibrillators in rural areas. They also offer ongoing support and training in the community for zero cost. The total cost to the Parish Council to install all three defibrillators, is expected to be around £2000.00.

The three defibrillators are now in the process of being installed. Their locations have been planned so each is within a fairly easy distance to get to, depending on where an incident occurs and they are sited in familiar places as follows:

Lyppard Hub - We are grateful to **Worcester City Council**, **Place Partnership** and the **Trustees of Lyppard Hub** who have given permission for us to mount one unit on the outside of **Lyppard Hub**. The unit is located by the main entrance to Lyppard Hub, on the left hand side wall, as you face the front door.

Tesco Express - **Tesco** has kindly given permission to put a defibrillator on the outside of their building. The unit will be located on the front outside of the building. We are grateful to the Manager of **Tesco Express**, **Frankie Tsang** of **Lyppard Grange Properties Ltd** and **Fisher German** for their help in completing this project at no cost to our residents.

Dugdale Drive or similar location in the South of the Parish.

We had hoped to mount the third unit on a lamp-post in Dugdale Drive but this has proved to be impossible. We continue to search for a suitable position for our third unit. **If anyone can help** please let us know, by emailing defibrillators@warndonparishcouncil.org.



Defibrillators (Cont'd)

Our requirements are simple, a prominent, easily accessible site with a mains supply that will rarely be used.



The units will be mounted in bright yellow boxes which contain a defibrillator and a heater, in case the temperature drops below -4 Deg. C and will be accessible by a coded keypad. The defibrillators are semi-automatic and designed, so that no experience is necessary to use them. The machine, once opened and switched on, will talk you through every operation and will only administer a shock to the patient if it is necessary. It even safeguards you from making any errors, because even if you push the shock button by mistake, the patient will only be shocked if the machine shows it to be necessary. Some CPR awareness would also be useful.

The **Parish Council**, in conjunction with **West Midlands Ambulance Services**, will be arranging training sessions after the school holidays. We intend to hold these **Defibrillator Awareness** sessions at **Lyppard Hub** on **Sunday 1st October 2017**. These will be held to allow as many people as possible to attend, realistically we can probably handle audiences up to 50 people per session, so places may be limited. Ideally, we would like to get a good mix of people, geographically located throughout the Parish, familiar with these machines and their ability to save lives.

If you are interested in attending one of these training sessions or can offer any help please email defibrillators@warndonparishcouncil.org giving your mobile phone number and your preference for a time to attend and we will advise you soon after that, what time you have been booked in. If you need any further information email ray.morris@warndonparishcouncil.org.

