

## **SCHOOL LAY-BY**

During the next few months we are looking to replace the bollards at the school green on the Rugby Road. The bollards that are there now are starting to rot at the base, and quite a number have broken off completely. We are also installing them on the green in front of Binley Woods Service Station in the hope of keeping all verges free from parked cars. The majority of verges along Rugby Road are kept in an excellent condition, but those that are parked on regularly, are all churned up. We are having complaints from our grass cutting contractor regarding both the non-existence of grass, and the safety aspect of rutted and uneven ground when he cuts the grass. Please make every effort not to park on verges anywhere throughout the Village, especially when the ground is very wet. We thank you for your consideration.

## **REFUSE COLLECTIONS**

What can we say that hasn't already been said. The collections this year over Christmas and the New Year have been a fiasco. (An understatement) I think RBC put the leaflet out prior to the break before they made the arrangements for collections. Every week, there were different bins left out in all villages which were not collected. And then we were told there was definitely no collection, but two refuse vehicles turned up just to post leaflets through doors. How confusing. We hope now that things will calm down and that the latest dates are correct. The good news is that the green bins will now be collected sooner than was first stated, although there are still rumours that RBC will be seeking a payment for the service later in the year. Watch this space !!!!!

## **POTHoles / PAVEMENTS**

This is a Warwickshire County Council – Highways problem and this is where you should report any areas that are bad. There is a website where you can report problems, or you can telephone direct into the maintenance office. Please make sure you get a report number, and if there is no response after a month, let one of our Councillors know.

### **Binley Woods Parish Council Information**

The Parish Council meets in the **Morrison Room, Binley Woods Village Hall** at **8.00pm**. Meetings are usually held on the third Wednesday of the month, but this may vary at Christmastime and during the summer holiday period.

Members of the public are welcome to attend Parish Council meetings. There is a standing agenda item at the start of each meeting where members of the public can raise concerns and ask questions.

Meetings are advertised on the Parish Council noticeboards around the village. Minutes of previous meetings are available on the Parish Council website ([www.binleywoods.org](http://www.binleywoods.org)) or by written request to the Clerk.

Chairman:	Paul Salisbury	02476 542340	Vice Chair:	Liz Johnson	02476 543074
Councillors:	Norman Brinton	02476 542178		Peter Claisse	02476 543932
	Pat Docker	02476 543786		Linda Harbour	07958 244784
	Dave Jones	02476 540101		Vicki Loughran	07909 781799
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Clerk: John Cook 01788 521046 e-mail: [binwoodspc@aol.com](mailto:binwoodspc@aol.com)  
41 Frobisher Road, Bilton, Rugby, CV22 7HU

# **BINLEY WOODS PARISH COUNCIL**

## **NEWSLETTER No 42**

### ***February 2017***



## ***PARISH COUNCILLOR WANTED***

**Following the resignation of a Parish Councillor for personal reasons, we are one down in number. All our Councillors work tirelessly to try and make life and the environment in and around Binley Woods a pleasant and better place to live. If anybody has a few spare hours and would like to join the Parish Council, please contact any of the present Councillors listed over, or the Clerk, John Cook, for more details.**

## **COMMUNITY ALERTS**

We are now approaching our first year of issuing Community Alerts and have in excess of 170 households on the distribution list. It has been a great success, and a large number of incidents have been resolved because of this.

If you are new to the village, these alerts are intended to advise residents on various matters that may have an effect on the Binley Woods community. Topics include Police Reports and warnings, Warwickshire Trading Standards scam alerts, Parish Council notices or anything that could impact upon the village.

If you wish to receive these alerts then please email [stever2000@sky.com](mailto:stever2000@sky.com) who will include you on the distribution list. Also, since commencing the scheme a number of you may have changed email address and no longer receive these alerts. If you wish to recommence your alerts then please email to the same address.

## **PRECEPT**

Every December, The Parish Council are actioned to set the Precept for residents, with Rugby Borough Council. This is the amount of money we are given back from Community Tax, in order to maintain amenities and services within Binley Woods. We have been informed by RBC, that Government cuts are now hitting local Councils and the subsidy passed down to Parish Councils is reducing over the next three years, and finally being withdrawn altogether by 2020. We have not increased the precept for Binley Woods for the past seven years, but this year we feel we cannot take a hit of this size, and run things at an acceptable level. There is also a situation that we have bigger and better facilities for children's play etc. Should these fail or break, the cost to repair or replace them will now be even greater. Taking all this into account, we have proposed from April 2017, the precept will be raised by £700-00 for the year. This is less than we are losing in subsidy for the year from RBC. It also represents a very small amount on each household (less than £1-00 a year), but we feel we will still be in a position to maintain the high standards we have at present.

## **VERGES**

There are a number of properties on corners which have shrubs which block driver's visibility at junctions. The County Council are responsible for highways and have been walking around the Village to identify problem areas. They are in the process of contacting these properties, and asking for the shrubs to be cut back to give motorists a clear view of oncoming traffic. Failing to do this, residents could get a hefty bill if the council send their employees out to carry out the work. We would ask all residents to take a close look at their gardens etc, with a view to doing the work prior to any enforcement. WCC have informed the Parish Council that they are also looking at fences encroaching on County Council land and stone chippings on drives which are overflowing onto pavements and walkways. We know a number of properties have been approached and told to brush the stones back onto the drives. It could well be the time to act rather than get a threatening letter.

## **LOCAL PLAN**

You are all asking the question about what is happening with the Local Plan, and what stages are we at. The whole process was put back after RBC identified that the proposed new village that was to be at Coombe Fields, would now be put at Lodge Farm, adjacent to Willoughby. This caused the villages in the vicinity to seek legal representation and with the objections put back, RBC needed more time to investigate. The entire plan should now be put before the Borough Council Cabinet in March. The next stage after is to the Secretary of State to endorse or reject. Binley Woods Parish Council has made representation to RBC and the proposed developer, Lioncourt, in order to get the best solution for residents. 62 houses is not what we want, but if we ignore the proposal we will have it imposed on us, which could be a lot worse. A lot of residents' fears were brought up at the two public events, and we have noted these, and more. We hope the powers-that-be will listen and try and sort these problems out before producing any plans for Binley Woods.

## **DOG FOUL**

At present, there are a small number of dog walkers who are getting the majority a really bad name by not picking up after their dogs. Walking around the village before Christmas, we encountered at least eight incidents of dog foul on pavements in a small vicinity. There was even a case where someone had secured their dog on the handle outside the butchers and the dog had fouled without the owner picking up. These shops are selling food and this action of leaving foul across the width of the pavement was disgraceful. Faeces are a real health hazard, especially to children, and some residents must know who the culprit is. It just needs a phone call to our Clerk, or go onto the Rugby Borough website to report them. This could stop what would be serious consequences should serious illness arise from their actions. Remember, one or two inconsiderate people are spoiling it for the rest of you, and getting you all a bad name. If you see it, report it please.

## **Village Fun Day**

By now you will all know that there is a Village Fun Day being organised by a group of residents. This will take place on 24<sup>th</sup> June, and be mainly at The Recreation Ground in Craven Avenue. The Working Party have been very busy in trying to get many various events arranged for the park, which will provide fun-for-all on the day. All the groups within the village have been approached, along with shops and businesses, to take part in some way. There will be many activities and games to take part in, along with a small show for dogs. At present, everything is on plan and we are confirming who will be attending before we allocate plots for stalls. It will be a great way to meet other residents and make new friends, and the event will carry over to The Roseycombe from 6-00pm for even more entertainment. We hope you will put this date in your diary and come along. It promises to be fun.

## **TOLL BAR ISLAND**

Yes we knew there would be real problems when Toll Bar opened and to date with one lane in use, we have problems. Over ten years ago, we raised the concerns that they were only shifting the hold-ups to TGI Island, and that's what has happened. Since it opened we have had three serious accidents, many tail backs and seen a not-for-purpose island be completely useless for the amount of traffic going through it. The lights are not synchronised, there are too many lanes not dedicated for turning and there are no hatched boxes to stop vehicles entering the island. On top of this, the road is now a faster race track for motorists, who don't know the area. Chaos, and we are trying not to say 'Told you so'. I remember the comment from the Highways Agency project manager when he said to me "That's not my problem. It's somebody else's after I'm finished". What a great way to keep traffic flowing.....

## **TREE PLANTING**

This winter we have planted further trees and now we need to assess where we need more. If you know a barren area, please contact us and we will schedule for a tree to be planted next season.