

## **INCONSIDERATE PARKING**

Binley Woods was built some years ago and before most residents had 2, 3 or even 4 cars. The roads are not very wide and certainly not suitable for the wide vehicles of today. As a Parish Council, we have an unwritten agreement with the Police that providing cars are not 'inconsiderately parked' tickets will not be issued if you park with two wheels on the pavement. This means that providing you can get a double buggy past without any restriction it will be overlooked. (approx 1 metre). We are however, finding more and more people parking very close to junctions, especially the roads from the Rugby Road into the village. We would ask that drivers have consideration to other drivers trying to enter the village, and to pedestrians crossing the roads when parking near junctions. We have made representation to the police who will be doing a 'walk through' and ticketing any vehicle not observing the common sense approach to policing, that we are lucky to have. Should you not, then please do not complain if you get a hefty fine.

## **PARISH COUNCILLORS WANTED**

**In May this year, we had Councillor Peter Claisse not seek election as he had moved out of Binley Woods. This has left us one down in number, and with another Councillor considering moving, we could have a further vacancy. If you would like to join the Parish Council and help make a difference within the Village, please contact any of the Councillors or our Clerk, John Cook, for more information. We would like to see a full Committee, especially with new ideas, and this could be your chance to make a difference.**

Thank you.

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

The Parish Council meets in the **Morrison Room, Binley Woods Village Hall** at **7.30pm**. Meetings are usually held on the third Wednesday of the month, but this may vary.

Members of the public are welcome to attend Parish Council meetings. There is an item at the start of each meeting for members of the public to raise concerns and ask questions.

Meetings are advertised on the Parish Council noticeboards around the village. Previous Minutes are available at [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  
Pat Docker 02476 543786 Linda Harbour 07958 244784  
Dave Jones 02476 540101 Steve Roberts 02476 543308  
Stephen Spencer 07940 839356 Des Dimitrov 07595 699878

Clerk: John Cook 01788 521046 e-mail: [binwoodspc@aol.com](mailto:binwoodspc@aol.com)  
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# **BINLEY WOODS PARISH COUNCIL**

## **NEWSLETTER No 46**

### *July 2019*



## **PLANNING MATTERS**

The Newsletter this month is mainly to promote a Good Neighbour Scheme but there are other items to let you know about. The first of these is the two planning applications which have now gone in to Rugby Borough Planning Officers for both Sherwood Farm and the Old Nursery site. The proposal for Sherwood farm is for outline planning permission for 80 dwellings which is slightly up from the 62 proposed by RBC. This was after the inspector ruled that there was no need for a new village near Coombe Fields or Willoughby, but each of the rural settlements should have an increase in numbers. We now await the outcome of the application prior to seeing what the spread of housing will be on the development. The nursery site application is for 124 units for the elderly plus a further 36 bed unit for the more infirm. We have given this plenty of thought as a Parish Council and although we agree to the concept of providing for the elderly, the size of the development is too large when you consider Sherwood Farm and also what may be proposed in the near future for the Coventry Stadium site. The first number proposed on this site was 250 dwellings which reduced to 136 at the last consultation. With all three sites being developed, the surrounding area will be very over-populated and at this stage, we have objected to the nursery site on the number of units within the development, and the small numbers of parking spaces for staff, residents and visitors using the facility.

## **CARERS CAFE**

In May this year we started a Carers Café in The Morrison Room at the Village Hall. This has been a great success and proved invaluable to carers and their partners. Initially it was for people living with dementia, but anybody can attend. It is what it says, a Café, but we have taken the steps to try and make sure these people can get invaluable help and information to carry out their duties as a Carer. The mornings are very informal with some light entertainment, refreshments and a smile. (the smile is mandatory). At present, it is the last Friday of the month from 10-00am until noon. This may change if we get too big for the Morrison Room, as we may have to move into the main hall. If you know anybody who would benefit from coming along, please pass on the details and we will certainly make them welcome.

## **GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME**

Over the past few months, Binley Woods Parish Council has been in discussions with Warwickshire County Council and Warwickshire Rural Community Council with a view to organise a 'Good Neighbour Scheme' within the Village. These schemes have been working in other Counties for a number of years and proved to be of great value to the rural community. It is a fairly simple scheme aimed at giving people, old or young, the opportunity to give or receive help from within the Community from Good Neighbours. This help could fall into many categories from having a cup of tea with somebody, to offering a lift to doctors or hospital appointments. The draft document is almost 70 pages long and the following are just a few of the questions we asked. It is a 'work in progress', and further information is being gathered as we go along.

### **What are the Benefits?**

The advantages of a scheme like this working within a community are endless. Not only will it help the residents but it will enable contacts and friendships to be made throughout the area. Involvement will create a strong social bond within the village whilst making sure residents wellbeing and self-esteem is upheld. It also has an effect on local services like Police and Fire service, who are regularly telephoned with minor problems like changing batteries in peoples smoke alarms etc.

### **How it will work?**

At present, we know there are many residents who help their very close neighbours, and keep a watching eye out for them. This is basically what we would be looking at but to a much wider area. A bank of volunteers would be created throughout the village, whose contact details would be held in a co-ordinators data base. People needing help would then contact the co-ordinator with a request and a message sent out to all volunteers. Any volunteer with a little time could then put their name forward to assist, which could greatly alleviate any pressures or feelings of isolation.

### **What are the tasks?**

Help could be required in many forms by just a few individuals. Should a person have a doctors or hospital appointment, a volunteer may just have one of their own on the same afternoon and could offer a lift. It may be that somebody has had an operation and cannot walk their dog. Even popping in to a resident to have a cuppa can bring so much help to that person, and if you contact them before, perhaps you could get them some shopping from a local shop. Very minor household repairs, a bit of weeding or pruning, or even helping fill in a form can bring so much relief to any resident who finds these tasks a real ordeal. The advantages of a bank of volunteers is that if one is not available, there is no pressure to say 'no' as somebody else might be able to help. The more volunteers we get, the less the work load will be.

### **What about out of pocket expenses?**

This has been talked about and we would receive a sum of money to set up the scheme should we enter into it. This would initially be for the purchase of a mobile phone for co-ordinators to pass around so there is only one contact number, and promotional leaflets. The remainder could then be used to fund out of pocket expenses for volunteers, petrol or parking fees etc. Once established, we would hope each person receiving any help could/would make a small donation to cover any ongoing costs, should there be any.

### **How would we be covered for insurance and car insurance?**

This is an area that we are looking into to ascertain what levels of insurance we would attract. If it was on an 'as and when available' basis, insurance is not a problem, but the more people volunteer, the more important to get some insurance. This could be done through charities or societies who could add people on to their policy, or the Parish Council's insurers might be asked to quote. At present, it is something we are looking in to.

### **Will we need DBS checks?**

The answer to this is that long term, we would need to go through any checks as we could be dealing with people's money for shopping etc. Having asked the question, we have been informed that these checks could be done on the back of one or two charities to save costs. Again, at this early stage, we need more information and to negotiate the best results with all parties.

### **What next?**

The next step in the process is to ask for volunteers, hence the newsletter. Anybody over the age of 18 who is prepared to put their name forward, please e-mail me or any Parish Councillor, and we will collate numbers. Please remember, you are not signing up for a regular day or date or time, but just telling us that you may be available should a co-ordinator send a request out, and you would consider helping. Anybody can volunteer, even if it is to answer the phone and be a co-ordinator. Local people don't need to be a tradesperson to mend a fuse or stop a tap dripping for somebody who is unable to do it for themselves.

### **Conclusion**

At this stage, it is just a 'pipe dream' which could bring much relief should we take up the scheme. What we as a Parish Council need to know is 'have we enthusiasm across the community to go to the next stage of arranging a meeting'. This can only be done if we get enough volunteers for the scheme. Once again, we know that most of you do this at a very local level with immediate neighbours. All we are asking is that this could be opened out across Binley Woods. You may find somebody is coming into your 'patch' and helping your neighbour, taking the pressure off you a little. Please get in touch if you would like to join the scheme.

## **SCHOOL LOTTERY**

Although we don't normally advertise in the Newsletter, we think that telling people about the School Lottery is necessary to help with the upkeep of Binley Woods Primary School. The Lottery is organised nationally but you can identify the school who will receive the funding. 40% of all ticket sales will then go to that school. A guaranteed 'one cash prize' will go to somebody on each school list whilst a £25k draw every week will be made across all schools. Draws take place every Saturday at 8-00pm. This is one lottery where you have the chance to determine who benefits from your £1 ticket every week. Funds are short and getting less for every school, and Binley Woods is no exception. Helping them by having one small flutter each week could make all the difference to the children of the village. If you are interested and would like more information, please go to [www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/play](http://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/play) and sign up to Binley Woods Primary School. Feel lucky and you'll be lucky.....