

# **BINLEY WOODS PARISH COUNCIL**

**NEWSLETTER No 24**  
*September 2011*



## **Binley Woods Parish Council**

invites you to a

## **Parish Plan Launch Meeting**

at

**The Morrison Room,  
Binley Woods Village Hall**

on

**Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> September 2011**

at

**7.00pm**

***Come along and have your say  
on the future of your village***

***Everybody welcome!***

## **New Rugby Road Development?**

Last month, some of you may have spotted several members of the Parish Council walking along the Rugby Road with a couple of gentlemen in suits. Those gentlemen are developers who are keen to build on the farmland opposite Ferndale Road.

The Parish Council would only support development on the green belt if it were restricted to the land bordering the Rugby Road and there were benefits for the wider community. In the absence of a Parish Plan to guide us, the Parish Council has suggested the priority items are a doctor's surgery, sheltered accommodation for the elderly and a garden of remembrance. We will wait for the developer's proposals before deciding whether or not to support any planning application.

## **Skateboard Park**

The Parish Council has been approached by two groups of local teenagers to ask if we would consider providing a skateboard park in the back field. One letter, from Charlie Judge, included a petition signed by some 40 younger teenagers and a plan of the items they would like to see. The other letter, from Kayne Lynas and his friends, included both an offer to undertake odd jobs around the village to raise funds and a list of the materials and tools required to build the skateboard park! Kayne also came along to our July Council meeting to present his case

The Parish Council is very impressed by the youngsters' enthusiasm for and commitment to this project and is keen to progress it. We are looking at how much such a facility might cost and will then seek funding from community grants and other sources. In the meantime, if you are a local builder (especially one with children!) and would be prepared to volunteer your services to help with jobs such as preparing the land or erecting a security fence, please do get in touch. And if you want your car washed or some gardening doing, Charlie, Kayne and their friends will be only too pleased to get stuck in to help raise funds.

## **Trees**

Last year, we lost several new trees that had been planted around the village during the long, hot dry spell in the summer. The weather has been equally unkind to us this year when the dry spring also killed off a number of new plantings. However, many of the new trees managed to survive the ups and downs of the Binley Woods climate; we will be taking the opportunity to replace those that did not in the autumn. We will not be beaten by the weather!

## **Notice to Dog Owners**

Whilst the Parish Council welcomes considerate dog owners to exercise their pets on the recreation ground and the back field, we would like to remind you that all faeces must be picked up and deposited in the bins provided.

There are a number of dog owners who do not pick up after their pets and we have requested the Dog Warden to undertake additional patrols. If you are caught, you could be given a £50 on-the-spot fine. If you refuse to pay the fine, you might face a court appearance with a maximum penalty of £1,000. You have been warned!

If you spot owners not picking up after their dogs, please report them to the Dog Warden on 01788 533859 or email [dogwarden@rugby.gov.uk](mailto:dogwarden@rugby.gov.uk).

## **Binley Woods Youth Club**

Following the decision by WCC to withdraw funding for our Youth Club, a project has been established to continue to provide a youth club based at the existing building. This project is supported by the Parish Council, the Governors of the Primary School, the Church in Binley Woods and the management committee of the existing Youth Club. Grants are being sought from the County's Big Society Fund and other sources.

While the aim is to employ a sessional qualified youth worker to lead the Youth Club, the project will only succeed if we are successful in recruiting a pool of volunteers to support the leader in running the club. The aim would be for volunteers to commit themselves to attend the youth club, if possible, for two evenings a month.

The village is lacking in organised activities for our young people and the young people themselves say there is nothing for them to do in the village. The loss of the Youth Club would be a major blow to those young people who use it now and to those who would wish to use it in the future, and without volunteers the project would not be able to go ahead. If you are interested in volunteering and would like to know more about the role, please contact either Councillor Heather Timms on 02476 543643 or Shan Dobinson on 07799 668800.

## **Update on Binley Woods Library**

In spite of the best efforts of a small but dedicated band of volunteers, it very much looks like we are set to lose our existing library facility.

Due to a combination of factors (additional costs, WCC handing over responsibility for all on-going repairs to the building, uncertainty over the rent payable and a lack of serious interest from the local community in hiring the facility) the preferred option of operating a volunteer-run Community Library in the existing library building is not financially viable. The revised cash-flow projections showed a deficit of some £12,000 after just three years. As a village, we could not afford it! Reluctantly, the business case that had been submitted to WCC was withdrawn.

The fall-back option of housing a 'traditional' library in the Morrison Room at the Village Hall, or elsewhere in the village, is financially much sounder but would take some 18-24 months to achieve. This is not compatible with WCC's goal of realising their required cost savings by the end of the current financial year and hence that option is unlikely to be acceptable to the County Council.

However, all is not lost... We have asked WCC for their proposals in respect of a lower cost / less time to implement type of library service for the village (eg a 'virtual library' in the Village Hall where residents could use a PC to order books which are then subsequently dropped off at the Hall for collection). We are also looking at the possibility of housing the Children's Library in the existing Youth Club building.

In addition, we have made it clear to WCC that should the library site be sold for redevelopment we expect a share of the proceeds to be handed over to the village. This money could, for example, be put towards a new youth club building that could also house the after school club, a children's library and some form of adult library.

We await the County Council's response with interest!

## New Parish Councillor

Following our appeal for an additional Parish Councillor in the last edition of the Newsletter, Pat Docker stepped forward and was unanimously voted on at the June Council meeting. We welcome Pat to the Parish Council.

We asked Pat to pen a few words of introduction. Pat wrote: *"I have lived very happily in Binley Woods with my husband John since 1973. Our two sons both attended the local schools. I have spent most of my working life in administration and am currently employed by a printing company in Coventry. I collect membership subscriptions for the Friends of Brandon Wood and I am very keen to preserve the pleasant environment which we all enjoy here. I am looking forward to being an active member of Binley Woods Parish Council."*

## New Home Help Service

Mrs Barbara Reeve is new to Binley Woods and is offering a 'Home Help' service to residents of Binley Woods, Wolston and Brandon. Barbara has the required checks and a reference from her previous employer. If any residents are interested, Barbara can be contacted on 02476 542228 or 07543 301581 for more details.

## Parish Council Website

Did you know we have our own website where you can read minutes of our Parish Council meetings? You can access the website at [www.binleywoods.org](http://www.binleywoods.org). The website is managed by Councillor Peter Claisse and Peter would welcome ideas for additional content or links to organisations within the parish. Peter can be contacted on 02476 543932 or by e-mail to [pete@claيسة.info](mailto:pete@claيسة.info).

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

The Parish Council meets in the Morrison Room of the Binley Woods Village Hall at 7.30pm. 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 from the library and our website: [www.binleywoods.org](http://www.binleywoods.org).

Chairman:	Paul Salisbury	02476 542340
Vice Chairman:	Dave Jones	02476 540101
Councillors:	Norman Brinton	02476 542178
	Peter Claisse	02476 543932
	Ken Crawley	07958 721735
	Pat Docker	02476 543786
	Linda Harbour	07958 244784
	Paul Howells	02476 542611
	Liz Johnson	02476 543074
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