



# News from Salford Priors Parish Council

## September 2011



### Lights

Ever since the Parish Council discovered that many of the wooden poles carrying our footway lights were rotted at their tops there has been an inexorable progress to the point where we are having to disconnect these lights and remove the poles entirely. It has been an extremely contentious issue but looking back, three factors have been overwhelming and non-negotiable. Firstly, our insurers told us that they would not be able to provide public liability cover. Secondly, no company was able to test the poles and provide a guarantee acceptable to our insurers. Thirdly, the rules for providing a connection to new lights has changed whereby only an underground supply is now acceptable. It has been a difficult time for the Council but the outcome has been inevitable.

The Council has now turned its attention to the lights on the estate areas. In the Perkins Close and St Matthews Close areas some of the lights have mercury lamps. These are being phased out under EU regulations. In the Ban Brook area some of the columns are suffering from "concrete cancer" which is a condition where water gets into the concrete and rusts the steel reinforcement causing it to expand and crack the concrete. In both these areas consultation exercises have been carried out but no clear mandate has emerged. The Parish Council has therefore decided to carry out another trial switch off starting in October and extending to March next year to see if this confirms residents views one way or another. The Council has circulated letters to all residents in these areas and the trial will be subject to any weight of opinion expressed in response to these letters.

### Planters

In several newsletters over the past two years we have invited residents to "adopt a planter". The result has not been overwhelming with only a very few residents expressing any interest. Many residents say that the planters are a distinctive feature of the parish but some have said that we should not be spending the £2500 per year that they cost. What do you think? Councillors will be making decisions about the future of this contract over the next few meetings and will really welcome your views.

Either contact the Clerk or visit our Blog at <http://salfordpriors.wordpress.com>

### New Councillor

Following the resignation of Cllr. Reg Francis after over 30 years of service to the Parish Council and the local community an election was held on 11<sup>th</sup>. August. Mr Lawrence Robinson, who lives in Priors Grange, was duly elected, and we welcome him to the Council and look forward to his input over the next months. Residents should know that the whole Council will be due for election in May next year.

### Allotments

Councillors met with allotment holders at the end of June and listened with interest to their views. As a result it is pleasing to report that all the original 12 plots have now been taken up and we also have a tenant for new plot number 13. We will be delivering soil conditioner to the site and also helping with the initial cultivation of new plots. Two vacant plots remain; anyone interested in acquiring a plot should contact the Clerk.

### Marsh Farm Quarry

Activities at the quarry are monitored by a Liaison Group organised through the Parish Council. Anyone interested in learning more about developments at the quarry should contact the Clerk.

## **Civic Reception**

The Parish Council and the Memorial Hall Committee are holding a Civic Reception on Friday 7<sup>th</sup>. October to recognise the contribution made to parish life by Kim James, Reg Francis, and certain other long-serving persons in the community. Anyone interested in attending this reception should contact the Clerk before 20<sup>th</sup>. September. Attendance is strictly by invitation only because the capacity of the Memorial Hall is limited by its licence.

## **Recycling**

You may have noticed a label attached to your recycling bin recently. A full list of what can and what cannot be recycled is on the Stratford District Council website. Many people are confused by the types of plastics that can be recycled so here is the list. You **can** recycle bottles, yoghurt pots, margarine and ice cream tubs, fruit punnets, and microwave meal trays. You **cannot** recycle plastic film, cling film and film lids. In particular you cannot recycle plastic shopping bags or plastic rubbish bags so do not put your recycling in these bags!

## **Playing Field**

Cllr. Quiney makes a weekly inspection of our Playing Field and he has reported that he has never seen any children using the skate park. The skate park was opened in 2005 but we all know that children's interests move on and skate boards appear to have been replaced by mini scooters. No doubt, as the Olympics approach, BMX tracks will be back on the agenda! The Council wants to know what residents, and particularly younger residents, think about equipment on the Playing Field. To this end we will be holding an "Open Morning" on **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup>. October between 10.30 am. and 12 noon** when everyone with a view can come to the Playing Field, meet with Councillors, and say just what they think.

## **Funding for Community and Voluntary groups**

We have received notices from Stratford District Council and Warwickshire County Council about some grants available to community and voluntary groups. Anyone involved in a local group with a project

requiring funding should contact the Clerk for more information.

## **Fostering in Warwickshire**

Warwickshire CC is urgently looking for foster carers for local children who need to stay together with their brothers and sisters. If you are interested in this important opportunity please give Kelly Furness a call on 01926 413 375.

## **Jubilee**

To mark 60 years of the Queen's reign the Diamond Jubilee will take place in 2012. The celebrations will centre around an extended weekend in 2012 on 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th June. Plans for Salford Priors to celebrate this very special event are being developed around the concept of "a party in the park" on the Playing Field. If you are interested in helping with this celebration or if you have alternative views and ideas please contact the Clerk who will ensure your comments are passed to the appropriate persons.

## **Councillors and contact information**

### **Councillors**

<b>Cllr. J.R.Stedman</b>	<b>Tel: 01789 773 999</b>
	<b>Chairman of the Council</b>
<b>Cllr. L.Wright</b>	<b>Tel: 01789 7784 96</b>
	<b>Vice-Chairman of the Council</b>
<b>Cllr. A.W.Wolfe</b>	<b>Tel: 01789 773 610</b>
<b>Cllr. D.C.Penn</b>	<b>Tel: 01789 778 670</b>
<b>Cllr. L Robinson</b>	<b>Tel: 01789 774 545</b>
<b>Cllr. A L Quiney</b>	<b>Tel: 01789 490 639</b>
<b>Cllr. L Maude</b>	<b>Tel: 01789 765 295</b>
<b><u>Clerk to the Council</u></b>	<b>Office Tel. 01789 491 336</b>
<b>Mr. Michael Philpott</b>	<b>Home Tel. 01789 772 934</b>
<b>E-mail to Clerk</b>	<b><a href="mailto:clerk@salfordpriors.gov.uk">clerk@salfordpriors.gov.uk</a></b>

The Parish Office is situated at the rear of the Memorial Hall in Salford Priors and is generally open on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10.00am to Noon