



The newsletter for residents of Audlem & District

Spring 2017

Audlem Parish Council

Parish Council News, January 2017

Playing Field, Car Park and Children's Play Area

Officers at Cheshire East Council are progressing the transfer of the playing field and play area to the Parish Council in conjunction with Fields in Trust. It is anticipated that approval will be granted by the Portfolio Holder sometime this month after which the tripartate lease will be prepared for signature and the transfer take place in April or May. Cheshire East Council have agreed to repair the goalmouth and rectify any Health & Safety issues identified as part of the transfer process.

Post Office Update



Parish Councillors recently met with representatives of the Post Office who re-emphasised their commitment to providing post office facilities in Audlem.

They confirmed that discussions are taking place with other Postmasters to set up an Outreach Service that would provide a three-hour full post office service two days per week. It was agreed that although this is not ideal, it is better than nothing.

Parish Councillors will continue to press the Post Office to find a solution and reinstate a full time service.

Vacancies on the Parish Council

Councillors are sad to report that Councillors Mike Hill and Pam Seddon have recently stepped down for personal reasons. Both have given many years of excellent service to the community and their presence will be missed at Council meetings. There is a statutory procedure for replacing Councillors and more information will shortly be provided on the Parish noticeboard and on Audlem Online. This is a very interesting and challenging time to be a Parish Councillor and we hope several residents will be tempted to apply to fill the vacancies. Please contact the Clerk or any Councillor if you wish to know more.

Planning

Land Adjacent to Bird's Nest, Audlem Road 16/3040N. This application was refused by Cheshire East and has now gone to Appeal.

Moorsfield/Tollgate application 16/0725N: No date has been yet been set for this application to go to the Strategic Planning Board.

Land to west of Audlem Road (the 'Gladman' site):

The Reserved Matters application for 120 dwellings was approved despite some of the proposed houses being below the minimum space standards recommended by Government.

As soon as permission was granted the Parish Council was approached by McCarthy & Stone to put 25 retirement apartments in place of 10 of the houses, thus increasing the number of homes on the site from 120 to 135. Councillors have raised their serious concerns about the manner in which housing numbers could be increased from that approved at Appeal. They have also made clear to McCarthy & Stone that there are objections to loss of affordable housing, insufficient parking in view of the site's distance from the village centre and potential additional strain on the Medical Practice.

McCarthy & Stone intend to submit a formal application by the end of January and a public meeting will be held to hear community views once the final plans are available.

Parish Councillors' contact details

Heather Jones, Chair - 811836

Geoff Seddon, Vice Chair - 811282

Frances Christie - 811340 **Bill Consterdine** - 811647

Kate Down - 811160 **David Higham** - 812069

Phil Johnson - 811774 **Ceri Parsons** - 811176

Dave Siddorns - 811012 **John Thompson** - 812333

Your Parish Clerk is **Kirstin Dixon** - 01630 658456
or Email audlemparishclerk@gmail.com

Parish Council meetings will be held in the Meeting Rooms adjoining Audlem Methodist Church on Mondays, February 6, March 6 and April 3. At the beginning of each meeting, residents have the opportunity to bring matters of concern to the attention of the Parish Council. Everyone is welcome to stay and listen for the rest of the meeting.

Audlem District History Society

We finished our year of meetings with a fascinating talk by Helen Carter on 'Medical Practices in The Great War'. Helen had amassed a variety of rather fearsome looking implements that created much interest.



The Coffee Morning for anyone with connections to Audlem Fire Service that we held on Saturday, November 19th provided us with a wealth of materials and anecdotes from those who attended. A big thank you to them. We are eagerly awaiting a talk from some of those who are shown in the photo above on 19th October.

Our speaker on February 16th is Keith Lawrence, talking about "Local Turnpike Routes". This will be followed, on March 16th, by a talk on "A Celebration of Salt - Nantwich Brine" from Graham Dodd. One of our members, Maureen Morgan, is talking about "Queen's Park, Crewe - Then and Now" on April 20th which we hope will be followed up by a visit there in the summer.

Do come and join us at the Scout and Guide Hall at any meeting at 7.30pm. It's just £3 on the door (or £10 for the year). For more information please contact **Dorothy Jones** on 01270 811814.

APHAx Project Update January 2017

Building work started in November 2016 and the site has been cleared and levelled (with some 400 tons of soil removed and recycled locally). The foundations and concrete floor slabs and drains are completed and the next steps are the walls, roof, external doors and windows. The Annexe has started to take shape. These are exciting times for those who have been involved in the project for many years.

The users of the Annexe are now starting to consider the furniture, fixtures and fittings for their clubs. These include: 5A's; ADCA; Football; Youth Club and a Community Gym. Open from 7am to 10pm and run by trained volunteers, it is hoped the gym will provide: treadmill; cross trainer; cycle; and rower together with various resistance machines and dumbbells. Full details will follow.

Audlem Women's Institute

Audlem WI had an entertaining Christmas commencing with a visit to Arley Hall to view the amazing Christmas decorations and take home a few tips, as well as enjoying a fun packed Christmas Party. The Prosecco flowed and everyone ended up with a surprise gift!



We have just launched a Luncheon Club, which takes place each month with over a quarter of our members attending as we do like to eat well! They are proving to be a great success!

January saw our Annual Lunch at the Bhurtpore Inn, one of the rare occasions when husbands are permitted to be included. And never ones to rest on our laurels, we have some exciting speakers lined up including Brian Price in February who will be giving a talk on 'A Life on the Ocean Waves'.

March brings our 'Member's Meeting,' always a great eye opener as the life of one of our members will be revealed. After all, hidden behind every great woman is a secret life just waiting to be divulged!

Stephanie Richardson

The Annexe is targeted to open in September 2017 and there will be a grand opening ceremony to replicate the opening of the existing Public Hall in 1908 by her Grace Katherine, Duchess of Westminster. APHAX are delighted that Audlem Parish Council have confirmed that, in addition to the £10,000 donation, the £10,000 loan originally promised will now be a donation. Many thanks to them for the support they have given to the project. Though we have done well in fund raising thanks to generosity of community, we are still seeking additional funds for specific areas and details are given in the attached newsletter.

Roland Hall

ADAS (Audlem District Amenities Society)

Happy New Year from ADAS! The Big Switch On and the Carol Singing around the tree were both well attended. We were blessed with good weather on both evenings. Santa was kept busy in his Grotto at the Big Switch On and everyone enjoyed Carol Singing around the tree.



The soup provided by the Lord Combermere was much appreciated!

Many thanks to everyone who sponsored the Big Switch On and all the Christmas trees. A list of sponsors is displayed on the ADAS notice board adjacent to the Kebab shop. Also, a generous donation of £500 was received from Audlem Parish Council. This fantastic response from the village has covered the purchase of the small trees plus some much needed new cables and lights.

Many of you will have heard of the sad passing of Michael Haines. He was as stalwart of ADAS and will be sorely missed.

We will soon be publishing the ADAS events for 2017. This will include an Open Gardens weekend with 12 new gardens. If you would like to be involved please contact **Neil Goodyear** on 811283 or email **Vanda Clemens** on vandam@rocketmail.com.

Irene Pryce

The Music & Arts Festival and Carnival Day

Looking ahead, dates fixed are from May 25th to May 29th 2017.

We are now planning in depth the booking of some 80+ performances over the long May weekend, plus a great arts display of talents in all forms.

It is our **17th Big Music & Arts Festival**. The biggest free such event in all of Cheshire and indeed, Shropshire. A drive is now on to raise all the funds from our very welcome sponsors and to begin the task of creating our programme.

Carnival day is the 29th – the 205th such event - having started way back in 1812!!

We look forward to you enjoying our efforts. Call **Ralph Warburton** on 07813 820157 or email rjw@notrubraw.com for more information.

Trefoil Guild

Were you a guide or guider? Do you want to be part of the Trefoil Guild (guiding for adults)? The Nantwich Guild meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 2.30pm at Broad Lane Methodist Church, Nantwich. We enjoy crafts, speakers, outings and fun and friendship. If you are interested, please contact **Jane Dale** on 01270 811912 or look at the Trefoil Guild section of girlguidingcheshireborder.org.uk

Charity Shop

Audlem's independent Charity Shop is staffed entirely by volunteers and sells only goods donated by the public and not new lines of branded merchandise.



Another successful year has raised funds to be shared between local good causes including St. Luke's Hospice, The Donna Louise Children's Hospice and ADCA (Audlem and District Community Action). Cheques will be handed over to our beneficiaries at our AGM on Wednesday, 22nd March 2017 at 2pm, at The Bridge Inn, Shropshire Street. A warm welcome will be extended to all our supporters.

We are pleased to announce that we are now on Facebook! For up-to-date information please visit : www.facebook.com/audlemcharityshop

Chris Plume

APHAx (Audlem Public Hall Annexe) Fund Raising Events

A Grand Dinner Dance will be held on 25th March at 7.30pm in the Public Hall which will be totally transformed with a fine inner marquee. On offer will be a superb carvery menu by Beach Tree Catering, full bar and excellent music by the 22 piece VCO musicians, playing all the music you love to listen to - and to dance to!!! Tickets are going very fast. (Black tie dress code.)

Call **Ralph Warburton** on **812125** or email **rjw@notrubraw.com** for tickets.

We will also be fully launching the New Annexe Plaque – where we seek sponsors to aid this wonderful community development by paying for a plaque with your name(s) thereon. These plaques will be permanently displayed in the new entrance to the finished building (see the painting above of the new annexe). Details on how to apply for a plaque(s) are as set out in the insert delivered with this newsletter. **Ralph Warburton**

Canal Art Exhibition at Audlem Mill 2-29 April, every day



The 10th annual exhibition, held in conjunction with the Guild of Waterway Artists, will feature around 140 watercolours, oil and acrylic paintings. There will also be linocut prints and photographs from at least 18 artists from all over the country. They include many of the well known names: Dusty Miller, Sarah Pressland, Ian Kemp, Eric Gaskell and Penny Taylor-Beardow, as well as Audlem's own Sheila M Webster.

Christine and Peter Sylvester

Audlem Methodist Church

Come and join the all-age Production Team at Audlem Methodist Church this February 21st-25th for an imaginative performance of 'HONK!'. Music by George Stiles, Book and Lyrics by Anthony Drew. This is a musical comedy which won the Best New Musical Olivier Award on Monday, January 23, 17 when it was released.

Bookings are now being taken by **Julia Parton**, tel **811761**. This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International (Europe) Limited.

Many thanks to all who attended the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Services at Hankelow and Audlem Chapels for their donations of £360 to the Yemen Crisis Appeal. Also we were able to send £234 to 'All We Can' (formerly Methodist Relief and Development Fund) towards projects for bringing clean water to villages in parts of Africa. This money was collected through our young people following the Harvest Service.

Christina Lawson

And finally - goodbye . . .

This is my last newsletter as Editor. Please keep the stories coming in, and good luck to the new Editor, Jennifer Cope!
Pam Seddon

STOP PRESS Public Health Participatory Budget Funding

All three Audlem bids for grant funding were successful with the ADCA application for £5880 coming out top in the voting. The Fitness equipment for the community gym got £3200 and the Cycle Map to Audlem and District got £3185. There was a huge turnout from Audlem which was testament to the community support.

Dates for Your Diary . . .

February

- 02 WI meeting at 2 pm in Scout & Guide Hall
"A Life on the Ocean Waves" by Brian Price.
Competition: seagoing memorabilia

March

- 02 WI members' meeting at 2pm at the Scout & Guide Hall. 'Living Safely' by Nick Jarvis
PCSO. Competition: a Scottish memento

April

- 06 WI meeting at 2pm at the Scout & Guide Hall. 'Life at Granada' by Judy Copley.
Competition: poem or prose about your favourite television programme
- 26 Annual Village Meeting in the Public Hall at 7pm