

# Grandborough Parish Council Newsletter

November 2015

## Parish Plan

Parish Plans are normally produced to a five year cycle. The current Parish Plan was produced in 2011, and will need to be updated in 2016. As on previous occasions we intend to base a renewed Plan on the responses to a Parish questionnaire, which will seek the views of all Grandborough Parish residents on a range of issues relating to life in our parish.

It is important that the questionnaire covers as many issues as are significant to local residents, and to that end we will set up a working group to draw up the questionnaire.

**If you would like to be part of that working group please let one of the people named over know.**

In looking forward it may be useful to look at the Action points included in the current Parish Plan and the extent to which they have been progressed. The more significant points are set out below, with outcomes in italics:

### Buildings

Avoid flat roof extensions particularly to the frontage of houses.

Seek to use materials in keeping with the existing structure. Keep any new build at a scale compatible with adjoining properties.

Encourage any new house building to be of three bedroom or smaller.

*We have kept these in mind when commenting on planning applications.*

### Other structures.

Retain (or increase) seats at regular intervals around the parish.

Retain and maintain the War Memorial.

Seek to remove spindly street name carriers and place street names on adjacent walls etc.

Go ahead with the proposal to build two planters

*Planters built, War Memorial base and railings replaced/ repaired, three more seats bought. Street names no progress.*

### Amenities

Press for improved Mobile Telephone and Broadband connections.

*No progress on mobile telephones or on landline broadband.*

### Roads, Bridleways and Footpaths

Reinstate/maintain the bus stop at or near Manor Farm (A45)

Press for adequate signage for the access turning to Onley Equestrian Centre.

Press for improved safety features at A45 and A426 junctions and for signs to be kept clear of vegetation.

Carry out an up to date survey of all footpaths and bridleways within the parish, and set up a system for parishioners to report footpath and bridleway problems.

Publish a leaflet showing the Parish footpath and bridleway network with recommended circular walks/rides.

Remind all parishioners of the Country Code, in particular the need to keep to footpaths, to keep dogs under control, and the need to remove dog faeces and dispose of them safely.

Encourage residents not to park on pavements and verges.

Push for signs for passing places on Hill Road and Grandborough Fields Road.

*Bus Stop retained, new signs in place, lengthsman keeps signs clear. Footpath/Bridleway survey completed, Circular walk maps designed and printed, contact system in place. Regular reminders about parking, dog control and dog faeces in newsletter. WCC refuse to sign passing places.*

### Community Matters

Encourage parents to form a Mother and Toddler group.

Set up a meeting of parents and other interested parties to discuss additional youth provision.

Set up a meeting of potential weekday group members

Encourage the setting up of a register of occasional drivers for hospital visits, etc., with a coordinator.

Allotments and Community Shop -start discussions with two owners of possible sites.

Newspaper delivery -start discussions with two possible drop off site owners.

Explore the possibilities for Village Hall off-road parking.

Discuss with representatives of Church and Chapel suggestions for additional uses and expressed preferences for off-road parking.

Contact the local first responder organisation for set up help.

Make appropriate arrangements for a welcome pack.

Publicise the survey results relating to the Pub to all households

*Meetings called, but insufficient response on Mother and Toddler, Youth provision, or weekday group.*

*Allotments, Shop, Newspaper drop – site owners did not come forward. First responder no action, but defibrillator installed at Village Hall.*

*No progress on Driver register, parking, welcome pack.*

*Use of Pub still needs to be greater.*

### **Flood Action Group**

At our November meeting the Parish Council discussed the slow progress of Severn Trent and Warwickshire County Council in dealing with their Action Points following the Multi-Agency meeting held in September. We noted that a recent meeting arranged by Councillor Crane, with representatives of the two bodies, had indicated that any progress was dependent on the ditches along Sawbridge Road being dug out. However neither body was able to carry out such work at present. We therefore decided to use some of the Environment Agency Pathfinder grant to contract the work, which is scheduled for Monday 23rd November. We have asked that a second Multi-Agency meeting be arranged as soon as possible so that we can agree a timescale for Severn Trent and Warwickshire CC to carry out their investigations and any remedial work.

Please note that empty sandbags are available from Kay Worrall or Rod Hastie, and there is a supply of sand at the rear of The Shoulder of Mutton.

### **Flood Signs**

We have found a source for temporary road signs which can be used in the event of any future repeat flooding of Main Street and Sawbridge Road. The signs are designed to indicate a 'dry route' along Church Road, and to reduce the impact of vehicle bow waves adding to flooding risk.

### **Volunteer Mounted Police Support Scheme**

Six initial mounted volunteers have recently been recruited by Warwickshire Police. The volunteers will engage with local villagers while out on their regular hacks, and will keep a look out for anything suspicious or requiring police action. Our local volunteer is Linda Carey, and she is recognisable by the high-vis jacket with blue scheme logo, and also because her horse has reflective leg wrappings, and reflective sheet in cold weather. She welcomes the chance to get to know her patch, so please say hello and chat if you meet her.

### **War Memorial**

Some of the lettering on the War Memorial has fallen out, and the stone in which it was originally set has eroded in places. The History group researchers have also revealed that some of the names as currently recorded are inaccurate. They also expressed concern that the current lettering is difficult to read. It is therefore proposed to commission three plaques to reproduce the current wording (amended as necessary), and to fit these plaques to each of the faces at the base of the memorial. Initial enquiries indicate a cost of about £2000 for this work. We have applied to the War Memorials Trust for grant aid, and the Parish Council have made a provision towards the costs. If these sources are insufficient it will be necessary to find other sources of funds—we may be back!!!

### **Weight Restriction on roads**

Rugby Borough Council have reviewed weight restrictions on village roads and have renewed the 7.5 ton limit on vehicles entering Grandborough.

### **Grass Cutting**

The change of contractor has led to a much improved grass cutting regime this year, which we will expect to be maintained next year. Thank you to all villagers for cutting 'their' verges, as this helps keep the Parish precept low.

### **Footpaths and Bridleways**

Thanks to those landowners who have cleared footpaths and repaired stiles; and a reminder to those who need to do so and/or reinstate footpaths in ploughed or sown fields. Guides to six circular walks around the Parish are available in the Telephone box, The Shoulder of Mutton, and from Chris Bilborrow. If you have difficulty accessing a footpath, find a broken stile or other problem, please contact Chris Bilborrow.

### **Farmland and Dogs**

Dog Owners are reminded that **as from 6th April 2016 all dogs must be micro-chipped.**

Dog walkers are reminded that they and their dog(s) should keep to the footpaths when crossing farmland; i.e. your dog must be on a lead and kept close to heel.

Despite regular appeals to dog owners there are still plenty of instances of fouling of paths and verges. Dog faeces are poisonous to farm animals. If you are a dog owner you must keep it under control at all times, and must clear up any faeces dropped by your dog. Please be a responsible owner, keep your dog on a lead, and clear up any mess. Dispose of dog mess safely, don't just throw it in a hedge.

### **Grandborough Trust**

Trust Funds exist to help residents of Grandborough Parish with educational grants and other emergency assistance. If you think you may be eligible for a grant or assistance, or you know someone who needs assistance please contact Tracy Pawsey 810997 or Michelle Johns 812945. All approaches are dealt with in strict confidence.

### **Dates of Parish Council Meetings in 2016**

Tuesday 5th January

Tuesday 1st March

Tuesday 3rd May

Tuesday 5th July

Tuesday 6th September

Tuesday 1st November

All meetings are held in the Village Hall starting at 7:45pm.

All meetings are open to the public, and there is an opportunity before the meeting starts for any observer to comment on any Parish issue of concern to them.

### **Parish Council Contact Details**

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