

June 2007

HELLO AND WELCOME
to recently appointed Clerk,
Lee Breckon.



With a phenomenal response to the advert for the vacant clerks' position, Council managed to whittle the contenders down to 4 candidates all with a wealth of experience and knowledge of Parish Councils but with different attributes. After interviews 4 was reduced to 2 and subsequently the position was offered to Lee Breckon, which he accepted and commenced his appointment on 10th April.

Lee brings with him a wealth of Business and Management experience. Having developed and successfully run his own business for several years, Lee opted out of the rat race to work on projects from home. Not one for an easy life, Lee combined this with taking the role of house husband and the day to day responsibility of looking after his two children whilst wife Carol furthered her career as a teaching assistant. Lee, also social and community minded, is the Chair of Governors at the 'Hall School' in Glenfield, Chair of Glenfield Parish Council and a Magistrate at the Leicester Courts.

Lee felt the time was right for a new challenge, one that enabled him to use his experience, analytical mind and knowledge of the business world along with his community activities to make a real impact and take a proactive and forward thinking role in public services. This matched entirely to Councils requirement for a Clerk, one that would bring a different perspective to the role, enable Council to achieve quality status but more importantly have the right credentials to facilitate Council in its goal of making Whetstone a village to be envied.

Lee has already started to make an impact within the office and depot, he is looking to add benefit and value to our working practices to improve village life for Parishioners and Councillors

LOOK OUT FOR NEW STYLE DUCKPADDLE
NEXT ISSUE

WHO ARE WE
KNOW YOUR COUNCILLORS



Malc Burley (Chairman 2007/2008)



Terry Ball



**Mike Bounds
Deputy Chairman**



Karl Coles



Peter Cox



John Dunkley



David Garratt



Mark Jackson



John Kenney



Mary Sault



Terry Scrivens



Jeannine Songhurst



Alan Tanner



Alice Tyler



Steve Webb

AND THE REST OF THE STAFF



**Roger Grzyb
Groundstaff**



**Graham Hamilton
Groundstaff Supervisor**



**Graham Bray
Groundstaff**



**Sue Tomlinson
Administration Assistant**



**Sue Croft
Caretaker/
Litter Picker**



**Alan Gamble
Cleaner**

Anna Pullen Memorial



On a very wet May 7th bank holiday (Anna's birthday), family and friends of the late Anna Pullen met to officially unveil the memorial, located at 'The Dicken', in her name.



The memorial was bought with funds raised by the Whetstone Events Group, consisting of members from the Blaby and Whetstone Boys Club, Whetstone Parish Council and the community; plus contributions from Blaby District Council and the Conservative Association. Anna's grandson, Connor, made a poignant speech and thanked all for their support and commitment.



St Peter's School C of E (A) Primary School

The half term holidays saw the launch of St Peter's C of E (A) Primary school's new website. The children and parents' responses to the website have been positive, with comments on loving the design and the ease of finding their way around the website.

Items which can be found on our school website include; events with dates and follow up photos; examples of work children have done in school; downloadable order forms for school uniforms; downloadable admissions forms; a section all about our hardworking PTA association called WASPS; after school clubs and a timetable of clubs taking place for this term, and curriculum leaflets outlining what the children will be studying each term.

Other useful information for current and prospective children and parents can be found on our website.

Please feel free to have a look and pass on your comments to the school office which can be accessed via our website on the 'contact us' link.

The address is www.st-peters-whetstone.leics.sch.uk Keep checking our website for news as it will be updated regularly!

Anyone can take a look at our website – it's not just for our pupils and parents – it's a celebration of our school being part of the community and is therefore for the community to access.

Baptist Church Fete 07/07/07

Look out for a leaflet through your post box. Whetstone Baptist Church are to stage a fete on the Blaby and Whetstone Boys Club site—**Saturday 7th July, 2007**—all residents in Whetstone are invited.

Many activities are planned, plenty of food and drink and it is all for free.

VOLUNTEER LITTER PICKERS

Whetstone Baptist Church have also appointed a new Youth Co-ordinator, Charlotte Carpenter. Charlotte organised for some of the young members of the Church to do a litter pick around the village.

Our thanks goes to Charlotte and the young people and also to the individuals of Whetstone who volunteer to pick litter around where they reside. It all helps to make the village a better place to live.

If you are interested in voluntary Litter Picking contact the Parish Council.

COFFEE/TEA MORNING



Want to meet your Parish Councillors and have an opportunity to talk to them in an informal setting?

Then take the time to come to the Parish Council offices, between **10am and 12am the second Friday in the month.**

The next one will be on **Friday 13th July**, Community Support Officer, Neil Walker, will also be there for any questions or advice. Coffee, Tea and Biscuits provided.

Allotments

With no objections in principle, from the Environment Agency or Blaby District Council, for the Allotments to be located on the strip of land off 'The Dicken' known as the Ragwort Field, the Parish Council are in the process of applying for planning permission.

Grant for Play Equipment

A £4,970 grant has been obtained from the Youth Opportunity Fund for the purchase of play equipment on the Trinity Road, Recreation Ground. The grant coupled with monies budgeted by the Parish Council and Whetstone Youth Council should be sufficient to provide for an 'All Purpose Sports Wall' and a Climbing Frame.

All young people and parents, if you feel you have views or ideas on play equipment you wish to voice or have a hand in decision making for facilities in the future then contact Whetstone Parish Council, we will be only too pleased to hear from you.



WHETSTONE YOUTH COUNCIL

For all you young people- 13 to 18 years old - who wish

to make your voices heard

If you are interested, wish to know more or feel that you would like to represent the views of Young People in Whetstone please contact by: E.Mail: youthcouncil@whetstone.org.uk or ring John on 2864508, or check-out the website www.whetstone.org.uk

Sports Pavilion

Proposed plans for a new Sports Pavilion on the Warwick Road Recreation Ground are ongoing.

JUST A MINUTE

YOUR Parish Council meets every third Thursday of the month, 7.30pm at the Parish Council Offices, Cemetery Road Whetstone; The agenda for the meeting is posted on the Parish Notice Boards one week before.



Parishioners are more than welcome to attend, whether you have a specific interest in an item on the agendas, you wish to alert or discuss with Council a matter relating to Whetstone you think is of importance, or if you just wish to see Council in operation.

Below are several extracts of general items of interest from the minutes of the last three meetings.

March

- Litter in & on brook bank—Wychwood Rd, were items of concern to parishioners. Clerk to take appropriate action.
- District Councillor, Alex Dilks reported on the launch of the 'Hate Incident Monitoring Project'
- Letter received from BDC regarding transfer of ownership re Shelduck Close Public Open Space.
- Email received from BDC Community Safety Officer outlining a new service which provides monthly information to all Parish Councils relating to anti-social behaviour issues.
- BDC advised that monitoring of air quality on Springwell Lane had found no problems..
- Letter from LCC advising that funding could not be justified at the present time for a Vehicle Activated Sign on Grove Road.
- Letter from Environment Agency advising that they have no objections in principle to the proposed allotments, providing access is maintained to the brook banks.
- District Councillor, John Kenney, reported receipt of many letters from pupils of Badgerbrook Primary School relating to problems on road safety issues within the village.

April

- Damaged road signs—Dog & Gun Lane/Cambridge Rd. and Wychwood Rd., were items of concern to parishioners. Clerk to take appropriate action.
- The chair informed the meeting that District Councillor, Alex Dilks, was standing for election in another ward. The meeting thanked her for all her hard work and effort in representing Cosby and Whetstone South ward.
- District Councillor, Alan Tanner, tabled a note, thanking Council for the support shown in partnership with Cosby.
- LCC Councillor, David Jennings, informed the meeting that approval had been given for 50 schools to have enforced 20 M.P.H speed limits installed outside their premises, and this included Badgerbrook Primary School as part of the proposed Zebra Crossing scheme.
- Receipt of letter from BDC Asset Management Officer regarding the proposed allotment land. A recommendation from both Planning Dept. & Environmental Agency was that this would be a viable use of land.

May (Annual Meeting)

- Malcom Burley was proposed and seconded as Chairman of the Parish Council and was duly elected. Mike Bounds was proposed and seconded, and appointed Vice-Chairman.
- Two people were put forward for co-option to council, Jeannine Songhurst and Alan Tanner, both were accepted.
- Draft letter tabled for approval by council for issuing to MPs; Sports Minister; The FA; The ECB; County Council and District Council re - frustration over non assistance in proposed new sports pavilion.
- Clerk advised that forms are available in the office for the 'Safe at Home Scheme'
- The clerk informed the meeting that he would investigate improvements to the War Memorial..
- Approval was given for purchase of a tree to feature within a tree seat on the Village Green.
- John Kenney gave a verbal report of the unveiling of the Anna Pullen Memorial on the 7th May.

Visit our Web Site
www.whetstonepc.org.uk



The next four meetings of Council take place on **Thursday 21st June, 19th July, 16th August and 20th September**
E-mail: WhetstonePC@whetstone.org.uk
Tel: Leicester (0116) 2751987 Fax: Leicester (0116) 2753395
The office is open Monday to Friday 9am-1pm
(an answer machine is in operation at all other times)

PLEASE NOTE- ANONYMOUS CORRESPONDENCE WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED BY COUNCIL

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Planning applications with Blaby District Council relevant to Whetstone are now available for viewing on the Parish Council Website:
WWW.WHETSTONEPC.ORG.UK



FAREWELL

After 22 years as a Parish Councillor, John Ball has decided to call it a day.

Knowing that the elections were coming up, John, at the beginning of the year, thought long and hard about standing for election again, not an easy decision after 22 years of voluntary and dedicated service to the parishioners and village of Whetstone, where John has lived for the last 33 years, initially on Bridge Way and currently Spinney Halt. With a keen interest in the environment, village life and maintaining the countryside, John attended several meetings of the Parish Council, initially to find out what was happening in these areas, so impressed was he, that when a vacancy occurred, in 1985, John was co-opted as a councillor. He was also influential in persuading several other parishioners to become parish councillors. Over the years John has played a very active part, becoming Chairman 4 times. Whilst Chairman in 2001 he saw his challenge for Whetstone, in the future, as to strive to get more play/sport equipment/facilities around the village. John has been instrumental in trying to achieve his goal and for the last 3 years has chaired the Recreational, Leisure and Community Premises Working Party and despite leaving Council, John, has requested he still play a part, if only minor, in the working party. Good luck John for the future.

DISTRICT COUNCIL ELECTION SUCCESS

Congratulations to our 4 District Councillors, duly elected by parishioners in May.

Karl Coles, John Kenney and Alan Tanner were all successful in their re-election as District Councillors. Karl and John for the North ward of Whetstone and Alan for the Cosby and South Whetstone ward. All three, despite their demands as District Councillors, are also Parish Councillors and play an active part in Parish life. Welcome to new District Councillor, Janet Forey, elected for the Cosby and Whetstone South ward; we hope Janet will also join the Parish Council, when a vacancy occurs.

Alan and Janet would like to say "Thank you everyone who took the time to come and vote. It was a tremendous turnout. We realise the importance of local issues and take our responsibilities seriously. Our promise is to treat every one of you with equal respect and consideration."

YOUR ELECTED DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

John Kenney	100 Spinney Halt, Whetstone	2864508 Whetstone North
Alan Tanner	White Barn Farm, Cosby	2841596 Whetstone South
Janet Forey	7 Lady Leys, Cosby	2752363 Whetstone South
Karl Coles	96 Enderby Road, Whetstone	2774138 Whetstone North

YOUR ELECTED COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Barry Garner	7 Riverside Court, Station Rd, Littlethorpe	286 7362
David Jennings	122 Station Rd, Countesthorpe	2774263



“No Direction Home”

Beat Officer Pc Nick Ward

We are now officially in the summer season & with it come many of the same old problems. The previous trend of vehicle crime has continued although a number of recent arrests have identified some of those responsible. As before much of the property stolen was preventable with ‘Satellite Navigation’ systems being stolen from glove compartments etc, along with various other items of value left laying on seats whilst the vehicle is unoccupied. Please, please, please, if you use a ‘SatNav’ take it with you when you leave the vehicle even if it is for only a minute. Take the time to remove the holder from the dash board or wipe the sucker mark from the windscreen. Ensure that your valuables are out of sight. It’s not rocket science!

As usual there is the ever present issue of anti-social behaviour, which is still ongoing mainly on Friday nights. Certainly from my perspective the volume of problems appears to be less than previous years, but can we try & keep on top of this. I will always try to address your ASB problems, & I tend to find that those responsible are often the same faces I deal with on a weekly basis, however without your help & support I find it difficult to address the behaviour with those responsible. If you are being victimised by anti social behaviour please telephone the Police on 0116 2222222 or drop either PC 845 Taylor or me a line & we will contact you back. It is hoped that by the end of the year the Anti-Social Behaviour’ help line ‘101’ will be accessible for the Whetstone area as it is currently only available for the city & Rutland areas. This is a call system which is designated solely to dealing with ASB issues & hopefully will allow for a prompt response. Often victims know who those responsible are but fear repercussions & so don’t call in. If you feel unhappy about calling the Police, please contact Blaby District Council ‘Community Safety Team’ who can act on your behalf to put a stop to this behaviour. Finally, can I ask that you all take a look at your garden shed security. Many of us keep expensive tools in our sheds & at this time of year find ourselves buying new equipment. There has subsequently been a recent spate of shed break-ins where tools are being stolen by way of wrenching poor quality locks off. With a couple of decent locks & maybe an inexpensive shed alarm, many of these incidents can be prevented. Anyone wanting details of shed security or shed alarms can contact either myself, PC 845 Taylor or PCSO 6657 Walker at Blaby Police station.

CRIME & DISORDER



Beat Officer Pc Nick Taylor

PC Ward, PC Taylor and CSO Neil Walker are contactable on 0116 2485675 collar number 1716, 0845 and 6657 respectively.

General switchboard to report non emergency 2222222 id. No. 1716, 845 and 6657 respectively

Email address for Blaby Local Policing Unit to report crime et al. blaby.lpu@leicestershire.pnn.co.uk



‘Whetstone Reassurance Group’ competition winners, Jodie Chan & Charlotte Wheatley, on a visit to Leicestershire Police Traffic Department. As part of their prize. Also present, were family,

Reassurance Group representatives, Jeannine Songhurst and Jenney Butler, PC Nick Taylor and CSO Neil Walker. All had an informative and enjoyable day.

Look out for the leaflet
Coming to your house soon



Crime Figures for Whetstone 1st March 2007—1st June 2007

B/Dwelling	3	B/Other	15	Damage	18
Dam/Veh	5	Theft from Veh.	25	Theft of Veh.	5
Theft from store	6	Theft Cycle	2	Robbery	0
Drugs	2	Public Order	0		

For independent confidential advice on alcohol abuse. : Drink Line 0800 917 8282

If you have information about any crime, phone


**Leicestershire
CRIMESTOPPERS**
0800 555 111

- Your call is free
- You are not asked for your name
- You may receive a reward

Do you live in the District of Blaby?

**Are you a victim of
Anti-Social Behaviour?**

For free and confidential advice call the Community Safety Team on



0116 272 7677

