



March 2008



A YEAR ON
Lee Breckon Clerk of the Council

It is nearly a year since I was appointed Clerk to the Parish Council. How time flies. The year has seen events and issues clearly defined into weekly, monthly, annual and ongoing events. The weekly, monthly and annual ones are normally the business of the council and encompass all of the services that are provided by the Parish Council on your behalf. The ongoing issues provide some bigger challenges to all of us.

Alcohol fuelled trouble caused by large groups of youths, male and female are again an issue in Whetstone. Access to alcohol is the main instigator in this madness that occurs in the village. As a Parish Council we are asking for a specific area alcohol ban which the police have to agree to so to ensure that they are able to police it. The police have gone public in what they are doing to tackle our problems and Inspector Chell from Blaby LPU is fully aware of the problems we are currently having in the village. He is committed, along with his team at Blaby Local Policing Unit in working with us in solving this problem.

We have, as a parish council, funded from April, two youth workers who will be village based on Friday evenings and will seek to engage our youths as to their behaviour and needs. It has to be noted that from November to January it had been quieter in Whetstone, mainly due to the fact that the gatherings were in different areas such as Cosby and Broughton Astley. Sometimes, the youths are not reported to the police and they can go about their organised chaos without fear of being caught as the police have simply not been informed. Inspector Chell, and Chief Inspector Jim Holyoak always stated that this will only get solved if we work together, and I think this is proven.

Action is being taken and it will have an impact on the current trouble makers. We all, however, have a responsibility to ensure that the next generations are made aware of the dangers and educated to a better level of understanding and respect. As you know it is not just Whetstone that suffers this problem, and the solution has to be a nationwide one, not just local. Indeed if you solved it locally, the problem would move along the street to the next village.

A list of contact details and police details to help you report matters to the right people are all listed in this publication.

EASTER CHURCH SERVICES

URC

March

16th	Palm Sunday	10.00am 04.00pm	Morning Worship and Holy Communion "Jerusalem Praise" featuring the United Choir
21st	Good Friday	08.00pm	United Good Friday Service— St Peter's Church
23rd	Easter Day Sunday	10.00am	Morning Worship and JAM Club
25th—29th	Tuesday—Friday	10.00am-12.00pm	Holiday Club for children 5—11 yrs "The adventures of the j Team"
30th	Sunday	04.00pm	Praise Party



WHETSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

March

20th	Maundy Thursday	08.00pm	Communion
21st	Good Friday	08.00pm	United Good Friday Service— St Peter's Church
23rd	Easter Day Sunday	09.00am 10.45am 06.15pm	Traditional Easter Praise Easter Family Service Easter Praise Service



ST. PETER'S

March

16th	Palm Sunday	10.00am	Holy Communion
17th	Monday	07.00pm	Compline
18th	Tuesday	07.00pm	Compline
19th	Wednesday	07.00pm	Compline
20th	Maundy Thursday	07.30pm	Holy Communion
21st	Good Friday	02.30pm 08.00pm	Stations of the Cross United Good Friday Service
23rd	Easter Day Sunday	10.00am	Holy Communion



ST PETER'S GOES INTERNATIONAL

St. Peter's can be contacted on 0116 277 5750

Over the last 2 years we have worked hard to bring more international flavour into school life at St Peter's. Initially one of our teachers visited 'Forest Schools' in Hungary funded by the British Council – and this helped us to expand our outdoor education.

In 2006 we linked with a primary school in Spain – we were visited by one of their teachers and one of our teachers spent a week in the Spanish school. We continue to work together on joint projects and the children communicate with each other through email.

Our junior children learn Spanish and have experienced Spanish weeks in which they have learnt about the life and culture of Spain, as well as tasting Spanish food.

We also teach French and one of our teachers is off to Strasbourg in March to set up a link with a French school – all funded yet again by the British Council. C'est la vie! Children really enjoy learning these new languages as well as the opportunity to communicate with children living in Spain and France.

We currently hold the 'Intermediate International School Award' but by completing 7 projects with an international focus we hope to change this to the 'Full International School Award' in July. These projects include work on Mexico, India, rainforests and will culminate in every child in school enjoying an 'International Week'! Sampling food, music, literature and art from all around the world.

EXPECTANT BADGERBROOK

Badgerbrook can be contacted on 0116 275 2353

Badgerbrook children enjoyed a very busy Christmas period with concerts, parties and a pantomime visit. Through the generosity of parents and visitors at our Christmas Concerts, we raised £365 for Rainbows Hospice, Children in Distress and Starlight. Starlight Children's Foundation brightens the lives of seriously and terminally ill children by granting wishes and by providing entertainment in hospitals and hospices throughout the UK. It seemed particularly fitting at this time of year to support children who are less fortunate than our pupils.

Members of the choir participated in the annual Whetstone Parish Council Carol Service outside the Co-op. They sang a rather 'jazzy' number called 'Rock around the flock', accompanied by kazoos and hand jives. Thank you to all those children and parents who joined us on this rather chilly evening to listen to readings and sing some traditional carols. The Friends of Badgerbrook held their annual Christmas Fayre and, thanks to the hard work and commitment of the group of willing volunteers, raised £3,398.

Badgerbrook has again achieved Activemark Award for Sport (2007). Since Mr Williams became a full time P.E. teacher for the school, we have increased our provision for children both in and out of school hours. This has undoubtedly made a significant contribution to our sporting achievements. The sports teams have continued to represent Badgerbrook on a regular basis and regular clubs and practises have taken place throughout the term in boys and girls football, cross country, tag rugby and basketball. A team from Badgerbrook again took part in the Kurling tournament at Loughborough University.

Following the success of the Family Learning ICT Club we are now running a Family Learning Cookery Club where parents and children can cook together in our kitchen. The adult Spanish lessons are also continuing, as is the Computer Club for Year 6 girls, the chess club and all the many music lessons, including a group of Year 5 children learning to play cornets and trombones.

Children from Year 3 visited The New Walk Museum on two days in February as part of their study of the Egyptians and the Year 5 children took part in a Chinese Calligraphy Workshop. On Thursday 7th February the Foundation Stage children presented a Chinese New Year Assembly to their parents. This included singing, dancing and storytelling. Children performed a dragon dance and a Happy New Year song in Chinese. Examples of their work in class was projected onto a screen for all the parents to see and showed the children doing Chinese writing, learning numbers and experiencing Chinese food. The Chinese costumes were delightful

We will be having some staff changes after the February half-term. Due to the impending arrival of 'tiny feet', Miss Wolloff will be taking maternity leave from half term and Mrs Briers from 22nd February. We wish them well and look forward to hearing about the new arrivals in due course. Mrs Blaney and Mrs Kirk will be teaching Miss Wolloff's Year 5 class and Mrs Sanderson and Mrs Wright will take over Mrs Briers Foundation Stage class.

PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION AT WHETSTONE

For details or enquiries contact Mr. Smith on 0116 289 5896

The Leicester Forest Photographic Society are coming to Whetstone Memorial Hall on **Saturday June 14th 11.00am to 4.00pm** to put a display on, entry will be free to all. Just recently this photographic club was awarded a lottery grant from 'Awards for All' to purchase display panels so that our work could be shown to a wider community and also offer help and advice on picture taking. At this venue we shall have a screen and a digital projector to show what can be done using an imaging programme on the computer to enhance and improve your pictures. We would like as well, for people to bring their pictures in so we can give advice on them where needed. Now we know there must be people in the locality who can take a decent picture so we will offer a prize for the best one we see and maybe a second and third prize if enough get handed in, these will be photo gift vouchers. The pictures should be handed in at the hall before 2.00pm and we will announce the result at 3.00pm just put your name and address on the back, the pictures can be mounted or unmounted any size up to A 4 that's approximately 11 x 8 in inches. A few of our members will be on hand to answer any of your questions but the best reason for coming in will be to see well over a hundred of our pictures on display.



THE SUNFLOWER SPRING STROLL



On Monday 7th April, LOROS, in conjunction with Active Together Blaby, have organised a five mile stroll to raise funds and encourage more people to get fit. Starting at 10am from the Pavilion, Huncote Leisure Centre, Sportsfield Lane, Huncote, the five mile circular stroll will take walkers on bridleways and footpaths to Thurlaston and Normanton Park, before returning to the Pavilion for a well deserved lunch and rest.

Guides will be available to lead groups around the course, with the route clearly marked and directional maps and instructions given to those who wish to walk on their own.

Participants will need to obtain a sponsorship pack and pledge to raise at least £20 for LOROS, the Leicestershire and Rutland Hospice. By raising at least £20, participants will be entitled to a free ploughman's lunch and a cup of soup as a gesture of appreciation.

The packs will be available from the LOROS fundraising office by telephoning 0116 2318431 or by e-mailing fundraising@loros.co.uk.



For further details and photograph opportunities please contact LOROS Fundraiser, Adrian Walker, on **07803 513 994**.





Visit our Web Site
www.whetstonepc.org.uk



PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Planning applications are available for viewing on the Parish Council Website
WWW.WHETSTONEPC.ORG.UK

We also hold copies of all Whetstone Planning Applications which we discuss at our Planning Committee's, held 1st & 3rd Thursdays of each month. Please contact the office prior to wishing to inspect these, as a member of the staff has to be available during inspection. Telephone: 0116 2751987
E.mail: whetstonepc@whetstone.org.uk



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, 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.

December

- Lack of organisation at the Carol Service—Omission of BDC as a District Council on the Police website were items of concern to parishioners. Clerk to take appropriate action.
- Mrs. A Tyler put herself forward as Heritage Warden for Whetstone. Agreed by members
- District Councillor, Alan Tanner, informed council of the progress and benefit of the Scrutiny Panel and its associated toolkit, allowing councils to apply to Scrutiny to look at issues specific to Whetstone. District Councillor, Janet Forey, introduced herself to Council. County Councillor, David Jennings, informed Council of the conclusion of the traffic calming scheme on Dog & Gun Lane and also updated members on the waste incinerator plans at LCC, and re-iterated that Whetstone was not on the potential sites for development.
- The clerk, Lee Breckon, reported that the cemetery had been worked on all week to ensure it was at its best for Christmas. - Police patrols had been more visible in the village and are having an effect, trouble makers on Bridgeway/Brook Street had been detained in ongoing police operations. Inspector Chell will be in attendance at the Crime and Disorder meeting in January. - Whetstone Brook work was now completed.— Quote obtained for work on the War Memorial regarding disabled wheelchair access was well within budget.
- The issue of Alcohol bans was discussed as the reply regarding a district wide ban being impractical was known. The advised and suggested/possible route was a Parish ban in specific designated areas, which working with the police should be enforceable. Correspondence replies from the relevant bodies had been received regarding Alcohol ban and a dedicated PCSO for Whetstone.

January

- Marking the centenary of the Cemetery.—Non working warning lights on Dog & Gun Lane.—Police website still not including Blaby District on its regional map, were items of concern to parishioners. Clerk to take appropriate action.
- District Councillor, John Kenney, informed the meeting of the BDC flood fair taking place at BDC on 22nd January. Also the scrutiny committee looking at sales of alcohol to young people was nearing completion.— District Councillor, Karl Coles, informed the meeting of the Proxy Sale of alcohol campaign by LCC, details of where to obtain posters were given to the clerk.—District Councillor, Alan Tanner, informed council of the pending incinerator debate that was now being discussed. After discussion, issues such as transportation, access, noise and air quality pollution were all raised. It was agreed that a working group be sought from the neighbouring and affected parishes at a point when it was needed, John Kenney would act as the trigger point for this to occur.
- The Clerk, Lee Breckon, updated members on the Ragworts field planning application and suggested that a Public Open Space and Cemeteries working party meeting was needed so as to decide Parish Council actions needed.—A letter had been sent to BDC regarding the Trinity Road Park lighting.—Flooding on Brook Street had been severe again and the clerk was passing this onto LCC again for actioning.

February

- Speeding, High Street.—Request for more bulbs on the Brook banks through the village.—The new gate installed by the Environment Agency unsuitable for the importance of character and correct fit for one of the focal points of the village.—Lorries parking completely on the pavement on Dog & Gun Lane, were items of concern to parishioners. Clerk to take appropriate action.
- District Councillor, John Kenney, informed the meeting that the scrutiny committees work on Proxy sales of alcohol had now ended.—District Councillor, Karl Coles, informed council of the weekend ASB events, 20 youths had been escorted home whilst being unfit through the effects of alcohol, of which 16 were from Whetstone.
- The clerk, Lee Breckon, informed council of litter, bottles and dog waste in the churchyard, permission to be sought to lock the churchyard at night.—A layout scheme of the sight had been received from the allotment association.—Receipt of letter from LCC regarding requirements for fitting hanging baskets to lighting columns.—BDC had installed a new litter bin at the Vicarage lane bus stop.

The next four meetings of Council take place on **Thursday 20th March, 17th April, 15th May and 19th June 2008**

E-mail:WhetstonePC@whetstone.org.uk Tel: Leicester (0116) 2751987 Fax: Leicester (0116) 2753395

The office is open Monday to Thursday 9am-4pm and Friday 9am-1pm (an answer machine is in operation at all other times)

YOUR ELECTED DISTRICT and COUNTY COUNCILLORS

District Councillor	John Kenney	100 Spinney Halt, Whetstone	2864508 Whetstone North
District Councillor	Alan Tanner	White Barn Farm, Cosby	2841596 Whetstone South
District Councillor	Janet Forey	7 Lady Leys, Cosby	2752363 Whetstone South
District Councillor	Karl Coles	96 Enderby Road, Whetstone	2774138 Whetstone North
County Councillor	David Jennings	122 Station Road, Countesthorpe	2774263

WHETSTONE CRIME AND DISORDER MEETING

The Whetstone Crime and Disorder meeting takes place at least once a quarter. Representatives from Community Groups, Blaby District Council, Police, District Councillors and Parish Councillors are, subject to availability, invited to attend an open invitation is extended to all parishioners. The last meeting took place on Thursday 24th January, discussion centred around anti social behaviour in the village particularly on Brook Street, Bridge Way and High Street and the actions taken and those actions that are available. A copy of the minutes are available on the Whetstone Parish Council website—www.whetstonepc.org.uk— or can be obtained from the Parish Council offices.

The next meeting will be on **Wednesday 9th April, 2008 7pm at Whetstone Parish Council, Council Offices, Cemetery Road, Whetstone**

Please, if you have an issue, want to know what is happening and wish to speak to the relevant bodies do attend. We can only solve these matters if we all work together as a community.

Of course if you have an immediate problem, do not wait for the meeting—report the matter to the relevant authority as outlined on the back pages of this publication.

CONTACT

WHO DO I CONTACT ?

Dog Nuisance/Pot Holes/Blocked Footpaths/Blocked Drains/Litter/Graffiti/Hire a Room/Council Tax/
Anti Social Behaviour/Criminal Damage

We are always pleased to have contact with parishioners at the Parish Council Offices and only too happy to assist with any enquiries. However, it is more efficient and reliable if Parishioners contact direct the relevant bodies who specifically deal with many of the problems, mentioned above.

Air Quality

Pollution control & nuisance

Bonfires/Industrial Pollution/

Smoke/Vehicle emissions/

Agricultural odours

T: Blaby District Council 0116 272 7555

Allotments

For Whetstone

T: Mrs. Jackson 0116 286 1928

Anti-Social Behaviour

T: Blaby District Council 0116 272 7677

Bus Shelters

To report repairs/damage to bus shelters

T: Blaby District Council 0116 272 7684

Car Parking Regulation

T: Blaby District Council 0116 272 7555

Cemetery and Churchyard Whetstone

T: Whetstone Parish Council 0116 275 1987

Conservation

Listed Buildings - Trees

T: Blaby District Council 0116 272 7705

Contaminated Land/Land Pollution

T: Blaby District Council 0116 272 7555

Council Tax

Billing and collection of Council Tax and National Non Domestic Rates/Business Rates

T: Blaby District Council 0116 272 7530

Dog Warden Service

Fouling, strays, lost dogs, dog ID/micro chipping

T: 0116 272 7555

Dog Waste Bins

Damaged

T: Whetstone Parish Council 0116 275 1987

Drains (Highway)

Blocked/Damaged

T: Leicestershire County Highways 01455 283341

Fly Tipping/Dumped Rubbish/Fly Posting

Complaints/Removal

T: Blaby District Council 0116 272 7555

Graffiti/Vandalism

T: Blaby District Council 0116 272 7555

Highway Surfacing

T: Leicestershire County Highways 0800 6262 03

Litter Bins

T: Blaby District Council 272 7555

Litter/Glass on Footpaths, Alleyways, Streets, Open Land

T: Blaby District Council 272 7618

Lighting Columns

Not working/broken

T: Leicestershire County Highways 0800 6262 03

Memorial Hall Whetstone—Room Hire

T: Mrs. Norton 0116 286 2948

Noise Nuisance

Industrial, agricultural, neighbours, barking dogs, alarms

T: Blaby District Council 0116 272 7555

Oliver Park—Whetstone

Any problems

T: Whetstone Parish Council 0116 2751987

Parish Centre Whetstone—Room Hire

T: Mrs. Lawrence 0116 277 0311

Pests and Pest Control

Advice and treatment— rodents, wasps & Insects.

T: Blaby District Council 0116 272 7555

Planning Applications/Enforcement

T: Blaby District Council 0116 272 7705

Pot Holes

T: Leicestershire County Highways 0800 6262 03

Public Footpaths

Obstructions

T: Leicestershire County Council 01858 821 063

Street Name Plates/Repairs

Report damaged street name plates

T: Blaby District Council 0116 272 7633

Tip—Whetstone

T: Leicestershire County Council 0116 286 2074

Trinity Road Recreation Ground

Ground Problems

T: Blaby District Council 0116 272 7618

Play Equipment

T: Whetstone Parish Council 0116 2751987

Warwick Road Recreation Ground

Any Problems

T: Whetstone Parish Council 0116 2751987

Whetstone Parish Council—Room Hire

T: Whetstone Parish Council 0116 275 1987

The main ones are listed for more information and links
Visit our website: www.whetstonepc.org.uk

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



Please

do not attempt to buy alcohol on behalf of under 18s. It's a crime.

ts institute ALMR Association of Councils

YOU COULD RECEIVE AN £80 ON-THE-SPOT FINE

or end up in court and be fined up to £5000.

NEW DIRECTION Team
Drug/Alcohol advice and support for young people in
Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland
96 New Walk, Leicester, LE1 7EA
Tel: 0116 222 9529

YOGA CLASS

Hatha Yoga class, Tuesday evenings from 7.30 - 8.45pm in the Edward Wright Room, Whetstone Parish Council. Hatha Yoga is perhaps the best known form of yoga in the Western world, and is suitable for all ages, regardless of your flexibility and fitness level!

Some of the benefits of practising yoga include: relaxation, stress reduction, better posture and alignment, helping with conditions like lower back pain, increased muscular strength, and in time - better all round flexibility.

For more information please feel free to contact Nic Appleton on 07882 284564"

The next editions of "Duckpaddle" will be delivered on Friday 27th June—Friday 19th September—Friday 12th December, 2008
If you wish to submit an article for inclusion (No Commercial advertising) subject to approval by Council, please do so no later than Friday 13th June—Friday 5th September—Friday 28th November, 2008
by post to Whetstone Parish Council, Council Offices, Cemetery Road, Whetstone, LE8 6LL
by E.mail: whetstonepc@whetstone.org.uk



Beat Officer Pc Nick Ward

CRIME AND DISORDER



CSO Teresa Frain



Beat Officer Pc Nick Taylor

"PEDAL POWER"

Pc Nick Taylor

Pc Nick Taylor writes this issues article whilst Pc Nick Ward takes a well earned vacation

Easter greetings parishioners. Policing issues for Whetstone are the subject of this article. As I am sure you will be aware Anti social behaviour has again manifested itself in the village after a quieter period over Christmas and New Year. This being of a particular issue on Friday evenings. Over the past two to three weekends we have noted often large numbers of youths descending on the village from other areas. Under age drinking, intimidation and general anti social behaviour has been noted. The policing response has, where resources permitted, led to zero tolerance policing. Each week, names are passed to Blaby District Council Community Safety Team, alcohol has been confiscated and the antics of the minority of youths intent on causing disturbance have been caught on camcorder. Where appropriate Fixed penalty notices have been issued and drunk, under age youths have been taken home to parents. Also arrests have been made and new dispersal powers utilised.

Because of the above we are carrying over our previous priority of ASB in the village to the next 6 month period. In addition a new priority for the village has been identified— which is giving attention to the A426 Blaby By Pass underpass linking College Road to Park Road Blaby. This area has been subject to graffiti, under age drinking and intimidation of pedestrians using it. Also by liaising with the County Council the underpass has been re-painted, though we have noted new graffiti tags have appeared. These tags are being identified and arrests are to be made. The message is clear, graffiti will not be tolerated as this is criminal damage.

I would ask parents whose teenagers are to be on the streets of Whetstone during the evenings to be mindful of these issues and ensure they are suitably advised on the possible repercussions of causing anti social behaviour and consuming alcohol.

After all we are trying to make the village safer, quieter for all concerned including the youths, whose behaviour is judged by the small minority of trouble causers.

I am also pleased to announce we are now in receipt of our new Police Mountain bikes, jointly funded by yourselves and the parishioners of Blaby and Glen Parva. These will now be utilised for patrolling the village taking the village back to the days of the village Bobby on his bike.

So remember when you see us around Whetsone, if you shout "ON YOUR BIKE", we will not take offence.

Editor's Footnote

Apologies that photographs of the beat officers and PCSO receiving the bikes were not available for this edition of Duckpaddle.

PC Ward, PC Taylor and CSO Teresa Frain are contactable on 0116 2485675 collar number 1716, 0845 and 6111 respectively.

General switchboard to report non emergency 222222 id. No. 1716, 0845 and 6111 respectively Email address for Blaby Local Policing Unit blaby.lpu@leicestershire.pnn.co.uk

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

Enquires about parking enforcement in Blaby District should be directed to John Wells or David Knight at Blaby District Council tele: 0116 272 7545

WHETSTONE CRIME FIGURES

<u>Offence</u>	25/10/07—24/01/08	25/10/06—24/10/07
Burg/Dwelling	1	3
Burg/OTD	5	2
Theft M.V	3	1
Theft from M.V	6	7
Damage to M.V	6	8
Theft Stores	0	4
Damage	8	23
Theft Cycle	0	1
Robbery	1	1
Pub/Order	0	1
Drugs	2	6

If you have information about any crime, phone



0800 555 111

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

Whetstone Parish Council
Council Offices
Cemetery Road
Whetstone
Leicester LE8 6LL

Telephone: (0116) 2751987
Fax: (0116) 2753395

E. mail: whetstonepc@whetstone.org.uk

