



# The Village Link

Volume 2 • Issue 1

SPRING 2010

**KEEPING OUR VILLAGES SPECIAL!**

## The Precept – Balancing the Books

### The Parish Council has now set the 2010/2011 budget.

The budget covers the day-to-day expenditure on services such as grounds maintenance; playground upkeep, litter and dog waste collections as well as the running costs of the Parish office and staff. It also sets out any savings or monies the Council holds in reserve.

When originally formed from the precursor Parish in 2009 the first budget was constructed so that the reserves (lump sums of money the Parish had received and saved over time) would go towards the funding of the day-to-day expenditure described above.

However this type of funding arrangement has a limited life span

as once the reserves are all spent the Council would have insufficient funds to pay for the services it provides.

Some Parishes have got themselves into serious financial difficulties by failing to set a sustainable budget, this was a situation the Council was not prepared to risk happening.

To avoid future budget difficulties the Council took a unanimous decision to balance the books by increasing the local precept (the precept is the money the Council receives from the Council Tax collection each year).

The 2010/2011 precept now covers the full running costs of your Parish Council and means the budget deficit which was previously paid from reserves has been eliminated.

So what happens to the reserves? The Parish has to keep a certain level of money in reserve for unforeseen expenditure but is currently identifying any remaining for suitable local projects.

Such projects will be to make improvements to the local area and the Council will be including these in the new Parish Plan which

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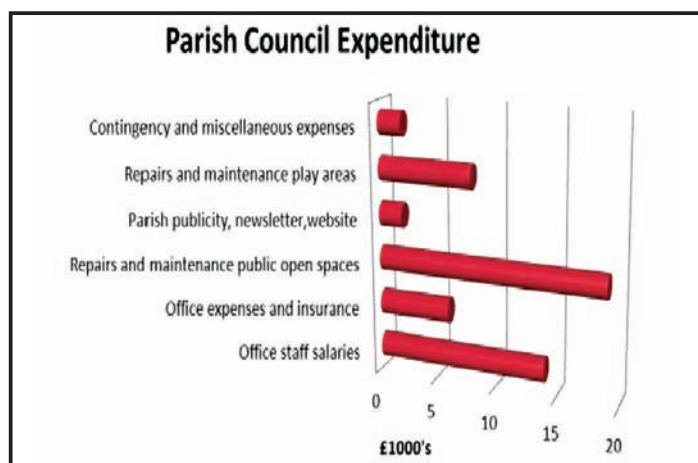
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is being prepared. The Council welcomes ideas for such projects from residents in the Parish.

A breakdown of where the money goes is set out in the chart included.

**Councillor Mike Wilcox  
Chairman of the Council**



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Common Lane, **Fradley**

# Local News

## Fradley

### New Youth and Community Hall Fradley

The Youth and Community Hall project is being managed by a group of volunteers led by Owen Pontin which came into place in September 2009.

At a recent meeting with Lichfield District Council who are providing help and support for the building of the hall a number of key steps were seen as critical to realising this important project:

Firstly the volunteers need to form a limited company, which will eventually and hopefully become a charitable trust. This step is seen as a way that should allow the additional funding needed to build the hall to be accessed. There is currently a shortfall of £66,000 needed to complete the funding of the building works.

The Parish Council has already given the project a major injection of funds to the value of £165,000 on condition that the District Council and the Volunteers have an adequate and sustainable plan to build and sustain this facility in Fradley.

The Parish Council is also facilitating the project through a favourable and long lease for the land on which the hall will be built, this lease can only be completed once the volunteers have become a legally recognised organisation.

Secondly the volunteers are appealing for more people to come forward to support them in their work to raise money to complete the project or lend a hand with the work of the group, so if you can help in any way possible with this project then please contact Owen Pontin on 01283-790237 or the Parish Clerk, Clive Bennett on 01543-444233

### Common Lane Fradley - Traffic Management Update

Parking up at certain times over the day of HGVs continues to disrupt the traffic flow along Common Lane in Fradley.

The highway authority responsible, Staffordshire County Council have been subject to a succession of complaints from the Parish Council to get a solution in place to prevent

parking and the associated damage this causes to the verges as well as the frustration and risks it poses to other road uses, particularly at peak times in the day.

The latest information the Parish has is that the County Council have met with the police to find what they believe to be a sustainable solution to this long standing and ongoing problem – the outcome of the meeting is still not known but when it is the Parish Council hope it is the right one.

### Enforcement served at Fradley Restaurant

Following a number of complaints over planning and noise infringements at the Christos Restaurant on the A38 near Fradley the Parish Council has been in contact with Lichfield District Council to see what can be done. Lichfield District has now served an enforcement notice and are taking steps to get the restaurant to comply with the rules.

### BREAKING NEWS ITEMS Parish Plan

Breaking news is that the Council are about to commit to the production of a plan for the future of Fradley and Streethay, anyone interested in playing a part please contact the Parish Clerk, Clive Bennett on 01543 444233 Further details will be circulated as the plan process begins but the Council is keen to provide the opportunity for all residents to have a say on the future of the area.

### Statfold Lane Fradley

The large green space we enjoy here is to benefit from some funding. To improve appearance and further enjoyment of this amenity the Parish is considering some new benches so walkers can enjoy the view and rest their legs as well as some new planting schemes. Any other ideas welcome please contact the Parish Clerk, Clive Bennett on 01543 444233.

### CCTV to be considered – Fradley Skate Park

The Parish Council is to explore the introduction of CCTV at the skate park in an effort to prevent the continued damage that has been caused to facilities here, if approved CCTV should be established on this

site before the end of the year, so vandals beware!

## Streethay

### Additional Funds for Streethay

Lichfield District Council (LDC) recently advised this Parish Council that indexation relating to Streethay's S106 funds has resulted in an additional £8,000 being available to spend in Streethay and that this money has to be spent by July 2010. LDC advised that the money can only be used for the provision of recreational and community facilities within the immediate area and serving the development (the funds come from the Countrywide Homes Development). The Parish Council was keen not to lose this money and has submitted a list of potential options to LDC for them to price up. The options put forward are as follows:

▶ A kissing gate and path access to the play area – an informal access point to the play area has been established through a hole in the hedge adjacent to Burton Road at the Meadow Croft end of the play area. At the recent annual inspection of the play area by the authorities it was suggested that this access be formalised. It will require the removal of some of the hedge and surfacing of the area of the play area behind the whirlwind in the bottom corner to provide a path.

▶ A low fence across the back of the play area close to the houses in Meadow View. The open access at this end of the play area gave the inspector some concern as there is nothing to prevent small children leaving the play area – other than parents chasing after their children.

▶ Replanting of shrubs at Bailie Close and improvements to the Green including the construction of a small fence and signs to prevent car parking on the green at the bottom of the road.

▶ Bus Stop - Removing concrete from old access to Dyott Close and planting of hedgerow.

At present we do not have costs for all of the above works so cannot guarantee that all four options are viable for the £8000. We will keep you informed of progress.

## Police Officers and Contact Details

### Fradley (Burton & District NPU)

**Sgt. David Holroyd 3927**

david.holroyd@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk

**PC David Griffiths 4457**

david.griffiths@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk

**PCSO Tracy Horton**

tracy.horton@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk

### Streethay (Lichfield)

**PC Richard Allsopp**

richard.allsopp@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk

### Telephone Numbers

**Non emergency 0300 123 4455**

**In an emergency always dial 999**

*Police Open Days 15/5/10 outside the Post Office 4/7/10 at the Stirling centre, both 2-4 pm.*



**PC David Griffiths**



**PCSO Tracy Horton**

As the section of route through Streethay will be on a viaduct, a new under bridge will be required for the A5127 Burton Road as you enter Streethay from Lichfield with road diversions in place during construction. Essentially, during construction Streethay will be blocked off from Lichfield. In addition to all the obvious blight which this will cause Streethay residents, Lichfield is likely to lose its rail link to London as in order to run high speed trains on the existing West Coast Mainline between Manchester and London, trains will no longer stop of Lichfield Trent Valley. Residents will be expected to access rail links to the capital via Birmingham stations increasing the existing journey time to London.

On 11th March, Lord Adonis (the perpetrator of the scheme) launched a consultation on an Exceptional Hardship Scheme (EHS) to protect the interests of residential owner-occupiers of properties which may be affected by the preferred route option who can demonstrate that they have an urgent need to sell their property. This consultation runs until 20th May 2010 and a decision as to whether to launch the EHS will be made shortly after wards. You can respond to this consultation by writing to:

High Speed Two Ltd – Exceptional Hardship Scheme Consultation

55 Victoria Street

London

SW1H 0EU

Or by e-mail to

EHSconsultation@hs2.gsi.gov.uk

Public consultation on the preferred route will begin in the Autumn 2010 with the decision whether to proceed and the proposed route decided in 2011. Further consultation on the detailed design is expected in 2013 with construction starting in 2019. We will keep you informed providing details of how to make representations when they become available. More information can be found on [www.dft.gov.uk/highspeedrail](http://www.dft.gov.uk/highspeedrail)

## Local Issues and campaigns

### The Local Development Framework

Nothing to report and suspect that no further progress until after the election as councils are unable to consult during the purdah period (prior to an election). We will keep you informed, publishing an additional newsletter if events do not tie in with the parish newsletter release time tables. This parish council is in the process of obtaining Staffordshire County Council's Transport Appraisal of the Preferred Options Document which we will review in detail.

### Planning

The Parish Council has to be consulted on relevant planning applications. This ranges from residential and commercial development / improvement to very sensitive and controversial topics. The Council pays great attention to all these.

Residents will no doubt be aware that there are a considerable number of very large developments being proposed within our area which include a new settlement in Fradley, Local Development Framework housing allocations in Fradley and an enormous 850+ addition to Streethay.

### Proposed High Speed Rail Link to cut through Streethay!

You have no doubt seen reports both in the national and local media about the £30bn high speed rail network which the Government is proposing to build; £17bn of which to be spent on the section between the West Midlands and London. In March details of the recommended route option between London and the West Midlands for the 250mph trains were published. The plans show the proposed route carving up the local countryside travelling alongside Whittington Golf Course very close to Fulfen Farm, travelling through the Britannia Industrial Estate (through the Tippers site) and through Streethay between the Buffer Depot site (railway bridge on Burton Road) and the first houses along Burton Road as you enter Streethay from Lichfield. The plans show that the first house as you enter Streethay from Lichfield as being under permanent land requirements so it is likely that this property will be destroyed to make way for the line. The route then runs parallel with the West Coast Main Line across the field on which LDC are proposing to build 850 homes.



# Fradley and Streethay Parish Council Useful Contact Information

## Parish Council Meeting Dates

<b>2010</b> <i>All meetings are normally at the Fradley Village Hall. 7 pm for viewing of planning applications with the meeting starting at 7.30 pm prompt.</i>	January 19th	February 16th	March 16th	April 20th
	April 27th Parish Assembly	May 18th Annual Meeting* followed by the Parish Council Meeting		June 15th
	July 20th	August 17th (Subject to Change)	September 14th	October 19th
	November 16th	December 21st		
<b>2011</b>	January TBC	February TBC	March TBC	

## Your Parish Councillors Streethay Ward



**Fiona Lever**  
01543 301450



**Alan Cope**  
01543 252198



**Vice Chairman Harry Warburton**  
01543 257900

## Fradley Ward



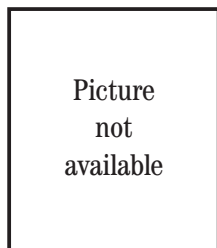
**Chair of the Council Michael Wilcox**  
01283 791761



**Derick Cross**  
01543 444119



**Simon Lee**  
01283 792442



Picture not available

**Lynn Beaumont**  
01283 791042



**Philip Taylor**  
01543 444963

## The Parish Clerk



**Clive Bennett - Parish Council Clerk**  
Fradley and Streethay Parish Council  
Marketing Suite, Wellington Crescent,  
Fradley Park, Lichfield. WS13 8RZ  
Telephone: 01543 444233 Mobile 07825 329037  
Clerk@fradleyandstreethaypc.org  
**Jean Burton is our Responsible Financial Officer**

**Parish Website: [www.fradleyandstreethaypc.org](http://www.fradleyandstreethaypc.org)**

### District Council

Alrewas and Fradley Ward  
Alrewas and Fradley Ward  
Alrewas and Fradley Ward  
Whittington and Streethay Ward  
Whittington and Streethay Ward

### County Council

Michael Wilcox 01283 791761  
Paul Hogan 01283 790263  
Margaret Stanhope 01283 790215  
Alan White 07708 696958  
Robert Strachan 07793 838432  
Janet Eagland 01543 257102

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