



A sunny Sunday in Astbury!!

After another fantastic display of daffodils earlier in the year, the village green was allowed to 'rest' before a group of villagers spent a weekend getting things back to normal. Looking at this photo, young Grace Beardmore appears to be doing more than her fair share with that heavy wheelbarrow!!! We loved the 'team spirit' approach to keeping the village tidy!

Welcome...

Our new Rector, Rev. Jonathon Sharples, has finally arrived and is in residence in the rectory! St Mary's church was packed as the Bishop of Stockport instituted Jonathon and the Archdeacon of Macclesfield performed the induction. We welcome him and his family to the parish! We hope to have a full 'interview' with Jonathon next time, discussing his plans!



...and goodbye...

We were sad to learn our good friend Michelle Padmos will be leaving the PC due to work and family commitments. During her time with us, Michelle has focussed on social matters, and in particular crime prevention, and we are indebted to her for her contribution & we'll miss her. Mel Lawton will take over representing us at Police Forum meetings.

This leaves a vacancy for a councillor, so please do let us know quickly if you are interested in joining us!



Speed Limits - Update



Sadly, we have to report the second phase of a speed limit review of all 'A' and 'B' roads in this part of Cheshire has been 'postponed' due to lack of funding...we would have hoped this would have resulted in changes to the speed limit from Magpie Bank to Childs Lane...however, there is still the possibility of 'hard islands' being placed along the section of the A34 around Astbury Garden Centre, where overtaking on the current chevrons has caused a number of accidents. We'll continue to push for such actions to be taken. One piece of good news – a possible extension to the 30mph limit along Peel Lane to Dodds Lane **will** be considered after the traffic lights have been installed on the bridge...new road signs and markings will be part of the project (which has been delayed!)

We are also considering funding one (or more) radar-operated speed displays which 'warn' drivers that they have been speeding. These units also record average speeds and a wealth of other data which we could use as evidence to support our requests for stronger actions. The unit(s) can be moved around the parish at regular intervals to maximise impact.



Masterminds? Well, not quite...

After all 16 rounds of the Cheshire Village Quiz, we didn't totally disgrace ourselves! From the 16 villages competing, we came a creditable 9th place, and we'd like to thank everyone who travelled to the corners of the county to uphold the good name of Astbury! Sometimes, just finding the venue was a challenge in itself! Special thanks to Nick, our team captain!

Have your say..

At our next meeting on November 11th, we will be discussing our PC budget for the next financial year...if you'd like to have your say about how we spend your money, come along or contact Charlie!!

Roses are red..white..and..

To brighten up the kerbside behind the bench on the A34, we are planting some roses, to celebrate St Georges day!

Updates...and progress at last!!

At every meeting, we review in excess of 30 items which we are 'pursuing' on behalf of the parish...from requests to cut hedges and repair roads and paths to cleaning road signs and reporting tipping. We never give up – the oldest item on our 'hit list' is a request to renew fencing and road edging on Wharf Lane (5 years) with replacing missing weight restriction signs on Peel Drive in second place at 3 years. However, with the promise of renewed support from Cheshire East Councillor Andrew Thwaite, we've made some progress...here are a few updates....

- After 12 months pressure, the 'dropped' kerb by the Egerton Arms will be repaired "in the next few weeks"
- We purchased some bollards, to be placed near the 'pinch' in the road between the pub and the church, some time ago – these have now been installed! This should stop hasty drivers mounting the kerb, slow traffic down and should reduce the chance of an accident
- Rusty railings at the end of Watery Lane need repainting – we've 'struck a deal' where we will agree to paint them, if the Highways dept repair them first!

• Poor road surfaces under the aqueduct on Watery Lane cannot be fully repaired until British Waterways repair the leaking bridge first! However, the worst areas will be 'patched' and potholes filled.

• Assorted road surface repairs have been requested & are awaiting...funding...but, we've been promised more filling & patching immediately

• The planning application for football pitches at 'The Holding' on Watery Lane has resurfaced, and we have been asked to speak at the appeal hearing on behalf of the parish. Whilst opposing this plan, we will also request the new East Cheshire Council consider the wider issue for this and sports and youth clubs in the area.

• We remain concerned about the increase in tipping in the area – especially around Limekiln. PLEASE be vigilant & make a note of the registration plates of any vehicle you notice – we'll do the rest!

• We will shortly be installing new noticeboards for our Newbold and Brownlow friends!

• We are funding restoration of the war memorial and re-treating of the benches in the village and by the A34



Astbury Christmas cards!

Following a number of requests, we have produced an Astbury Christmas card, using the photo Andy took last year of the village green looking very festive! You may even notice the protective railings around the tree have been cleverly removed!! All profits will go to local charities, and cards (with envelopes) are now on sale at £5 for 10 cards from the following outlets, to whom we are grateful:

- Congleton Tourist Information Centre (Town Hall)
- Congleton Garden Centre (Moss Road)
- Astbury Pigeon Supplies (Bent Lane Farm)
- The Egerton Arms, Horseshoe Inn & Brownlow Inn

If you have any problems – just call Andy!

Who Are We?

Roger Sutton 01260 273677

Charles Kennerly 01260 272205

Mel Lawton 01260 278384

Peter Cliff 01260 278641

Andy Banks 01260 281194

Terry Depledge 01260 271058

Nick Sharman 01260 271374

Rob Lomas 01260 272061

Lindis Pattison-Tadman 01260 27004

Jane Shelmerdine 01260 279870

Dave Roberts 01260 275010

Chairman : John Carter 01260 275828

Clerk : Charlie Pointon : 01260 274891

We meet in the Astbury Village Hall on the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 7.30pm. Please feel free to come along!

Item for the next newsletter, or any comments? Contact Andy Banks. Read reports of our meetings in 'The Chronicle' and remember our website – www.astbury-parish.org.uk. Finally, contact us via e-mail at astcfp@tesco.net.