

Newsletter

Xmas 2017



Have Your Say

Every year, the Parish Council sets aside a small amount of money to spend for the benefit of the local community. There is some unspent cash and we are now looking for any ideas from residents on how we can best use this money.

It can be anything that will enhance our village, such as the local heritage, our environment, security, local economy, or just the well-being of our community. Anything that will benefit Coughton.

Do not think about the cost, just think about the ideas. If it's a good one, and we don't have enough in the bank then we will do our best to find it.

It is open to all, young and old, and whether you have lived here for one month or forty years. We want to hear from you, and ... there may be a prize available for the best idea.

You can post your ideas directly to the clerk at the above address or go to the contact page on our website and send your ideas to us online.

Clerk: Joy Pegrum • 37 Westbourne • Honeybourne • Evesham • WR11 7PT

☎: 01386 830995

email: clerk@coughton.plus.com

Website: www.coughtonpc.org.uk



Flood, snow, ice, etc.

We have been lucky over the last few winters, but that could all change. For several years, Karen and Den have been keeping the drainage authorities on their toes (Severn Trent for the foul drains, and Warks County Council for the storm drains) by chasing them for reports on the drainage systems and making the necessary repairs.

Warks County Council is also responsible for keeping the main roads free of ice. The grit bins that are placed in strategic locations around the village should all be topped up with rock salt in preparation for the winter. Residents are welcome to help out with shovels to spread the salt when required, but please use it sparingly.

❄
Coughton Parish Council
wishes everyone in the
village a Happy
Christmas and a Safe and
Peaceful New Year
❄

Defibrillator

The parish council is looking into acquiring a defibrillator. It will require a suitable location that is accessible to people in the village, and close to a mains power supply (to keep the battery charged). Any offers from residents to have this piece of life-saving equipment located on an outside wall will be warmly welcomed. The Parish Council will pay for the installation cost.

Neighbourhood Watch

In case you have missed the notice from the, Rural Crime Officer, Bob Church has issued the following alert:

For the last two years the cemetery at Bidford on Avon has had up to 70 Christmas wreaths stolen each year, it is thought that they may then be sold on at various markets. This year the residents are being advised to delay putting the wreaths on graves until Christmas Eve.



The Coughton Parish Council Website

The address of the village website is www.coughtonpc.org.uk We try to keep this lively and up to date with local news, announcements, and information. If you would like to advertise your business on the website please go to the contact page and let our clerk know.

Any ideas for extending the use of the website, perhaps for a “wanted items” page, lost and found, local freebay, etc. please let the clerk know.

Planning Matters

All applications for development within the village, (or that may affect the village) are posted onto our website. Residents are free to comment on these directly to the planning department at Stratford or you can raise these with the clerk. The parish council discuss all applications and submit our agreed response to Stratford District Council. We will always support what is in the future best interests of the village. The outcome of applications are also posted onto the website

Coughton Ford

This year we were fortunate to receive a grant from the County Councillor’s Fund that allowed us to cut out a large number of dead trees, overgrown saplings, provide a litter bin, and to make the footpaths safer. It has also given the volunteer group more confidence in keeping the area under control. The Parish Council is now looking at ways to encourage more people to enjoy this particularly beautiful part of our village.

School Car Park – Some Good news!

As mentioned in our newsletter, eighteen months ago, we understood that a scheme had been agreed between the County Council and the landowners, Thomas White Charities. Unfortunately this did not proceed any further as the huge cost of providing vehicle access off the A435 in addition to the car park construction could not be met by Warwickshire County Council. All parties, including the parish council, recognised the increasing importance of finding a solution to the serious school traffic problem.

We are pleased to report that Warwickshire County council is considering a proposal from Thomas White for them to develop and fund the project, and leasing back to the school. A suitable access point can be found off Coughton Lane below the former railway bridge. This now seems to be the only hope for both the village and the school. We will share the full details as soon as they been developed and are available.

A Highways Officer has since been looking into other measures to help residents and is considering a number of proposals. These include:

- Make good the footpath from Studley to Alcester on the A435.
- Extend the zig-zags to prevent cars creating a 'dog leg' (there was a recent collision there).
- Investigate the speed cameras in the village and ensuring that those BOTH work and are active.
- Improve the signage within the village (e.g. the school sign on Coughton Lane that is partially covered)
- Consider access from the Old School to Coughton Lane along the former footpath to avoid children having to use the A435 from Sambourne Lane.