



BARNT GREEN PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2007



Issue No.14

www.barntgreen.org.uk

Julie Kirkbride MP makes her way down Hewell Road in an open cockpit plane on her way to officially open the 2007 Barnt Green Festival

Chairman's Introduction

This is my first newsletter report as your new chairman. I would like to thank my predecessor Elaine Buckett for all her hard work and dedication over the last five years.

I am pleased to report that we now have a full complement of councillors. Our newest councillors are David Harding, David Gilburn, Rick Main and our youngest member Martin Peyton. I am delighted they have joined the council and are approaching their duties with enthusiasm.

David Gilburn and David Harding will be looking after our highways and pavements as far as they are allowed under the guidance of Worcestershire County Council. They have already written a most comprehensive report about problem areas which has been presented to the County Council and we are now awaiting their response regarding our recommendations. Rick Main will be leading our efforts on environmental issues and has prepared a strategy document for the council based on the Parish Plan. This will help us to benchmark our efforts against other similar villages and allow us to justify any expenditure needed. Martin Peyton will be helping Susan Whitehand to set up a Youth Council for the village as stated in the Parish Plan. This is an important initiative by the Parish to engage more young citizens with their community.

The Barnt Green Festival on Saturday 23rd June was a great success thanks to the efforts of Diane Carr and her committee. I am sure all those who enjoyed the day and especially me would like to thank Diane for her hard work and enthusiasm.

Judith Jagger



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Parish Council Elections

The Parish Council election on May 3rd was uncontested, with seven candidates standing for the eight available places. The Parish Council has since co-opted Martin Peyton onto the council so we are now up to full strength. See below for details of our two new councillors. Full contact details for all members of the Parish Council appear at the end of this newsletter.

Two New Councillors for Barnt Green

The Parish Council welcomes David Harding and Martin Peyton to its ranks. David is 59, married with two (grown up) children and one grand daughter. He has lived in and around Blackwell/Barnt Green for more than 25 years. He works part time as Chairman of Coventry Building Society and as a non-executive director of Enterprise Inns plc and has sat on several other plc Boards. He is also a local magistrate.

Martin Peyton (pictured above) is 23 years old and has been living in the local area for the past 15 years. He has been running a media company in Birmingham for the past

4 years and is an active member of the community. Keen to serve the Parish, he wishes to become heavily involved in the day to day issues that affect residents of Barnt Green.

He looks forward to meeting with you over the coming weeks and months to listen to your views and the direction that you think the council should be taking.

Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting was held on Wednesday May 2nd at the Parish Centre in Sandhills Road. The council was pleased to welcome Dr George Lord, leader of Worcestershire County Council, and Derek Prodger, cabinet member with responsibility for environment, to the meeting. After presentations from Parish Council chairman Elaine Buckett and executive officer Roger Westbury, the meeting was opened to questions and Dr Lord and Mr Prodger answered a number of queries relating to parking, traffic calming and highways repairs.

Barnt Green Festival

The 2007 Barnt Green Festival was a great success with more than 1000 people attending the event. The Festival was officially opened by our local MP Julie Kirkbride, who arrived in style in an open cockpit plane. There was entertainment throughout the afternoon, and plenty of food available for hungry festival visitors.

The event will have raised more than £2000 which will be split between the Scouts and Guides Appeal for funds for a new scout hut, and Acorns Hospice.

Diane Carr, chairman of the Festival Organising Committee, said: "I would like to thank everyone who supported the Festival especially local traders and businesses who provided raffle prizes, sold raffle tickets,



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took stalls at the event and laid on food. Also the Baptist Church, Parish Centre and Friends Meeting House who provided tables, chairs and power. Without their help and support the Festival would not have been the success it undoubtedly was.”

Neighbourhood Watch

The Neighbourhood Watch meeting held on May 22 was very well attended and all present agreed to act as co-ordinators. Neighbourhood Watch stickers will be available shortly for residents and traders to display.

It is very encouraging to see such strong support for the scheme, which was a key finding from the Parish Plan research.

Adopt a Station Scheme for Barnt Green

There are several people interested in improving the appearance of Barnt Green station and are setting up the BARNT GREEN STATION GROUP (BGS) to be registered in the Central Trains “Adopt a Station” scheme. The need to improve the Station’s appearance is also recognised by the Parish Council who will support the formation of the BGS. The Adopt a Station Scheme is operated by most train operators and it is expected that Govia, who take over from Central Trains in November, will continue to support this scheme.

The BGS will be involved with the train operator in gardening, landscaping, removing graffiti and generally enhancing the appearance of the station. It should act as an activity based pressure group that should improve the appearance of one of the main assets of the Barnt Green community.

The BGS is looking for new members of any age who are interested in helping to make the station more attractive to the benefit of the community and all station users. Please contact the chairman John Jagger on 0121 445 2437 or the secretary Janet King on 0121 445 2802 if you want to take part

Parking at The Victoria

Sarah and John Knight, the landlords at The Victoria, have kindly confirmed to the Parish Council their agreement to continue to allow shoppers and patients for the doctors and dental surgeries to park on the bottom half of their car park. They urge all motorists taking advantage of this facility to leave the top rows of parking spaces free for pub customers. Failure to adhere to this request could result in the installation of a barrier on the car park, a situation which Sarah and John and the council are keen to avoid.

Sport

Barnt Green Spartak had another successful season in the Midland Combination League - Premier Division. After an outstanding start to their league campaign with 7 wins from 7 games they faltered mid-season as the squad went through a number of enforced changes. However, a substantially new squad finished the season in the way the 'old' one had started, winning **two** cups and finishing mid-table.

The cup finals won were as follows:

Smedley Crooke Charity Cup

Final 19 April 2007 at Bromsgrove Rovers Ground



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Barnt Green Spartak FC 5 v.
Wernley Athletic FC 2

Worcestershire Football Association Senior Urn

Final 2 May 2007 at Kidderminster
Harriers FC, Aggborough Stadium

Alvechurch FC [Midlands Alliance
League] 1 v. Barnt Green Spartak FC
2

[after extra time: 0-0 at FT]

Alvechurch are in a higher league than
Spartak which makes this win all the more
creditable.

After a year playing home games at Victoria
Park, Bromsgrove, Spartak will be returning
to the Alvechurch, Lye Meadow ground next
season. New fans are always welcome so
come and support your local team where
the real football is played - at grass roots!
An inexpensive and secure environment for
all the family.

County Comput@bus

The Comput@bus pictured on the car park
at The Victoria.

We are putting together a third computer
course for the autumn and still have places
available. If anyone is interested in
attending, please contact the executive
officer.

Aerial Photographs of Barnt Green

Do you have an aerial photograph of the
village? The Parish Council is keen to get
copies of any suitable shots to assist with

the planning process. If you can help,
contact Cllr Susan Whitehand (tel 445 3530,
e-mail J.W.R.Whitehand@bham.ac.uk)
who will arrange to take copies.

Date for your diary....

Monday July 23rd

Parish Council Meeting

Parish Council Meetings

These are usually held on the last Monday in each month at the Parish Centre in
Sandhills Road at 7.00pm. The Parish Council does not meet in August or



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December. You are welcome to attend and observe Parish Council meetings, and an opportunity is given at each meeting for members of the public to speak.

How to Contact the Parish Council

If you would like to get in touch with the Parish Council about anything at all, please contact either one of your Parish Councillors or the Parish Executive Officer. Your Parish Councillors are:

Judith Jagger (Chairman)	0121 445 2437	chair@barntgreen.org.uk
David Gilburn (Vice chairman)	0121 445 1456	
Diane Carr	0121 445 1220	
Tom Gray	0121 445 4424	
David Harding		dah@daharding.co.uk
Rick Main	0121 445 3349	bgpcarchivist@barntgreen.org.uk
Martin Peyton	0121 453 7212	
Susan Whitehand	0121 445 3530	
Executive Officer: Roger Westbury	0121 447 7455	clerk@barntgreen.org.uk

Useful Telephone Numbers:

District Councillors:	County Councillor
Mrs Ann Doyle 0121 445 4184	Peter McDonald 0121 453 9267
Richard Deeming 0121 445 3114	

Anti-Social Behaviour Officer: 01527 881423

Police: 08457 444888. Local police contact PC 2138 Jayne Willetts Rubery Police station.

Hall Bookings: Parish Centre	Edna Whitehouse 445 4696
Baptist Church Hall	Beverley Bennett 445 1551
Friends Meeting House	Peter Wasteny 447 7355

If a copy in larger print or in Braille or an audio version is required, please contact the Executive Officer