



The Yew Tree

July 2013

Newsletter for Keele Parish Council

Keele Parish Councillors

Ann Abercrombie

Graham Bibby

Jane Corfield

John Downing

Duncan Hindmarch

Sue Hughes

Wenslie Naylor (Chair)

Val Newman (Vice-Chair)

Angela Studd

Robin Studd

Jane Tillier

Let Us Have Your Views on the Hawthorns/Barnes Development Plans on Display

**Tuesday 16th July from 4.30 to 8.00 pm
in Keele Village Hall**

The planning application for the Hawthorns/Barnes development has been submitted to the Borough Council, and before the Parish Council submits comments on the application we would like to hear your thoughts on the latest plans.

The plans will be on display in Keele Village Hall from 4.30 pm to 8.00 pm on Tuesday 16th July and one or more Parish Councillors will be there to talk to you and get your opinions

We want to make sure that everyone's views are represented so please try and find the time to come and look at the detailed plans.

Please drop in and make sure your voice is heard.

Keele Village Hall Management Committee

A new committee was elected at the Keele Village Hall Management Committee AGM in April, and they are very keen to increase the use that is made of the Village Hall. If you could use the Village Hall for a function or for regular events please contact Angela Studd, who is now the Lettings Agent. Please note the change of number at the bottom of this newsletter.

The Myth of the Dog Poo Fairy

Several Parish Councillors have been contacted about the persistent problem of dog owners not clearing up after their dogs. This is a particular problem by the school where children are likely to tread in it and carry it into the school on their shoes. There is a Borough Council rubbish bin by the school entrance and this can be used to deposit "poo bags", so there is no excuse for not clearing up if your dog fouls the pavement. Please show consideration to your neighbours and other residents of the Parish.

Quarry Bank Parking Proposals

The County Council have had all the feedback from the informal consultation, and although some requests were made to alter the proposals, the view is that these cannot be accommodated. The next step is a discussion with the local County Councillor, which will take place in September, and following this a report will be submitted to the Joint Parking Committee for the final decision on how the County Council proceed to the formal consultation. The formal consultation will take place during term time of the local village school and the university.

Fortunately both our Borough Councillors are now on the Joint Parking Committee, so hopefully



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they will be able to assist us, and push for a resolution to the parking problems in the village as a whole, not just along Quarry Bank Road.

Keele Allotments

The Keele allotment in the Walled Garden has been completed. There are eleven raised plots, each 10 x 1.5m. The plots were allocated following a draw last year, but the organisers would like to create a waiting list for when plots become available. Campus residents, Keele village residents, non-resident staff and students are all eligible to share a plot in the allotment. If you are interested please contact dalit.fischman@gmail.com with your name, email and telephone number by 20 August 2013.

Superfast Broadband

Staffordshire County Council have now signed a contract with BT to extend the “fibre” network across the county, which, when combined with the commercial rollout (BT and Virgin) will provide access to fibre broadband services to 97% of premises (approx 472,000) by 2016. 95% of the premises are expected to be able to access speeds of 24Mbps or more. In addition the project will ensure that everyone gets access to a minimum of 2Mbps by 2016. We will keep you updated as we get more information about the rollout.

Bus Stop Improvements

Work has continued on improving the bus stops across campus and new bus shelters have been erected at many of the bus stops. Some of the stops have been re-located by a few metres to allow for improved access to buses and for the cabling that will provide live bus information.

Road Works in the Village

Severn Trent is installing a water supply for the irrigation system that will provide water for the Yew Tree and help maintain it. Once this has been completed the unsightly barriers and holes around the village bus stop will be gone. Despite several site visits the County Council were not informed by Severn Trent that they would be installing 4 way lights, so we were unable to give residents any prior warning.

Plant Disease on Campus

Those of you that walk around the campus, especially through the woods behind Keele Hall, will have noticed that many of the rhododendrons have been cut back and burnt. This is due to the discovery of Phytophthora Ramorum and FERA (the Food and Environmental Research Agency) have served formal notice upon the University that the infected plant material must be destroyed on site.

Coal Bed Methane Extraction

At the May meeting the Parish Council received an informative presentation regarding Methane Coalbeds and drilling. This was organised by Keele University and representatives from IGAS (the company performing the drilling) and Staffordshire County Council (SCC) attended the meeting. Permission has been granted by SCC for the drilling to re-commence.

Parish Council Clerk Contact Details - Clerk.KeelePC@gmail.com

Don't forget that more details of events/activities within the Parish are available on the website www.keeleparish.org .

Phone Numbers to remember:

StreetScene: 01782 742500 or 615599 for out-of-hours emergencies

Non Emergency Police: 101 - Non Emergency Health Service: 111

Rural Runabout Booking Requests: 01782 751164

Village Hall Lettings: 01782 626372