



July 2011

The Yew Tree

Newsletter for Keele Parish Council

Keele Parish Councillors

Graham Bibby

John Downing

Duncan Hindmarch

Sue Hughes

Wenslie Naylor (Chair)

Val Newman

Lyn Skinner

Angela Studd

Robin Studd

Jane Tillier

Sue Wedgwood (Vice-Chair)

A new Parish Council has been appointed.

Following the call for new councillors sent out in May in an open letter to all houses in Keele, 11 residents volunteered for duty, and the full complement of 11 councillors was adopted. The first meeting of the new council was held on June 23 in the Community Room of the new cemetery. The Chair and Vice Chair of the council were agreed, and at the next meeting portfolio responsibilities will be assigned so you will know who to contact with any issues. In the meantime please contact any of the councillors.

All Parish Council Meetings begin with an OPEN FORUM when any resident can ask for any matter related to the Ward to be discussed by the Parish Council. So if you are concerned about anything please come along. The next meeting is on July 21st at 7 pm in the Cemetery Community Room.

Minutes of the meetings are posted in the Keele Parish Council Noticeboards (by the Post Box in the village, at the end of Quarry Bank and at the village hall).

Improving Communication

The council is concerned that the notice boards are not ideally located for many residents, especially those on the campus, so we hope to develop a website that we can use to keep residents informed of issues and activities. Any help/advice or tips would be greatly appreciated.

We also want to make sure that it is easy for residents to attend meetings, so we are trying to find the right venue. Unfortunately the village hall has a regular booking on Thursday evenings and is not available, so we are considering the school, the Hawthorns as well as the community room at the cemetery. If you have an opinion on where we should meet then please let one of the councillors know.

Reporting Problems

If you notice a problem in the parish such as flytipping, graffiti, potholes then draw it to the attention of your Borough and County Council. A quick way is to use www.fixmystreet.com. This will bring it directly to the attention of the appropriate authority.



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Issues Raised at the Parish Council meeting in June:

- There is an ongoing problem with hedges growing across footpaths, and forcing pedestrians into the road. Unfortunately this issue arises year after year and KPC (Keele Parish Council) is already pushing for the County Council to deal with this. In the first instance landowners are responsible for maintaining hedges which border public areas, and if the hedges have to be cut by local authorities a charge will be attached to the land year after year.
- The turning area on Highway Lane, which was built specifically to allow emergency vehicles to turn, is being used for private parking and car maintenance. This MUST be kept clear for ambulance and emergency vehicle use. New signs are to be installed by KPC making this clear.
- To reduce the large scale fly tipping in Hollywood and Haying Wood three lockable vehicle barriers, with access to the side for riders/cyclists, are to be installed. KPC will help to fund these.

Planning

- Keele University have appealed against the refusal of the hotel planning application. The application was refused by the Newcastle Borough Council as being too intrusive on the skyline and a source of major light pollution, as the proposed site is right on the main University roundabout and overlooks the valley. The appeal will be heard on July 21st at 10.00 in the Civic Offices in Newcastle, and is open to the public.

Councillor Contact Details

| | | <u>Phone</u> | <u>EmailAddress</u> |
|---------|-----------------------|--------------|------------------------------|
| Graham | Bibby | 01782 622574 | graham.bibby@gmail.com |
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| Robin | Studd | 01782 626372 | rstudd@btinternet.com |
| Jane | Tillier | 01782 639720 | jane@atherton-tillier.co.uk |
| Sue | Wedgwood (Vice Chair) | 01782 631297 | To be confirmed |

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

Village Hall Contact – Peggy Chaplin 627204