



# The Yew Tree

October 2013

Newsletter for Keele Parish Council

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## 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

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## **Hawthorns/Barnes Development Planning Committee Meeting Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> October at 7.00 pm in Newcastle Borough Council Offices**

The planning application for the Hawthorns/Barnes development is currently scheduled to go before the Planning Committee on the 29<sup>th</sup> October. The meetings are open to the public, and if you wish to attend you are advised to arrive at about 6.30 pm.

The Parish Council and the Borough Councillor are each allocated a 5 minute slot to express any planning comments and will be using these.

Keele University Students' Union have recently passed an emergency motion objecting to the plans and wish to retain student accommodation at Hawthorns.

It is still possible that the date could change, so if you plan to attend please check on the Parish website [www.keeleparish.org](http://www.keeleparish.org).

## **Another Proposal for More New Homes in Keele**

A company called Keele Homes is holding 2 public consultation meetings about their proposal to develop land close to the underground fire. The first consultation is in Keele Village Hall on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October, and the second in Silverdale Library on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October. The events will start with a presentation at 7 pm and run until 8.30 pm. The company have distributed leaflets inviting residents to attend, and Parish Councillors will be attending the events to hear your views.

## **Yew Tree and Bus Stop Area**

After persistent calls to Staffordshire County Council, the unsightly areas around the Yew Tree and the bus stop have finally been weeded, planted with crocus bulbs and turfed. The old notice board has been removed and the whole area looks much neater and tidier. The irrigation system for the Yew Tree has been drained to prevent it freezing over the winter.

## **Field Hedges**

At every Parish Council meeting we are made aware of issues regarding hedges encroaching on to pavements and making life difficult and dangerous for pedestrians. It is the responsibility of the landowner to cut the hedge and luckily most of the landowners respond quickly when we make them aware of a problem. It was therefore disappointing to hear from one of them of the irresponsible disposal of garden waste cuttings in a hedge. This is essentially fly tipping so if you see anyone doing this please report it to Streetscene.



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### Pavements

Derrick Huckfield (County Councillor) and David Greatbatch from the County Council came to Keele to see for themselves the extremely poor condition of many of the Parish pavements, and as a result an inspector will be coming out to identify the work that needs to be done. We were also informed that a system exists for members of the public to report pavements needing maintenance, and Keele had not been inspected as no reports had been received. If you are aware of any dangerous pavements you can report them online on the County Council website or call 0300 111 8000.

### Keele Community Plan

The Keele Community Plan Group has met several times since the initial public meeting in April. Information about community plans and specifically the Keele Community Plan Group is now available on the Keele Parish website, and agendas and minutes of the meetings are there too. If you would like to get involved or comment you can email [keelecommunitygroup@gmail.com](mailto:keelecommunitygroup@gmail.com). Consultation with residents and businesses is critical to the creation of a good plan, and the group will be dependent on your responses to questionnaires/surveys.

### Speed Limits in the Village

The Parish Council has been following up the request to extend the 30 mph speed limit beyond the centre of the village. It would appear that our previous County Councillor did not log the request with the Divisional Highways Programme. This has now been done and we will be pressing for it to be implemented. The request is for the following areas to be reduced to 30 mph:

- Station Road from The Hawthorns to the bypass
- A525 from Station Road down to the bridge
- Three Mile Lane at least as far as Lymes Road, but preferably down to the motorway services

### Refurbishment of Historic Lampposts

Several residents have requested that the Parish Council undertake renovation of the historic lamppost on Quarry Bank Road, near the corner of Church Bank. We are investigating ways of funding this

### A newsletter with no mention of dog fouling...

...would be unheard of! The Parish Council has asked the Borough Council if Keele can follow the example of other towns and cities and have the black litter bins labelled to say Litter AND dog waste. We have volunteered Keele as a trial area for the Borough to see if this is effective.

### If You Need to Park on Keele University Campus -

The Students' Union car park is now Pay and Display only. The machines are being updated so that it will be possible to pay £1 for up to 2 hours, rather than having to pay for half a day. This will be useful for those wanting more than 30 minutes.

### Parish Council Clerk Contact Details - [Clerk.KeelePC@gmail.com](mailto:Clerk.KeelePC@gmail.com)

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