

EARLSWOOD AND FORSHAW HEATH

RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION



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www.earlswood-forshawheath.org.uk

Newsletter January 2019

Dear resident, Happy and Peaceful New Year wishes from us.

As usual we have good news and bad news. Good news being difficult to come by we'll start with that.

Thanks to County Councillor Horner, and the Small Road Safety Scheme, we have secured funding for some road safety measures. A small group of residents have been working with us in achieving some grant money for improved and warning signage on The Common. Any pleas to Highways fall on deaf ears and we are constantly advised by them to find our own funding. More on this later. Having done the groundwork, we asked the Parish Council to submit grant applications. This arrangement works well, and we are grateful to the PC for their help and cooperation in this and other matters. To summarise, we secured, through the County Councillor's Grant fund, £8,000 for The Common, £6,000 for road safety measures in Forshaw Heath and £10,000 to make the Causeway a Clearway. The latter was proposed by the police and will enable the police to issue parking tickets which they couldn't do with yellow lines. The Clearway will mean no parking and gives the police the powers they need to move everybody on, including those parked up at night conducting "business". The Forshaw Heath grant is to improve, and reinstate, signage. One unfortunate resident has been fighting to get Highways to replace a missing sign and put a new hazard warning sign. In frustration he contacted us, and we're pleased to say that, hopefully, he will soon no longer have to suffer vehicles coming off the M42, driving too fast, and crashing into his garden. This happened three times within 16 months, all attended by the emergency services. Highways wouldn't pay for any measures and yet again we had to go through the grant fund. Highways said that perhaps we could crowd fund to pay for road safety measures. This is where we are now, budgets have been cut in order to fund adult and child social care. Cllr. Horner has been warning us about this and now we are seeing the reality. Parish Councils are now being asked to take responsibility for roads, footpaths and various other matters. We could find ourselves paying extra for policing. Parish Councils have had to take all this into consideration when deciding on their precepts and there is no avoiding the fact that precepts will rise. As has been highlighted in the past year, it is pointless arguing that we already pay taxes for services, we must now manage this situation as best we can and hope that something gives in the future although Social Care isn't going to change, it will require more and more money to provide care to all those requiring help. I seem to have gone off the good news so here is another bit of good news for some of us.

Gritting. For years, going back three county councillor's terms of office, we have lobbied for Malthouse, Springbrook and Small lanes to be included in the gritting route. Bored everyone every autumn. We have had a bit of a breakthrough. Springbrook and Small Lanes are now on the routine gritting schedule. We involved our MP, Nadhim Zahawi – again – on this and asked residents to join the campaign by writing to him. Well, it went back and forward as these things do but at least we achieved something this time. This means that, if you can get to Springbrook Lane you will be able to access The Common. and if you go to Small Lane you will get up the incline at the top and access Poolhead Lane. This is progress, really! As for Malthouse Lane, flat refusal to bring the gritting lorry down.

Arguments and solutions were presented to WCC Highways, but they are totally resistant on this one. No turning circle for the lorry, there is only one man aboard so no reversing and it would be dangerous for the driver to come out of the vehicle in bad weather! The solution for Malthouse Lane is Grit bins. We are now asking for VOLUNTEERS – again! There will be a grit bin at the top of Cloweswood Lane, one at the bottom near the Causeway entrance and one in the middle, no, not the middle of the road! This one is the trickiest to situate. Parish Council will have to pay for the grit. We need some VOLUNTEERS to agree to spreading the grit when required onto the road and pavements. There is another option of Snow Wardens. WCC Highways will deliver a small quantity of grit to any householder agreeable to distributing it. Obviously not for personal use, for the community. Get in touch if you would be happy to do this. We have had problems with grit bins being emptied for personal use, we hope that this won't be repeated.

Please get in touch if you are fit, able and willing to undertake spreading the grit when required. Thank you to those who contacted our MP backing this campaign and we are grateful to him for his help and perseverance.

Another bit of good news is that we asked Parish Council to submit a grants application to WCC for new fencing at the bottom of Malthouse Lane, it's a mess. We, the PC in fact, got £500 from the grant fund – John Horner to thank again – for fencing. Parish Council has now agreed to pay the £350 on top to do a really good job and get the mess sorted out. I can hardly believe our good fortune with all these funding awards – and the gritting.

Thank you to those who attended our AGM last October. At our AGM we had a brief presentation on Cyber Crime. We thought this, even in its shortened version, was enlightening, as it is an ever -increasing threat to just about all of us, so we have arranged a shortened version for Earlswood Lunch Club on 13th March, and a full one for all residents to attend. Criminals are finding more sophisticated methods to steal from us, that's why we have asked the Cyber Crime Team from Cybersafe Warwickshire, promoted by the Office of the Police Crime and Commissioner, to come and share their knowledge with us. Parish Council is supporting this. Visit www.cybersafewarwickshire.com or follow Joseph and Abbey on Twitter for the latest advice [@CyberSafeWarks](https://twitter.com/CyberSafeWarks).

Cyber Crime Presentation, on Thursday 28th March starting at 7.30pm. Ladbrook Park Golf Club, in Poolhead Lane, has generously agreed to host the evening. We couldn't find an evening at the village hall to accommodate us and the presenters, and we are very grateful to the Golf Club for their help. You will be able to buy drinks and food at the Golf Club should you wish. We urge you to attend, be it for internet issues, email or phone scams, it is useful, even vital, knowledge. The criminal activity is becoming more sophisticated by the day and advice is essential. Joe and Abbey, from Cybersafe Warwickshire will be presenting and we expect it to last about one and a half hours.

Social Events. You are invited to a Palm Court Style Tea on Saturday 16th February at Earlswood Village Hall from 3.00pm-5.00pm. Hosted by St Patrick's Church, tickets are £10 each and available from Barbara Philp; 07734228500 and Jean Brown; 01564702367. There will be a 'Palm Court' Style afternoon tea, and entertainment provided by Val & Peter. A warm welcome awaits everyone so come along and have a sociable Saturday afternoon. Car parking is available on site. It may be possible to arrange local transport if need be.

“Quiz Evening - Earlswood Lakes Fundraising Committee - Friday 1st March 2019 - Earlswood Village Hall, Shutt Lane. Doors open 7pm for a 7.30pm start. Tickets are £8.00 each and this includes a fish and chip supper. Veggie burger also available. Family ticket 2 adults and 2 young people £28.00. There will be a reasonably priced bar, so no need to bring your own and a raffle! **Bargain!** Teams of six. If you do not have six in your team, don't worry, all will be sorted on the evening. Prizes for the winning team. **ARE YOU UP FOR THE CHALLENGE?** To book tickets please call 01564 702145. Book early to avoid disappointment.” From Pam Moore.

'Flicks in the Sticks' - A Roaring Success.

“We are now in our third season and no-one could have predicted just how successful our monthly film night would be. Held at Earlswood Village Hall on the third Friday of the month (September-April) we were happy to get an audience of 30 so that we would break even when we started in 2016. However, we now have just over 100 members and are averaging audiences of 80+. In fact, for the January film (Victoria & Abdul) we had 102. What is really noticeable is that we are attracting people from a wide area (Wythall, Shirley, Lapworth, Solihull and Redditch) with only about 20% of our audience locals. The doors open at 7pm when our reasonably priced bar is also open. From 7.15 we show a classic comedy such as Fawlty Towers, 'Allo, 'Allo etc and then, the main feature film at about 7.45. About half way through the film we have an intermission when snacks are available, usually Lashford's Sausage Hot-dogs or steak pies and Magnum ices. Why not come along and enjoy a night out and support your local village hall. All profits go towards the upkeep of this amazing local facility. Admission to the films is £4 members and £5 non-members. Membership is £2 per season. The remaining films this season are:”

15th Feb.----- “A Street Cat named Bob”

15th March----- “The Book Thief”

19th April----- “The Post”

26th April----- “The Greatest Showman”

Thanks Dave, you, Fiona and committee are doing a great job. Burn's Night was yet another roaring success.

UBUS. Residents in the West of the district (Alcester, Bidford, Henley, Studley & from Earlswood down to Salford Priors) can now travel to Redditch or Evesham on Wednesdays on UBUS.

On the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of the month the UBUS vehicle will travel to Redditch. On the 2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month a UBUS vehicle will travel to Evesham (including The Valley)

Journeys will take place in the usual way with passengers picked up from home & dropped at an agreed destination in Redditch or Evesham. Passengers will then be collected and returned home as usual. When there are five Wednesdays in the month the destination will be Redditch. Travel to Stratford will still be available on Wednesdays via another UBUS vehicle. If you haven't yet registered call; 01789 264491. Single Journey: £2.70 or £3.40 Return Journey: £5.40 or £6.80

Hospitals are reporting that accidents from Hair Straighteners have doubled in the last ten years. They advise these Safety tips: Children can be kept safe from hair straightener burns with three easy steps: Put them out of reach straight away: Put them in a heat-proof pouch if you have one: Put them well out of reach and sight, say on a high shelf.

Police contact details. Always report incidents on 101. Alcester Police Office Phone Number - 01789 444816.

Alcester North Team email - Alcesternorth.snt@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk;

Team Sgt 542 Robert Shaw - Robert.shaw@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk;

PC 427 Sue Blundell - Sue.blundell@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk ;

PCSO 6273 Aadila Hussain- Aadila.hussain@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk

PCSO 6111 Gary Johnson-Jones - gary.johnson-jones@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk

What's been happening at Earlswood Lakes Sailing Club? An update from Sue Stewart, Commodore of the Club. "You may have noticed the sailing club has undergone some refurbishment over the last few months. This is as a direct result of the flash flooding at the end of May '18 which proved too much, not only for part of the road on the Causeway, but also for the mains sewer running under the clubhouse by Windmill Pool. Foul water, plus run-off from the drains, flooded the club and contaminated every floor and many surfaces. This is the first time this has happened in the club's 57 year history, and consequently we have had to replace floors and walls as well as our kitchen! We were in touch with Severn Trent but this apparently is classed as a natural hazard! They have however recently carried out a camera inspection of the main drains around Malthouse Lane, available if anyone needs that information. To add to our woes, the water level was reduced by C&RT in July to enable repair work on the Causeway, and then, immediately afterwards, reduced further on Windmill Pool, to make overdue repairs to valves. The water level was taken right down to -2.6 metres, the lowest level allowed to preserve the health of the fishing stocks and kept low for several weeks. Along with one of the driest Summers on record, the water level was too low for us to use our safety boats without silting up the engines, and for the first time ever, we had to cancel our Autumn Sailing series from end of July until some rain in November came to our rescue! I am pleased to report that we are now back to full sailing and our clubhouse refurbishment is almost complete. I hope everyone will agree that the clubhouse is now looking very smart and we have been careful to remain in harmony with the lovely surroundings. Please have a look next time you are walking around the Lakes!and if anyone is interested in taking up sailing please call in at the clubhouse any Sunday or check out our website www.earlswoodsc.co.uk." Thanks Sue.

Earlswood Wildlife Partnership; report from Cheryl Roberts.

Our AGM was held on 8th October at Earlswood Village Hall At the AGM Ron Hill announced his retirement as our Chairman. Ron has been at the helm since our inception in 2010 and we would like to thank him for all his hard work over the years on our behalf. We are obviously sad to see him step down, but happily he has agreed to remain on the committee as Vice Chairman. Bob Roberts has now taken over as Chairman and I will be covering the positions of Membership Secretary and Secretary. It goes without saying that we are always looking for new people to get involved so if you would like to join our committee please do get in touch.

McVitie's Recycling; Did you know that used biscuit and cracker wrappers cannot be recycled by our roadside recycling collection? However, Warwickshire Wildlife Trust is now part of a scheme whereby used biscuit and cracker wrappers can be collected and recycled, WkWT will then receive a donation in return. Earlswood Village Hall have kindly agreed to let us put a collecting bin in their foyer so any used biscuit or cracker wrappers can be donated there (or handed to any of our committee members) and we will pass them on (**please - no crisp packets**).

Go to: <https://www.terracycle.co.uk/en-GB/brigades/cracker-and-biscuit-wrapper> for more information..

New webpage. We now have a web page which can be viewed through the Earlswood & Forshaw Heath Residents Association website at: <http://www.earlswood-forshawheath.org.uk> This will be updated with details of future events and copies of our newsletters etc., so if you want to see what events may be coming soon please check out this page.

Events for 2019; Birding for Beginners – this year's course will be held on **Sat. 13th April 2019**. For more information or to book your place please contact us at ewp2010@btinternet.com or 07528 595444. To be kept up to date with our activities and forthcoming events please contact us at the e-mail address above to receive our regular newsletters." Cheryl.

A report from Matt. "I found Signal Crayfish and New Zealand Pygmy Weed at Earlswood Lakes last year, both highly invasive species and a threat to the wildlife and angling value of the site. CRT has been asked to take steps to prevent the crayfish spreading into Engine Pool, and perhaps eliminate them from Windmill Pool?"

Perhaps anglers could help by killing any they catch? Thanks to Matt Griffiths (local ecologist) for keeping us updated.

Safe in Warwickshire – a Competition.

"Together for a better internet or Respect online or #BeCyberKind – these are the themes for **Safer Internet Day 2019**, which is on Tuesday 5 February and to celebrate, we're running a **competition for young creative writers**.

. We want you to give other young people advice on how to keep safer online. And by 'online', we mean when using smart phones, consoles, tablets and computers. There are three age categories: 6 to 8, 9 to 11 and 12+. The competition is open to all young people who fit the age criteria and who live in and/or are educated in Warwickshire. What you need to do is Write a creative piece – maybe a poem, a song or rap, or a short story piece – based on one or both of the Safer Internet Day 2019 themes: • together for a better internet • respect online • #BeCyberKind. Your entry should encourage other young people to be safe on the internet – whether they're using their smart phones, consoles, tablets or computers. So, can you tell us what children and young people should think about, or what they should know, to be safer online? How do you enter the competition? Get more information about this competition by phoning the Cyber Crime Team at Warwickshire County Council on 01926 412261 or Jo-An Golding at Warwickshire Police on 01926 415141. Website; www.safeinwarwickshire.com. All entries must be received by 5pm on Thursday 28 February 2019. Winners will be announced on Wednesday 20 March 2019.

Did you see the newspaper report about **a large amount of cannabis being grown locally?** Perpetrators caught and facing a prison sentence. Great news.

County Councillor John Horner's January Report.

"The Arden Parish Chairs and Clerks had their quarterly meeting just before Christmas and approved the following small road safety schemes; improved access to the DM Hall in Claverdon, dropped curbs at Prince Harry Road, Henley in Arden, road safety measures in Ullenhall, speed signage and warning upgrades in the Common, Earlswood, and improved signage at Forshaw Heath Road, Tanworth. Work to re-engineer the junctions at the Green in Claverdon and Pettiford Lane, Preston Bagot need more preliminary work before they can be brought forward for consideration as also 20mph limits for Ullenhall and Henley High Street.

The local Police team presented to the same meeting and reported a general increase in crime across the country and the increase we have experienced in Arden Division is in line with national trends. A meeting is scheduled between the County Councillor and the Police Inspector to discuss enhanced police presence in Arden funded independent of the Police precept. The indication is that the Police hope to raise their precept by the maximum permitted.

The County Council officers presented their proposals for the 2019/2020 budget and the 5 year financial plan. They forecast that an additional £40 to £50 million will need to be saved over the next 5 years. Even so the Council's discretionary budget is due to increase from £236 to £267 million during that time. The major part of the increase is in children's and adult social care with the consequence of severe pressure on all non-social care budgets. It is hoped the Government White Paper on social care due to be released in the spring will deliver plans to achieve stable funding and it is hoped this will relieve the pressure on other Council services. The Government assumed Councils raised taxes by 3%, the maximum permitted, plus a 2% social care levy when setting central grant funding levels. John Horner; Tel. 01926 842068"

We are grateful to Cllr. Horner for his help, and we also greatly appreciate being invited to the quarterly meetings, the only Res. Assoc. to be invited, and Cllr Horner ensures that we are kept informed of all relevant matters.

"Tanworth in Arden Parish Council has always had one of the lowest precepts in the District but has reluctantly decided that additional funds are necessary and has taken the decision, with regret, to raise its precept for 2019/20 by £10,000 to £60,000. The precept is money that is paid to the Parish Council and is collected along with your Council Tax. The increase will mean that Band D property Council Tax payers will pay £37.20 a year to the Parish Council compared to £30.87 last year. This equates to an annual increase of £6.33 or 12p per week.

Due to budgetary pressures both Warwickshire County Council and Stratford District Council are increasingly expecting Parish Councils to pay for services and projects they say they are unable to provide any longer. County Councillor Horner has advised that the over the next 5 years the *Council's discretionary budget is due to increase from £236 to £267 million and the major part of the increase is in children's and adult social care with the consequence of severe pressure on all non-social care budgets.* The Parish Council has traditionally run its budget to cover just the routine activities, which are mainly street lighting, grass cutting, maintenance of Earlswood Leisure Park, grass cutting around the parish, quarterly grants to St Mary Magdalene Church for footpath maintenance, providing and maintaining defibrillators around the parish, providing grit bins and maintaining Tanworth Village Green. The Parish Council is proud to continue to provide financial support to both Tanworth and Earlswood Village Halls and also to other local groups throughout the parish in the form of grants when they are requested. The Parish Council has also recently adopted its draft Neighbourhood Development Plan which will soon be submitted to the local planning authority. Following this a period of publicity will follow, an independent examination will be arranged followed by a public referendum. All of this will require extra expenditure. Taking this action now will ensure that the Parish Council is in a strong financial position going forward and the Parish Council will be able to operate more effectively on behalf of our community as well as continuing to provide and improve the range of services and facilities that we currently provide. Julie White, Parish Clerk" **Tanworth in Arden's Parish Council Assembly** is being held on **Wednesday 10th April 2019**. No further details available as yet, but it will start at 7.30pm and be held in Earlswood Village Hall. Everyone welcome.

Cllr Atkinson. " **ELECTION TIME AGAIN.** Thankfully, on 2nd. May, it is not a Parliamentary Election but our District Council elections. Having represented Earlswood and Forshaw Heath since 2008 and believing new thinking should prevail in any management situation, I have decided not to seek re-election so will be 'standing down'. I have been involved in Local Government since 1992 when elected as District Councillor for Henley in Arden. Then in 1997, as County Councillor for your area. Another change came in 2008 when, having decided to stand down as County Councillor, I became your District Councillor. During my years in office the motivation has been to represent my residents to the best of my ability, always realising of course you cannot please everyone because, principally, the policies and rules do not bestow that upon us. Over the years events such as the introduction of speed controls to The Common, remember at one time speed was unrestricted, curing flooding issues to a section of Malthouse Lane, helping to overcome the 30% restriction for house extensions, realising that with Green Belt policies, control is necessary, however, to relate the natural ambition to improve a home, but no more than existed in 1973, was to me unrealistic. Helping to bring some order to the Lakes is but a small example of my intervention on behalf of residents. Whilst relinquishing Local Government work I hope to remain active because of my interest in the NSPCC, plus another organisation involved in assessing the management of local authorities. Good wishes to you all, Cllr George Atkinson."

We have worked with Cllr. Atkinson for so many years and thank him for his help on many occasions. Many residents have benefitted from his advice. We wish him well in the future.

Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner, Philip Seccombe, has reassured communities across the county that there will be no adverse impact on local policing following the decision of West Mercia Police to terminate its alliance with Warwickshire Police. Since October's announcement by the West Mercia PCC and Chief Constable, detailed planning work has been begun by Warwickshire Police and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner to plan for a post-alliance future. Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner Philip Seccombe said: "This agreement is good news, as it means that around 55% of the policing budget reverts fully back into my control. This will allow me to ensure that the funding I am able to give to the Chief Constable for local policing across Warwickshire can be protected and will therefore be unaffected by the decision made by West Mercia to end our strategic alliance"

Warwickshire Police Chief Constable Martin Jelley said: "I am confident that local policing will remain largely unchanged following the end of the alliance. In particular we have a great Safer Neighbourhood Team structure here in Warwickshire and when I go out and about and meet with residents and our communities, they consistently tell me how valued our neighbourhood officers and PCSO's are. I firmly see our SNTs as the backbone of everything that we do and that's why I've always been committed to maintaining them. I see no reason for that to be any different going forward – they are very much here to stay. At present the force is actively recruiting new police officers, my shared ambition with the Commissioner is to grow our officer numbers over the next year so our Warwickshire communities are better protected. This will mean officer growth into local policing and safer neighbourhood teams. I am confident our towns and villages will see and feel a real difference as these new recruits come in." Good news!

Wills in the Digital Age. This is from Ewen who gave a brief talk at our AGM on this subject.

"Do you have a Will and does it detail all your current assets and requirements? Probably not! If you do, is it up to date? A Will lets you, for example, appoint chosen executors, name guardians to look after your children, arrange your funeral as you would wish, consider Inheritance Tax issues to minimise your death duties and detail how your estate is allocated.

So, you've got your home, fixtures and fittings, car, etc detailed. But what about other things that you can't normally see? On-line things like bank accounts, investment portfolios, cryptocurrency, betting account credits, title deeds, even things held on your computer or in the cloud like photos, videos, domain names, emails, spreadsheets and other things held in a binary format. Has anyone you trust got any idea as to what you've got or how to unlock access to these assets (e.g. user names and passwords) on your demise? There are other, probably smaller value, things that might add up to a little nest-egg too.

Balances on Pay-Pal, intellectual property rights, commercial photo rights, i-Tunes and Kindle accounts, which you might like to bequeath. What about all the personal details held on social media accounts? As we know, it can be worth something to some unscrupulous person. It's a good idea to clear all these accounts out. Would you like to memorialise your on-line accounts? This is where you leave them open for, say 6 months, to enable previous contacts to post comments for family and friends to read after death.

It is becoming more common for Wills to appoint "digital executors", who know what to do with your on-line affairs. If you list everything – account names and number, user names and passwords etc, a number of providers have created "safety deposit boxes" to hold this info securely (for a fee) and make them available to nominated persons after your death. But, if you have a written list of this info, do not include it in your written Will as wills in some countries e.g. Scotland, become public property. Whatever you do, keep the digital assets list up to date, well-hidden, and nominate somebody you trust who knows about it. Remember that there are now plenty of lawyers who can guide you through the process". Thanks Ewen.

Action Fraud has received more than 5,000 reports about fake emails and texts purporting to be from **TV Licensing**. The messages contain links to genuine-looking websites that are designed to steal personal and financial information.

Always question unsolicited requests for your personal or financial information in case it's a scam. Never automatically click on a link in an unexpected email or text

HM Revenue and Customs Alert: What you need to know: Action Fraud has experienced an increase in the reporting of malicious calls, voicemails, text messages or emails to members of the public purporting to be from HMRC. The fraudsters state that as a result of their non-payment of tax or other duty, the victim is liable to prosecution or other legal proceedings such as repossession of belongings to settle the balance but can avoid this by arranging for payment to be made immediately by method such as bank transfer or by iTunes gift cards. If the victim is hesitant or refuses to comply, the suspect makes a threat such as immediate arrest, bailiffs or in cases where the victim appears to be of overseas origin; deportation. Often, the period for which the tax is allegedly due is distant enough to guarantee the victim will have little, if any, paperwork or ability to verify the claims. Once the money is paid the suspects sever all contact. It is vital that the public exercise caution when receiving messages or telephone calls of this nature.

What you need to do: Always question unsolicited requests for your personal or financial information. Just because someone knows your basic details (such as your name and contact details), it doesn't mean they are genuine. Instead, contact the company directly using trusted methods such as a known email address or phone number. Listen to your instincts. If something "feels wrong" then it is usually right to question it. No genuine organisation will ask you to pay taxes, bills or fees using iTunes Gift Cards, or any other type of voucher. Don't be rushed or pressurised into making a decision. Under no circumstances would a genuine bank or some other trusted organisation force you to make a financial transaction on the spot. Report Phishing attempts. If you receive a call, text or email of this nature and have not lost money, report this as a phishing attempt to Action Fraud. Call 0300 123 2040 to report or go to Action Fraud website or visit cyberaware.gov.uk

Volunteering Opportunities with Warwickshire Recycles: Would you like to make a difference to the environment by volunteering for a few hours a month? Help to spread the word about reducing waste and recycling more while learning new skills and meeting new people. Contact us to find out more about volunteering in the following areas:
For more information contact us by emailing waste@warwickshire.gov.uk or telephoning 01926 418088.

If you are interested in planning this might be something to do in a spare moment! ***Development Requirements Supplementary Planning Document; Reconsultation - Friday 1 February to 5.00 pm Friday 15 March 2019***

The Council has prepared a draft Development Requirements Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). In response to the previous consultation in March/April 2018, the Council has revised 3 existing sections, namely Part H. Shopfronts and Retail, Part O. Parking and Travel and Part R. Air Quality. It has also produced two new sections, Part I. Non- Residential Buildings and Part K. Holiday Lets and Caravan Parks. The consultation document can be viewed on the District Council's website at www.stratford.gov.uk/devreq-spd. **How to Comment:** Responses can be made: Via the on-line comment form using the link above - or by downloading a comment form and emailing it to policy.consultation@stratford-dc.gov.uk – or posting it to Stratford-on-Avon District Council, Elizabeth House, Church Street, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6HX. Comments must be received by the District Council by **5.00 pm on Friday 15 March 2019**. John Careford Policy Manager (Enterprise, Housing & Planning)

Reviewing the Plan for Solihull's Future Draft Local Plan Supplementary Consultation

This is from Solihull M.B.C. and is a supplementary document to their long -term planning strategy. A little bit of encouraging news on Forshaw Heath Garden Village scheme. It is not included as a site allocation in this document. As for the rest, concerning areas surrounding us, it is quite worrying. High volumes of housing development, Cheswick Green, Dicken's Heath and Blythe Valley. Also concerning is the proposal under consideration for fairly high volume development south of Dog Kennel Lane – capacity 1000. There is no doubt that all the proposed development will impact on us in the form of volume of traffic. A quote from the contents says” Significant new development at Dickens Heath, Cheswick Green, and Blythe Valley Park will add to the vibrancy and vitality of the settlement, whilst retaining the intrinsic character of distinctive villages separated by open countryside. Given that the opportunities to develop on previously developed land in Blythe are extremely limited, Green Belt release will be required and a redefined Green Belt boundary will need to be established.” These are just snippets from the document so please go to SMBC website; www.stratford.gov.uk/devreq-spd for more info.

Keeping in touch! The website is regularly updated with useful information for residents. To sign up for notifications when items are posted go to <http://www.earlswood-forshawheath.org.uk> and enter your details in the **Subscribe to News box** on the right hand side;

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Committee Members 2018/19: Jenny Buckley - Chairman; Ewen Cunningham - Vice-chairman; Cheryl Roberts – Treasurer; Sarah Adams – Website Administrator; Eva Evans – Membership Secretary; Kate Clark – Minutes secretary; Roy Willmott; Joanna Wilday; and John Doidge. We said farewell to Hazel Sandford at our AGM. Hazel will be missed, and we thanked her for all her support over the years and wished her well in the future. We are looking for new committee members, just get in touch.

Thank you to all our volunteers, we can't manage without you all. Please get in touch if you can help with clean ups or newsletter deliveries. We are looking towards bringing Neighbourhood Watch under our umbrella. More info soon.

If you haven't already done so, please join up – we need the money! Thank you to those who have already done so.

Please return to Eva at 61 The Common, Jenny at 101 Malthouse Lane, Ewen at Copperfield, Umberslade Rd., or the Parish Council office will accept them if you put it in a sealed envelope. just put in their post box at Earlswood village hall. Also, Hazel will take those in Forshaw Heath at 35 Oaktree Farm. Thanks Hazel.

You can pay electronically with these details; Sort code: 09-01-54 Account number:13991903

“When making your payment all banks allow you to include a reference that will show on the receiver's bank statement, please use this reference space to include as much of your address as possible, starting with your house number or name and not including any spaces e.g. 122MalthouseLane. This will allow us to identify who is making the payment and issue your membership cards.”. Things are moving on in how we do our banking business thanks to Cheryl.

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Membership Subscription Form

I enclose my subscription for the year **October 2018 - October 2019**. The yearly subscription is **£5 per household**.

Name _____

Address _____

Amount-£ _____ Cheques payable to E&FHRA please or the long-winded version.

Best wishes from your committee. Please get in touch for further info and to give us your feedback. *Jenny Buckley*

