



# The Pantlan Reporter

Issue 15 April 2008

## Llanymynech Limeworks

The Council is one of the Stakeholders in the Limeworks restoration project, which will be completed at the end of 2008. The Project Officer, Mark Blount of the County Council and the Community and Education Officer - Peter Dunhill, together with the other Partners have achieved a tremendous amount during the 3 year term. Peter gave a lively presentation to the Annual Parish Meeting detailing the work. The newly restored and extended stables are to be used as an education facility and have been used for a number of meetings already. The most impressive sight is the restored Hoffmann Kiln with the replica roof protecting it from the elements, which would in time have wrecked it completely had the Project not gone ahead. Volunteers have been involved with the professionals - archaeological digs, clearance work through the site and bricklaying at the Tally House. One of the most exciting aspects is that all the site is now accessible to wheelchair or pram users and there are plenty of seats to take a rest or sit and enjoy the bird song. Even the incline plane can be viewed by travelling under the A483 via the newly cleared tunnel. The site will be officially 'opened' in April and another Discovery Day held on the 17th May but the 'coming of age' will be the Community Play entitled 'In The Limelight' specially commissioned to be staged by The LADS in the Limeworks in July and involving as many people as possible. On the 6th June, in the early evening, an event will be held to attract people to be part of the enjoyment of the Llanymynech Limeworks and ensure it for the future. Information on events and activities is available on notice boards or from the website [www.llanymynech.org.uk](http://www.llanymynech.org.uk).



ABOVE: Crane lifts in gyn wheel  
BELOW: Blending sculptures



## **FUN and GAMES**

The Council has a Play Sub-Committee who have successfully raised funds and installed new play equipment on Llanymynech playing field. There are swings, a slide, stepping stones and a very popular spinning dish. The junior equipment on a safe surface and fenced off from the rest of the field cost £13,000 with the Council providing the match funding to the £11,000 raised by the Committee. The Volunteers themselves installed the safety surface which was a big saving.

They continue to raise funds, such as the community recipe book published at Christmas, and are now moving towards equipment for the older children. An application was made to the Neighbourhood Forum meeting which had a budget for young people's activities and they were awarded £2,500 towards the next piece of equipment. The Youth Club members also applied to this fund for a youth shelter and they too have been allowed £1,500.

Pant playing field is now past it's 'sell by date' for most of the equipment on the field. The swings had to be removed and the springy rider. The Council decided to apply for a loan for play equipment, some towards Llanymynech and the rest to re-equip Pant field. A donation was received from a resident who was concerned about the field, which was gratefully received.

The Oswestry Play Partnership which was formed in February 2006 to decide on a Strategy to spend £200,00 from the Big Lottery, which most District Councils were eligible to apply for, continues to meet, but the fields in Llanymynech and Pant were judged to have adequate equipment.

Llanymynech Bowling Club had problems with damage to the green and asked the Parish Council (as owners) if they could erect a fence. There was considerable discussion of various methods to deter unwanted attention, and eventually a suitable fence was agreed upon, local residents were consulted and a planning application made. The Club are finding the money for the fence themselves.



## **THE BYPASS**

Llanymynech and Pant still needs a bypass, but just when everyone thought the fight had been won and the bypass was in the Roads Programme; there was an election and the 'goalposts' were moved. The scheme had to be prioritised by the West Midlands Regional Transport Board. Llanymynech and Pant come a long way down the list of priorities when viewed against other large scale improvements benefitting huge conurbations. However, not deterred County Cllr Mrs. Dilys Gaskill led a party of Councillors to meet Owen Paterson MP at his local surgery. He meets with the Minister and trys to keep the Bypass at the forefront, but we will wait for a suitable opportunity to start another campaign to obtain the much needed bypass.

# OH! WHAT A LOVELY PLACE TO LIVE

Following on from the Parish Plan, a small group led by Cllr Peter McConville is producing a Village Design Statement. These documents are adopted by the local Planning Authority and are referred to when a planning application is being considered. They also define what is special about the area and identify what residents want to preserve. When it is published it will be available free of charge.

The Parish Council works hard to keep both villages spick and span, some of the problems raised in the past have now been dealt with. The A483 surface, subsidence, marking and lighting have all been addressed by the Highways Agency this year. The lighting, although more energy efficient and less pollutant, has not been altogether successful. A few old lights have remained in place, sometimes burning all day, awaiting Arriva to disconnect the wiring. The new lights have had problems too, sometimes whole stretches going out for 3 or 4 nights. The Highways Agency is responsible for the lighting on the main road and the Parish Council have passed on all the complaints they received about the lighting.

The new Dog Control Orders are now in place - failure to clean up after a dog is an offence punishable by a fixed penalty fine of £80 which can be issued by a Community Support Officer. All dogs have to be on leads in areas open to the air to which the public are entitled or permitted to have access, which includes roads subject to a 30mph speed limit or canal towpaths. Dogs are not permitted in childrens' play areas.

The Parish Council have a keen interest in footpaths in the Parish and are currently involved in claiming a right of way at the bottom of the Tramway in Pant to be marked on the Definitive Map . The claim was recommended for approval at the County Council Rights of Way Committee in October.

Planning applications in the village are always commented upon by the Council, street names recommended or special meetings called for any applications that could be viewed as contentious development. There is close liaison with a representative of Persimmon Homes who are carrying out the development on the old concrete works, now called Badgers Green; the company have also written in support of our campaign for a village Bypass.



## MONEY MONEY MONEY

Accounts for the year 2006/07 have been audited. The Precept for 2007/08 amounted to £13,000. Under section 137 of the Local Government Act the Council is able to make donations. A donation of £70 was made to Llanymynech Good Companions towards the cost of room hire. Donations have also been made to the Play Committee. Half the cost of the maintenance of the village clock on the tower of St. Agatha's Church is paid by the Council.

## UNITED WE STAND

The proposed Unitary Authority for Shropshire has now had full approval and the Implementation Group, comprising 29 Councillors from the present authorities, are putting all the measures in place. The Boundary Commission have begun work on consulting people on the boundaries for the new Authority. It is vitally important that people let their views be known - Llanymynech and Pant is in the Ruyton X1 Towns ward, this may remain as it is or be enlarged to include other areas, or even become another ward entirely. There will be far fewer County Councillors than at present and the Parish Councils will have to work closely with the Unitary Authority. The pilot Neighbourhood Forum has worked

well, the Ruyton and Maserfield being one of the first to try this out. The budget for the Forum of £40,000 is well on the way to being shared throughout the area - £20,000 spent on young people, £4,000 in this parish. The Parish Council does need local people to stand for election; there are currently two vacancies on the Council, the first time this has happened for many years. Being a parish councillor is a rewarding experience, giving something to your community for a small investment of time, whilst allowing one to gain considerable skill and interest.



## WHO ARE THE PARISH COUNCILLORS?



The Chairman is Cllr Ian Pollitt. Other Councillors are Adam Brown, Mrs. Dilys Gaskill, Les Griffiths, Leigh Northcott-Hammond, Mark Keaveny, Terry Mason, Peter McConville and Mrs. Janet Smith. Cllr Mrs. Dilys Gaskill is also the County Councillor and John Duggan is the Borough Councillor. Mrs. Vivien Byrne is the Clerk.