

Llanymynech Limeworks

Llanymynech Community Project, which was led by the Parish Council working with Llanymynech Heritage Partnership, concluded in April 2006. The next exciting news was the confirmation of the Heritage Lottery Grant to the County Council, again working through the Heritage Partnership, for nearly £1 million to preserve, enhance and interpret the wonderful industrial heritage of the area. A Steering Group was formed of the principal funding organisations (which includes the Parish Council) and a Community and Education Officer appointed for the Project – Peter Dunhill. The 3 year programme of work and events is now well under way. The stables within the Heritage Area will be used as an education facility and building work is nearly complete on the extension. The tally house will be restored and if possible a reproduction weigh bridge installed. The incline planes are now cleared of growth leaving a tree canopy and sections of line will be placed to illustrate their purpose. A real benefit to the community and visitors alike will be the excavation of one of the tunnels under the main road to allow headroom, so that people can access both sides of the site without crossing the busy main road. The ivy has been cleared from the No. 3 Drum House and it is hoped to have a replacement drum and a sculpture of a brakeman.

Archaeological excavations have taken place with many volunteers from the villages. The most visible progress has been in the replacement of the roof over the Hoffman Kiln. Work is limited because of the presence of bats and newts, but there is a dramatic difference in the site.

The schools have been involved in producing scale models, drama and design work and it is intended that a Community Play will be commissioned. The whole area



ABOVE: Scaffolding and steeplejacks
BELOW: The tally house



will keep the element of discovery and wonder for visitors as well as the tranquillity everyone enjoys. The website can be accessed for more detail of the work in progress on www.llanymynech.org.uk

Llanymynech wins a prestigious BURA award

Llanymynech Heritage Partnership entered the BURA Waterways Renaissance Awards in the Community Section and at a Presentation Awards Dinner in Manchester on the 21st March, the winner was announced 'Oscar' style. The framed award, presented by John Craven, will be on display in the Wharf Visitor Centre. The judges who twice visited the village said that the project gives the residents a voice, contributes to the wider community and plays an important role in the future implementation of the Montgomery Canal Partnership and its ability to attract funding to regenerate the area for the benefit of the community.



THE BYPASS

The Bypass continues to be the dominant issue for Llanymynech and Pant. Earlier in the year the A483 had to be prioritised within the West Midland Region. Unfortunately when matched against many of the schemes for the Region – New Street station, Birmingham Airport and the like, the benefit to be gained by the A483 Bypass does not stand up very well. The Bypass has not been cancelled, but a Report on a cheaper scheme was prepared by the Highways Agency. The County Council are now trying to obtain a copy of the report as Cllr Mrs. Dilys Gaskill has been informed that it will only be available for the Minister of Transport.



Newly cleared tramway tunnels under the A483

ENVIRONMENT

Dog waste still causes complaints and people taking dogs onto the playing fields are reminded to co-operate to protect the children.

Footpath improvements in the village are carried out and the Stoney Steps have now been repaired successfully. A diversion was applied for at the bottom of the path in front of the five kilns, to which the Council did not object. The Council is currently claiming a right of way to be placed on the Definitive Map, for a well used path near The Tramway in Pant, which the County Rights of Way Department are pursuing.



Roads and Pavements



The A483 subsidence, poor surface, lack of cats eyes and damaged edge markers have finally been getting attention following a site meeting with Amey Mouchel. When Cllr Mrs. Gaskill asked about the pedestrian crossing for Pant which was refused some years ago, the representative stated that there was nowhere safe enough to site a crossing. It was suggested that residents should park on the road, instead of the pavement, which would encourage the HGV's to find an easier route.

WHO ARE THE PARISH COUNCILLORS?



The Chairperson is Cllr Adam Brown. Other Councillors are , Mrs. Jennie Crosier, Mrs. Dilys Gaskill, Les Griffiths, Leigh Northcott Hammond, Bob Jones. Mark Keaveny, Terry Mason, Peter McConville, Ian Pollitt and Mrs. Janet Smith. Cllr Mrs. Dilys Gaskill is also the County and Borough Councillor for the Ward. Mrs. Vivien Byrne is the Clerk.

MONEY MONEY MONEY

Accounts for the year 2005/2006 have been audited. The Precept for 2006/2007 amounted to £12 800. Under section 137 of the Local Government Act the Council is able to make donations. A donation of £50 was made to Llanymynech Brownies and £70 to Llanymynech Good Companions. The cost of the hire of the village hall for the Play Committee's Fun Day was also donated. Half the cost of maintenance of the village clock on the tower of St. Agatha's Church is given to the PCC.

SPORTS and PLAY



The Play Sub-Committee have successfully applied to Awards for All and were granted £9,700 towards toddler equipment, surfacing and fencing and they are continuing with their fund raising. A brilliant Fun Day was held in September with events in the village hall and on the field, a climbing tower being a particular highlight. It is proposed to produce a book of recipes for sale, with everyone contributing their favourite recipe. The young people have been consulted in various ways and a 'wish list' has been compiled of the favourite items. A joint bid was made by the Village Hall

and Llanymynech Junior Football Club for £126,500 to build changing rooms and showers at the side of the Hall. The Parish Council have been involved in negotiations over the last two months over the use of the field, as one of the funders required a lease or agreement for the football pitch. The Council are now seeking legal opinion on the position. The Bowling Club have been disheartened by damage to their facility and are seeking the Council's help to alleviate this.

ELECTIONS AND CHANGES AHEAD

Elections will be taking place on 3rd May 2007 and at the time of writing 9 Councillors have been re-elected uncontested, so there are two vacancies on the Parish Council. Cllr Mrs. Dilys Gaskill has stood down for the Borough Council after 8 years of achievement. Cllr Arthur Walpole has been re-elected uncontested for the Llanyblodwell and Pant Ward of the Borough. There is one vacant Borough Council seat for the ward.

With the submission for Unitary status being allowed, the 3 Councils involved – County, Oswestry and South Shropshire are now preparing their consultation process and bid. As a lead up to the 'step change' for a new way of working for Unitary authorities, it is proposed that Neighbourhood Forums be piloted. This would mean the Parish Council working directly with the County, instead of having the Borough as an intervening tier. The Ruyton and Masefield Ward of the County Council (which includes Llanymynech and Pant) has been selected as one of the pilot Neighbourhood Forums. This will have a representative from each of the 8 Parish Councils as well as other bodies and there will be a budget of £40,000 to spend in the year. Cllr Ian Pollitt is the Councillor attending the Forum.