

## FUN FOR ALL AGES

The old wooden play equipment on Pant playing field looked sad and tired and desperately needed replacing, as quickly as possible. The Parish Council decided to apply for a loan of £15,000 for play equipment, £5,000 towards Llanymynech and £10,000 to re-equip Pant field. The installation was drawn out over a few months due to the weather, but gradually new metal play equipment has been installed.

Pant playing field has traditionally been for junior children, so two new sets of swings (toddler and junior), a springy rider and a multi-play unit with various activities was chosen with new seating. The wooden trim trail has remained as it is still in order. The installation was planned to be completed shortly after Easter, as the field is very slow draining. The final touches will be safety surfacing and signs stating the recommended age range for using the equipment and prohibiting dogs. Dogs are banned from all children's' play areas so the play area must not be used as a through route for dog walking.

The Council's Play Sub-Committee who had raised funds to install the new junior play equipment on Llanymynech playing field costing £13,000, continued in their efforts to raise money for more equipment. Their next item was the goal end with the tarmac surface. This was installed by Ray Parry Ltd at a cost of over £4,000, but the Council have been especially grateful to Dave Evans and Hansons (as well as Digga Rentals) for the donation of the tarmac surface. The amount of material and man hours was probably over £5,000, so a very creditable donation to the community for young people. The Youth Club members efforts also gained funding from Shropshire Council for the youth shelter, which has now been erected on the side of the field.

Oswestry Borough Council's demise produced a 'pot' of community funding to which the Parish Council could apply, and they successfully bid for £9,000 for a new aerial runway for



Llanymynech. The original wooden structure had been condemned at the annual equipment inspection and as it has been the most popular item for many miles around, the Parish Council were very keen to replace it. So, now there will shortly be a new runway, together with two other new items part funded by the Committee's efforts, due to appear in mid April.

Llanymynech Bowling Club had asked the Parish Council (as owners) if they could erect a metal fence around the bowling green, if they could raise the money. This was agreed upon, local residents were consulted and a planning application made. The Club raised the funding for the fence which cost over £7,000. This amount together with the amount spent on play equipment brings the total spent on the two playing fields to £58,000, a marvellous effort for a small community.

# LLANYMYNECH LIMeworks

The Council contributed funding to the Limeworks restoration project, 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 achieved a tremendous amount during the 3 year term. The site was officially 'opened' in April with a small event led by character actors. The restored and extended stables provide an education facility and can be used for meetings as well as school visits.

The most impressive and atmospheric sight is the restored Hoffmann Kiln, the roof protecting it from the elements, providing shelter for the ghostly images of limeworkers. These limeworkers can be seen throughout the site, leaning against a wall, operating a brake lever or enjoying a rest. Replica trucks also add to the interest and the restored brickwork at the Tally House enables the visitor to really understand what the site was about. One of the most exciting aspects is the linking of the lower site with the quarry above by the incline plane which can be walked by travelling under the A483 via the now cleared tunnel. The site is accessible to wheelchair or pram users and there are plenty of seats to take a rest or picnic and enjoy the bird song.



A really exciting event was the Community Play entitled 'In The Limelight' specially commissioned by the Project to be written by Neil Rhodes and staged by The LADS (Llanymynech Amateur Dramatic Society) throughout the Limeworks site in July 2008, involving a huge cast of all ages, depicting the severe and dangerous working conditions as well as some of the local legends. A further Victorian Discovery Day was held on the 17th May and on the 6th June the inaugural meeting was held to form 'The Limeys' a group of people who will ensure the Llanymynech Limeworks continues to provide events and education in 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).

## REACHING ACROSS BORDERS

The Parish Council have held joint meetings with Carreghofa Community Council to discuss a number of issues which affect the residents on both sides of the border. The War Memorial stands on Welsh soil, but commemorates English and Welsh war dead, so the refurbishment of the memorial is being discussed. The cemetery, too, is under discussion as the Councils believe they should be considering whether to find more land for future burials. So far these meetings have been held in November and March and are planned to continue



## WHO ARE THE PARISH COUNCILLORS?



The Chairman is Cllr Ian Pollitt. Other Councillors are Adam Brown, Mrs. Dilys Gaskill, Les Griffiths, Leigh Northcott-Hammond, John Jaffrey, Mark Keaveny (although he has recently resigned due to pressure of work), Terry Mason, Peter McConville, Barry Robinson and Mrs. Janet Smith. Cllr Mrs. Dilys Gaskill is also the County Councillor and John Duggan was the Borough Councillor until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008. Mrs. Vivien Byrne is the Clerk.

## MONEY MONEY MONEY



Accounts for the year 2007/08 have been audited. The Precept for 2008/09 amounted to £15,374. 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. Donation of £140 was made to Llanymynech Youth Club for summer activities. Half the cost of the maintenance of the village clock on the tower of St. Agatha's Church is paid by the Council.



## UNITARY MATTERS TO ONE AND ALL

Prior to the beginning of the new Unitary Shropshire Council, it was decided to have a few pilot areas running joint local Parish Council Committees using a delegated budget from Shropshire County Council and meeting on a regular basis to decide priorities and spend the budget. Llanymynech and Pant was included in one of the 5 pilots in the county. Over a two year period Local Joint Committee meetings were held throughout the parishes and £40,000 was spent on a variety of projects. Llanymynech and Pant benefited from grants for Good Companions outings, new notice boards for Pant, the youth shelter, play equipment grants and a grant towards a Co-ordinator for the Limeys, the Village Hall and Duchess Countess Trust. The

Committees were a forerunner of how the new Council will operate at local level and were very successful. The new electoral ward for Shropshire Council for this area will be known as Llanymynech.



## LIGHTING ROADS AND PAVEMENTS



The Parish Council are responsible for street lighting throughout the village, apart from the lights on the A483 which are the responsibility of the Highways Agency. Many complaints have been received about the day burning or night time lack of lighting for these lights; the Parish Council can only pass on the complaints and the Agency eventually have them repaired. Another source of many complaints has been the lighting situation at Badgers Green, due firstly to the removal of a light at the entrance which belonged to the Council and then from the new home owners regarding the lack of any street lights on the estate. The Council have tried to address these issues and have insisted that the Parish Council light be replaced. The lighting of the estate is the responsibility of the Developer Charles Church Homes.

The most famous road in the area, is of course, the A483 and the campaign for a Bypass. The Parish Council try to keep this at the top of the Agenda and regularly remind our MP Owen Paterson to highlight the need at every opportunity.