



The Pantlan Reporter

Issue 18 April 2011

FIELDS for EVERY GENERATION and FOREVER

The Council combined with efforts from volunteers now have a number of fields and recreation areas, which can be enjoyed by all ages and are a credit to the area. Llanymynech King George V playing field now has junior play equipment, dog proof fenced off from the rest of the field. The Volunteers fund raising enabled equipment for older children to be installed a rolling log and a twister, a kicking wall for games of football, cricket and basketball all on a hard all weather surface and a new aerial runway completed the equipment. The Pant playing field was equipped by the Parish Council with new swings, springy rider, a multi-play unit and seats. New litter bins and signs completed the refurbishment.

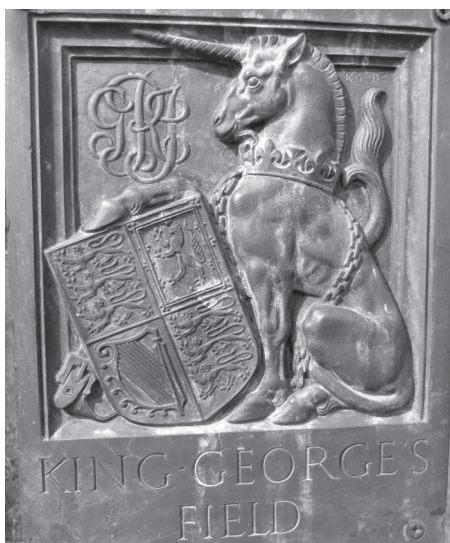
The Village Green in the centre of Pant has spring flowers and ornamental trees, as well as the Millennium Oak and seat.

The two other fields owned by the Parish Council are the Recreation Field behind Bryn Offa School and The Meadow at the end of Rockwell Lane, the first tenanted by



Shropshire Council during school hours only, but available for the community at other times and the second also tenanted.

The Council intends to protect two of these spaces under the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee scheme, similar to Llanymynech's King George V field. The Village Green and Pant Playing Field are the two fields chosen, which would ensure their protection for ever, and will commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.



THE ROAD RUNS THROUGH

The busy road that bisects Pant and Llanymynech, is the source of concern to everyone living in the vicinity. The high volume of traffic traveling the A483 through the village with very narrow pavements to access schools, shops, pub or village Hall is a subject continually raised by the Parish Council. Every year has contained meetings on possible solutions to the problem and 2010/11 is no exception. The year began with news of a very costly repair at the north end of Pant where the embankment was collapsing, (unfortunately a Bypass was not seen as a solution). Traffic chaos ensued while the embankment was re-built with 3 way lights in place, and it was avoided by the HGV traffic which followed a diversion. Early in the year, meetings were held to learn of the implication of convoys transporting wind turbines through the village to the proposed wind farms in Wales. In June a trial run of a mock convoy took place and was observed and timed through Pant. Briefing meetings and forums have been attended and the Council is joining a Working Group set up to administer a fund for community benefit for villages affected by the wind farms.



Photo left is June 2010 mock convoy negotiating Nelly Wynn's corner. All other road traffic was stopped whilst this one transporter came through

Photos below show highway engineers being walked through the village by Cllr Mrs Dilys Gaskill. This followed the public meeting reported on the next page



Photo right shows Owen Paterson, MP, considering points in the January meeting regarding local roads.



PUBLIC MEETING REGARDING LOCAL ROADS



A Public Meeting was held on the 28th January organized by the Local Joint Committee and attended by the Leader of Shropshire Council, Keith Barrow, Owen Paterson MP, representatives of the Highways Agency and Highways Department staff. Subsequently the Chairman, Cllr Mrs. Dilys Gaskill walked the HA Route Steward the length of the village to point out the sites and problems.

The Highways Agency has replied that they have identified some money to undertake a pedestrian survey near the shop in Pant at peak times and that a speed indicator device for the village could be considered if all the authorities involved supported one. Other items such as pot holes and gully repairs will be targeted.

PATHS AND BYEWAYS

The new Right of Way leading from The Tramway to Station Road, Pant is now on the Definitive Map and has been cleared and waymarked. It has been used quite frequently, as it provides a route to the shop or the canal. The Council are keen to have someone act as a paths liaison volunteer, someone who regularly walks the paths around the village and could act as the 'eyes' for Shropshire Council's maintenance team, unfortunately not a paid role, but there may be some social benefit. Some paths can get very overgrown before anyone reports them, then the clearance becomes a mammoth task, a volunteer reporting problems at an early stage would be invaluable.

The Dog Control Orders 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.

LLANMYNECH HERITAGE PARTNERSHIP

The Heritage Partnership continues to meet quarterly and is Chaired by Cllr Mrs. Dilys Gaskill. One of the recent projects emanating from this Group of organizations is a Toposcope to be erected on Llanymynech Hill. Consultation workshops took place and exhibitions of possible designs have been displayed. Details of this, and other local information can be found on the website www.llanymynech.org.uk. which the Parish Council operates and funds.

SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL



Shropshire Councillor for the area is Arthur Walpole. Cllr Walpole attends the Parish Council meetings and liaises with The Clerk on any issues requiring his attention. Recent issues have included the mini island at Badgers Green, which is an ongoing problem for large vehicles. The fence at the Lion Hotel, Llanymynech and damage by the gales has been another matter for his attention. Cllr Walpole reports on the LJC, planning matters, particularly the supermarket applications in Oswestry. Planning applications in the village are always commented upon by the Council and these comments passed to the Planning Department with copies to Cllr Walpole.

The Parish Council formed a Working Group to formulate comments on the important planning documents being prepared by Shropshire Council to determine planning and development for the future. Comments were made on transport and access, community safety, housing distribution, employment development, priorities for infrastructure investment, tourism and site allocations and types of housing.

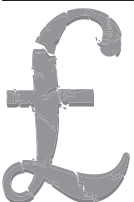
YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL AND COUNCILLORS

The Parish Council is the level of government closest to the people it serves. 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. The Council needs local people to stand for election to maintain a vibrant, active group to represent all the village. The changes that are being made, The Localism Bill notably will give more power to local people and should make for greater advantages for local Councils. This is the year for an election, which will be held on the 5th May 2011, watch for the posters and publicity.

This year has seen a couple of changes, as Cllrs Leigh Northcott-Hammond resigned in July when he moved away and John Jaffrey resigned in September due to other commitments. Following the formal process of advertising the vacancies, two new Councillors were co-opted Ron Crispin and Peter Roberts, both from Pant.

The Chairman is currently Cllr Mrs. Dilys Gaskill. Other Councillors are Adam Brown, Ron Crispin, Les Griffiths, Peter McConville, Terry Mason, Mike Melling, Ian Pollitt, Peter Roberts, Barry Robinson and Mrs. Janet Smith. Cllr Arthur Walpole is the Shropshire Councillor. Mrs. Vivien Byrne is the Clerk.

MONEY MONEY MONEY



Accounts for the year 2009/10 have been audited by Mazars. The Precept for 2010/11 amounted to £17,290. Under section 137 of the Local Government Act the Council is able to make donations. Donations were given to The Lads, towards the community Play and half the cost of the maintenance of the village clock on the tower of St. Agatha's Church is paid by the Council.