

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING- Once again, thank you for the excellent turnout at our Annual Parish Meeting in May- we are the envy of most other parishes where councillors outnumber the public! Please keep up your involvement and interest, without that we can't achieve anything.

WOODHALL SPA COTTAGE MUSEUM celebrated a double award success in the Lincolnshire Renaissance Heritage Awards. One for the Best Event in 2009 with its 'Woodhall Spa is a Treasure Box' and one for the Best Use Of the Lincolnshire Heritage Forum Website with its e-commerce marketing of its sought after DVD 'Why Woodhall Spa?'. If you're new to the village, this is an ideal way to find out all about us. It's available on the Net, from Cottage Museum or local retailers.

DATES FOR THE DIARY- Celebrate the Lincolnshire Limewoods at a Working **Woodlands Weekend** at Chambers Farm Wood near Wragby on Sat 12th and Sun 13th September, 11.00am - 4.00pm . Traditional craft demonstrations, activities for the young (and young at heart), guided walks and much more. Refreshments available or bring a picnic More information: www.limewoods.co.uk or phone 01522 552345. The Coronation Hall Trust are holding an **Arts & Crafts Fair** on Saturday 31st October at Coronation Hall. There will be a Halloween Fancy Dress Competition and pumpkin competition. Look out for posters for more details.

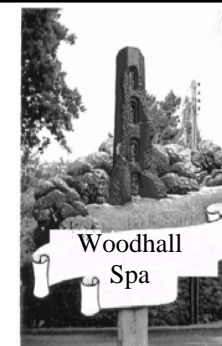
FIRST CONTACT you may have seen this in the press, it's about having an easy to reach single point of contact for the elderly and vulnerable to easily access the many different types of help and support out there from money and benefits that you may be entitled to, to maintaining a healthy lifestyle. For further information you can collect a leaflet from the Parish Council office, library or doctors surgery; or telephone 01522 782172 or e-mail firstcontact@lincolnshire.gov.uk

BLUEPRINT FOR WOODHALL SPA'S FUTURE. The national planning system is changing and this time at parish level we're being consulted first rather than told what's good for us after- at least that's the theory. Before we get down to the nitty gritty of what happens here, the wider framework, from the region down, is being put in place, even as we speak, and if we don't have our say on these core policies now, we won't have a leg to stand on if they stop us doing what we want for Woodhall Spa later. The latest round of policies, ELDC's own draft Core Strategy, is being discussed at the next Horncastle Area Committee meeting, a quarterly event which covers towns and villages in this part of the district. Form the first time we're hosting it and as always members of the public are welcome to attend. Its on Monday 12th October at 7pm in Jubilee Park Café. Within the next 18 months the whole new Local development framework (LDF) as its known will be in place and we will be stuck with it for 20 years or so. this is your chance to hear the way it's going.

You can read the document on www.e-lindsey.gov.uk. Don't be put off by the length, you can quickly scroll through to the bits that matter.

U 3 A COMING SOON TO WOODHALL SPA- Keep your eyes open for more information. Flyers will be sent out and a meeting arranged during October.

www.woodhallspa.org



WOODHALL SPA PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER Issue 3 2009

PARISH COUNCILLORS

David Clarke (Chairman)	354330	Neil Storey	351433
Joanna Nelstrop	354107	Gillian Baker	352997
Amarylis Midgley	353533	David Hill	353070
Patricia Franklin	353026	Elsbeth Mace	353548
Daphne Robinson	354385	Will Saunders	353616
Eileen Pickavance	353184	VACANCY	

PARISH CLERK

Amanda Bushell 352461 woodhallpc@tiscali.co.uk
OFFICE 17 Stanhope Avenue, Woodhall Spa, LN10 6SP

The Parish Office opening times are: Tuesday 3.30pm – 5.30pm
Thursday 9.30am – 11.30am

NEW COUNCILLOR NEEDED. We are very sorry to report that Audrey Pestell has decided to leave the council after 11 years invaluable service. We are now looking for someone to replace her. If you are interested contact the Clerk for more details. The only qualification is that you must care about Woodhall Spa and that you have time to contribute to all the consultations and initiatives we create to help shape our community's future. Free training is given. However, we must warn you, there will be no free duck houses and you won't get your moat cleaned!!

COUNCIL MEETINGS. Parish Council Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm (except January & August). There is a 15 minute public forum before the meeting begins when members of the public may ask questions and make short statements to the Council. The agenda is displayed on the village notice board and on the website 3 clear days prior to the meeting.

YOUR LOCAL POLICING TEAM

Community Beat Manager for Woodhall Spa – PC Chris Redfearn 07939312889-
chris.redfearn@lincs.pnn.police.uk
Police Community Support officer – Martin Clough 07825100410 –
martin.clough@lincs.pnn.police.uk

DITCHES AND DRAINS - AGAIN. There's nothing like a flash flood just before a meeting on drainage to galvanise the various agencies into action. You will have noticed extensive and continuing work on our ditches and drains in recent weeks. Our second drainage summit proved interesting, and productive. We are now keeping an online log of all the issues reported to us and the various bodies – Anglian Water, The Drainage Board, Environment Agency and ELDC, have agreed to use this to keep us up to date on progress.

FATS ARE BAD FOR YOU, and for the drains too. Following on from the summit Anglian water have asked us to draw your attention to the problems putting fat down the drains can cause – and it's not just commercial premises at fault. A few facts:

- We use three times as much fat in our cooking as we did in the 1960s and washing a lot of it down the drains-10% of our sewer capacity is lost to fats and oils
- Hot fat quickly solidifies in the sewers and can become as hard as rock needing specialist equipment to move it
- Fat-blocked sewers cause sewage flooding, sometimes to neighbouring properties
- Any fats getting into water courses can be devastating for wildlife
- Fats in sewers are causing growing problems with rats
- Spend on jetting out sewers to clear away fat has trebled in the last 5 years

The solution?

- Put food waste into the bin, don't wash it down the drain or use a macerator
- Collect waste fat and oil in a container for disposal- why not add seeds to make a bird feed?
- Use an organic fat-trap to soak up fat, then dispose of it in the bin

Restaurants and takeaways can ask Anglian Water about their free waste oil and fat collection service where the waste is turned into bio-diesel.

HOW MANY SHOPPING DAYS TO CHRISTMAS? Christmas will be brighter in Woodhall Spa this year as many businesses have agreed to have a real Christmas tree with lights mounted on brackets above their premises. We have found volunteers to put the brackets up – many thanks to GN Construction- but we need help putting the trees and lights in place on Sunday 29th November and again to take them down on Sunday 3rd January. We also need a cherry picker on both dates. If you can help please contact our clerk or any councillor. More details of Christmas events in the next newsletter.



KNOTTY PROBLEM. No apologies for raising the issue of Japanese Knotweed again. Be warned, if you think you've had it and got rid of it, you won't have, you'll almost certainly have cause it to spread further. Like an iceberg, most activity is underground and just a centimetre of root will cause another outbreak, even metres away from the original. No effective treatment can take place now until May, and then it must be by professionals with chemicals only they can use. Contact our clerk for more information on this pernicious problem or visit the Parish Council section on the community website.

KEEPING WOODHALL SPA TIDY-In addition to our various self-help litter picking projects, we have signed up to the national campaign to clamp down on fly tipping and littering from vehicles. If anyone witnesses a littering offence, please phone the free hotline 0800 195 5228 report via the website www.keepbritaintidy.org or to ELDC on flytipping@e-lindsey.gov.uk

RECYCLE NEWS.. You can now put clean used yoghurt pots and margarine cartons into the grey recycling bins- remember the only other plastics allowed are types 1 and 2 (check the triangular recycling symbol). If in doubt, leave it out or a whole recycling consignment may be rejected. We also want your views on the siting of the recycle bins - we want to make more room for parking near their current site and Budgens have kindly offered to site some of them in their car park instead, but which ones and whether to take up this offer, we need to decide, your views are welcome.



BETTER KEPT VILLAGE We made it through to the second round of the Best Kept Village this year with an excellent 122/130 - last year we gained 132/150- but sadly not to the final three. It's hard to know how we can improve on that, but with your help, we'll keep on trying!

MONEY MAKES THE WORLD GO ROUND.. and there will be many organisations out there wondering how they can fund future projects. Now is the time to start planning if you want to apply for a grant from the Parish council next year. We have an annual grant application process- nothing too daunting, but the deadline is the end of October as we have to include any planned expenses in the preparation for our 2010 budget. For an application form and more information, please contact the clerk.



DOGGY DO'S AND DON'TS. It's official, suitably contained dog waste can now be disposed of in any litter bin. However, we are adding to our sites for dog waste bins. We are also in the middle of a project to replace our tired and dismal concrete litter bins with some more in keeping. Thank you for your suggestions on the siting of both.

LIBRARY HOURS REMINDER- We now have the mobile library on two days as well as the use of our (hopefully) permanent library- a reminder of where and when – Mobile library – Every Monday Golf Hotel 13.00 'til 15.00, Oakland Park 15.10 'til 17.00. Main library - Tuesday 10.00 'til 16.00, Thursday 14.00 'til 19.00, Friday 10.00 'til 14.00, Saturday 10.00 'til 13.00. If you have any issues for the Friends of Woodhall Spa Library, leave a message with the clerk. Remember, we have Parish Council surgeries in the library on the first Saturday of the Month, 10-11am – the next one is Saturday 3rd October- we may not be able to help immediately, but we'll 'know a man who can'.