



Gedling's Aligned Core Strategy

Many residents will recall the prolonged fight Papplewick and Linby Parish Council's mounted to prevent development taking place on Linby's Green Belt land, including Top Wighay Farm. Now, Gedling are wanting to build even more houses in Linby.

The Parish Council initially contributed £125 towards costs incurred by Linby Parish Council in opposing these plans. We have joined forces with Linby and have added a further £500 to the Brownfield First campaign fund.

At a Cabinet Meeting of Gedling Borough Council on 13th February the Aligned Core Strategy (ACS) was passed despite some clear arguments identified by our planning consultant as to why the plan in its present format is neither legal or sound. The next step will be for the ACS to go before a planning inspector. The appointed person will consider representations that have been made and test its overall soundness and legal compliance. Part of this process will involve a Public Examination where the Inspector will hold round-table hearings to discuss specific issues. He/she will invite further supporting evidence from the Councils and respondents as necessary. Participation in the Examination will be at the discretion of the Inspector. The Examination is currently expected to commence in July 2013.

It is important that our opposition to these plans is heard loud and clear at Gedling. There are plenty of brownfield sites around the Borough that could take these new houses without the need to permanently desecrate open countryside.



Lenghtsman Scheme

The Parish Council will be taking part in a pilot Lenghtsman Scheme. Notts. County Council have established this scheme to give parish councils control over minor highway problems that County cannot prioritise themselves. Over the next financial year, the Scheme will be entirely funded by Notts. County Council. Papplewick will then need to decide whether to continue with our participation and if so, it is likely that we will have to contribute some 50% towards the costs.

Under the pilot, we will be joining forces with four other local councils into a cluster, which will be administered by Ravenshead Parish Council. Jobs that need doing around Papplewick will be passed to the contractor and we hope that by participating we will be able to get some of the annoying little jobs carried out around the parish that will make it a more pleasant place for all. These will include grass cutting, clearing back paths and dealing with minor drainage issues. Parish Council Chairman, Cllr. David McCracken, will be co-ordinating these works on our behalf. Look out for

works being carried out over the coming months.

Play Day

Our annual Play Day was once again a great success last year with an estimated 1,100 people attending. This year Play Day will be taking place on Wednesday, 24th July. Activities are still being planned but are likely to include Crazy Golf, KMX go karts, a bongo drummer, craft stall, Den Building, Bouncy Castle and Road Safety.

Forest Lane/A60 Junction

At our November Parish Council meeting, a representative from Notts. County Council's Highways Department attended to tell us about the results of a survey to assess the impact of improvements at this junction.

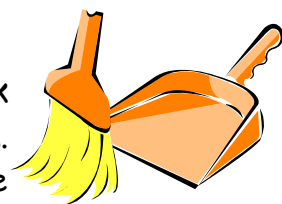


Traffic flows along Forest Lane have increased by 27% eastbound but there has been no increase westbound. With volumes only up by 3% on Linby Lane, and a reduction of 10% on Main Street/Blidworth Way, NCC conclude that the Forest Lane increase is not due to rat-running through Linby but a transfer of traffic off Blidworth Way. Indeed, the overall traffic levels on both Forest Lane and Linby Lane remain roughly the same now as when the Parish Council conducted a traffic survey in 1996 at approximately 10,000 vehicle movements per day. No data has been provided in relation to Mansfield Road.

There has been one reported accident in the eight months covered by the survey compared to six in the three years before. All casualties were "slightly" injured. However, it is too early to arrive at any definitive conclusions on the safety benefits until further time has passed. As anyone using the junction will be aware, delays have significantly reduced. These stand at an average of around 2 minutes as opposed to up to 11 minutes before the traffic signals were installed.

Best Kept Village Competition

As mentioned in our last Newsletter, the Parish Council entered Papplewick into the Campaign to Protect Rural England's annual competition. Unfortunately, we did not proceed beyond the preliminary round. We were supplied with reasons for this lack of success, extracts of which we provide below, together with our comments:



Judges Comments	Our response
❖ Some gardens were lovely and well kept, some were O.K. and others unkempt.	❖ Thank you to all the gardeners who made an effort to keep their plot tidy.
❖ Bus shelter on Linby Lane contained cigarette butts and needed sweeping.	❖ Gedling Borough Council are responsible for maintaining the bus shelter.
❖ Village Hall was tidy and play area behind it was O.K. The day we visited it appeared ready for a mow and there was the odd bit of litter about.	❖ The Parish Council pay for the Playing Field grass to be cut about once every two months. Litter on the Field is a constant problem and we rely on volunteers to clear litter away when they can spare time.
❖ Planters around the village were colourful but contained some weeds.	❖ These too are maintained by volunteers.

❖ The footpath notice board on Church Lane did not contain a map.

❖ The Council were awaiting delivery of a new map from the County Council. This has now been installed.

We'll try again another year!

Local Improvement Scheme

This is a countywide initiative run by Notts. County Council which aims to refurbish local towns, villages & parishes with environmental improvements. Over previous years the parish has benefited with funds being made available for improvements to the Playing Field and new notice boards. We are now looking at making further applications for the 2014-15 financial year.

2014 will mark the 100th anniversary since World War I began. Numerous people left Papplewick to serve their country and four parishioners made the ultimate sacrifice, never to return home. When the call came again between 1939 and 1945, a similar pattern of loyal service emerged.

Apart from two small plaques inside St. James' Church, the people of Papplewick who gave so much remain largely forgotten. The Parish Council wish to see their efforts suitably recorded for generations to come. With this in mind, we are considering the creation of a memorial, funded by the Local Improvement Scheme. This project is at a very early stage and the form of such a memorial, together with the names to be recorded upon it, have yet to be decided. However, we would welcome comments from anyone interested in contributing ideas or suggestions. In particular, any information about the following Service personnel who died during both conflicts will be of interest. We are also looking for the names and details of other people serving with the Armed Forces who either lived in Papplewick at the time they joined up or moved here whilst serving.

1914-1918

Harold Bass MC

Charles Haywood

Herbert Webster

Harold Weston

1939-1945

Alan Chadburn

Joseph Clarke

Major Hadley

Herbert Wright

Robert Nunn

We are also aware that Pilot Officer Miroslav Vejražka of 311 Squadron RAF and W/O Stanislaw Cieslik of the Polish Air Force died in this parish whilst on active service and again any information would be most welcome.

Finance

The Council's Finance Committee met in October to consider our budget for the coming financial year. Most heads of expenditure were considered likely to be identical to those set for the current year. However, following the loss of Revenue Support Grant from Gedling, we are still finding it difficult to replace this income.



Over the last few years considerable improvements and additions have been made to the Playing Field and its equipment. We hope that these facilities will benefit a wide range of parishioners, both young and old. They are certainly being well used. Although most of the equipment is still relatively new, at some stage it will require replacing. If the Council is to continue to provide the parish with facilities of this standard, we will need to put money aside each year to cover the eventual cost of replacement. Because playing equipment is expensive, we need to accumulate a large pot of money and have decided to set aside £1,500 during the next financial year.

The full Council has subsequently approved the Finance Committee's recommendations and therefore the precept for 2013-14 has been set at £9,009, a 5% increase. That's 63p per week for a Band D household. We anticipate that in order to continue paying into the Playing Field fund in subsequent years, the precept will need to continue rising at above the rate of inflation.



Playing Field

Fields in Trust recently confirmed that the Playing Field has formally become a part of the Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge. A Deed of Dedication has been signed which will permanently protect the Playing Field as an outdoor recreational space for generations to come.

Work has begun on creating a sensory garden on the Playing Field, including removal of a sycamore tree. We have so far raised £770 towards the cost and a further £750 will be forthcoming from FIT. The garden will incorporate raised beds with a host of plants that stimulate the senses.

Make First Contact

If you're 60 or over First Contact gets you help from lots of organisations to help you stay safe and independent in your home through one simple checklist. No need to make numerous telephone calls and give the same information to lots of different people. You can receive free advice on: Clubs and societies, falls prevention, home fire safety checks, home security/crime reduction, housing, pensions, social care, transport services, welfare benefits advice.

The scheme is a partnership of key agencies and organisations, and operates throughout Nottinghamshire. Just complete the checklist and you'll be contacted by people who can help.

Visit <http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/firstcontact> to complete a First Contact checklist or call Notts. County Council on 0300 500 8080. First Contact is managed by Rushcliffe Community & Voluntary Service and administered by Notts. County Council.

Looking for cheaper fuel oil?

Charity Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire (RCAN) set up a Bulk Oil buying scheme last year. Already over 300 people have joined the scheme saving on average 5p a litre or £50 on a 1000 litre order, with everyone saving at least the equivalent of their membership fee on their first order. If you would like to know more and join the scheme yourself, please telephone 01623 727600 or email oil@rcan.org.uk

And Finally - Our Thanks

To Cllr. Chris Barnfather for £250 towards our sensory garden project. We are also extend our grateful thanks to the Papplewick and Linby Leisure Enterprise Group who have contributed £300 towards the same project and for a huge £2,000 cheque spent on another item of outdoor gym equipment for the Playing Field.

Next Council meeting & AGM will be on Wednesday, 8th May 2013 at 7.15pm

All parishioners welcome

Email clerk@papplewick.org

Papplewick Parish Website: www.papplewick.org

This edition edited by Colin Womble