

LYDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2007

Welcome to the first newsletter of your new Council!

This is principally to update you on what we are doing to tackle speeding in the village, the main subject raised at the Annual Parish Meeting earlier this year, and to provide some additional information to you.

SPEEDING

So far, your Council has done the following:

Speeding investigation

We arranged for Rutland County Council to carry out an investigation by placing black boxes at both ends of the village for four days from 17 to 23 July. The black boxes were placed outside numbers 9 and 113, Main Street. They measured the speed of vehicles over a distance of about 30 metres, both north and southbound, the time of day and the date. From the investigation, it was found that peak traffic periods are between 0700 and 0800, and 1600 and 1700. There is also a significant amount of traffic between 1300 and 1400 southbound. Most vehicles exceeding the speed limit were registered between 0600 and 0800, and 1400 and 1800, both north and southbound.

Over the four-day period	southbound	northbound	exceeding 40mph
At the <i>north</i> end of village			
No. of vehicles recorded as exceeding 30mph	350	294	19
At the <i>south</i> end of village			
No. of vehicles recorded as exceeding 30mph	217	356	31

NOTE: It is evident that there is a small minority of village residents who regularly exceed the speed limit. We would ask that all residents are mindful of the large number of children in blind entrances in the village.

Leicestershire Community Speedwatch

Having researched this scheme, which also covers Rutland, your Council has decided it is worthwhile. This scheme trains a number of volunteers, free of charge, to conduct a survey using speed guns. It is then possible to write to those logged as exceeding the speed limit to highlight the dangers of speeding. To join the scheme we need the support of 20 per cent of village residents – approximately 60/65 people – and Council members will be asking for signatures shortly. We also need a minimum of 6, and a maximum of 12, volunteers prepared to undertake training and then carry out the survey. We have already received offers from a number residents but still need more volunteers, particularly from the south end of the village. If anyone would like to volunteer please let one of the Councillors know.

In case of interest, the web link for Speedwatch is <http://www.speedorsafety.com/community-speed-watch/>

Speed Indicator Signs

This is an expensive option (around £1,500, plus the cost of installation) but evidence from another village (Ketton), which has just installed them, is that they have had a positive effect on traffic calming. A grant from the County Council may be possible and we will investigate this option further.

Highway Improvements

We understand that the County Council Highways Department prioritise schemes on the basis of need, which to a large extent is based on accident records. Any proposal put forward will need Cabinet approval and we will need the support of the County Councillor representing Lyddington. Initial contact with her has been made.

Police

We have also been in touch with our local beat officer, PC Anderson, who notes that speeding is a priority for us (he attended our Annual Parish meeting) as well as for a number of other villages in the area. We have sent him the results of the speeding investigation so he can feed this back to the Highways Department. He has also offered to undertake training with a speed gun to enable him to conduct some speed trapping in the future (those caught will receive 3 points on their driving licence and a £60 fine). He supports our participation in Speedwatch.

WEBSITE

As advertised recently on the village notice boards, the Council (led by Alan Marshall) is developing a website which will contain, among other things, dates, agendas and minutes for Council meetings and relevant news items.

We would like to develop the site much further but need assistance from someone with a good working knowledge of developing web sites, or a student who is currently studying web site design at college. Anyone interested in helping should contact Alan. The website address at present is www.leicestershireparishcouncils.org/lyddington. We are in the process of changing this to something more user friendly and will update you via the notice boards.

TIDY VILLAGE AWRD

The presentation to Lyddington of the 2007 Tidy Village Award (large village category) took place on Saturday 29 September on the Village Green. The presentation was made by the Chairman of Rutland County Council, Mr Chris Parsons, to Mrs Harriet Tassell, Chair of the Parish Council. Thank you to all of you who attended.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Details of your Parish Councillors are listed below:

Name	Address	Tel.	Email
Mrs Harriett Tassell (Chair)	15 Colley Rise	822351	the_tassells@msn.com
Dr Ian Canadine	The Manor House, 22 Main St	823328	ian.canadine@uwclub.net
Mr Robert (Hugh) Clarke	7 The Green	823082	n/a
Mr Simon Griffiths-Baker	12 Main St	821176	simon@apt-design.co.uk
Mr Alan Marshall	109 Main St	822684	alanat109@aol.com
Mrs Erica Straw	Appletree Cottage, 89 Main St	821674	ericastraw@tiscali.co.uk
Ms Dawn Sugden	North Cottage, 48 Main St	821336	
Ms Elizabeth Hobley, (Clerk)	Jasmine Cottage, 105 Main St	07919 326871	elizabeth.hobley@bhpbilliton.com

*Lyddington Parish Council
18 October 2007*