

Parwich Village Action Group

(In conjunction with Peak Park Discovering Villages Project and Parwich Parish Council)

Up-date April 2002

Many of you will remember the questionnaire you filled in, in September 2000. The results of this questionnaire were presented at an open meeting in the Memorial Hall in early 2001, at which a set of aims were agreed (see the Peak Park website <http://www.peakdistrict.org>), and a number of groups set up. This included a coordinating group, which established a constitution, and opened a bank account. It meets every few months to share information from the various groups, liaise with the Peak Park and Parish Council and gather information on possible funding sources. We also receive in electronic form the Charities Information Bureau's monthly newsletter of grants and funding sources. The co-ordination group consists of:

Val Kirkham	Tel 390458	Email fi@fifi.fsworld.co.uk
Fiona Paterson	Tel 390450	Email peter@dtrewhitt.freereserve.co.uk
Peter Trewhitt (Chair)	Tel 390287	Email wayne@nethergreenhouse.fsnet.co.uk
Jean Wayne	Tel 390268	Email annwheeldon50@hotmail.com
Ann Wheeldon (Secretary)	Tel 390571	Email janicewigley@hotmail.com
Janice Wigley (Treasurer)	Tel 390281	

The current work of the groups is set out below, and anyone want to be involved in any aspect should contact one of the co-ordinators or the relevant group:

Environment

Agreed Aims:

- *Protect and maintain the green and open spaces in and around the village.*
- *Protect village heritage and lifestyle.*
- *Identify and promote specific improvements to enhance the village environment.*

The Environment group is currently surveying the village to prepare a statement of what is valued, which, when agreed by the Parish Council, will be lodged with the Peak Park planners. We recently organised a successful work day tidying the troughs on Kiln Lane and Pump Hill, and the well by Knob Hall on Creamery Lane. We are seeking funding to complete the restoration of this well.

We are also seeking funding for a number of benches to be placed around the village. Under the guidance of the Peak Park we will be surveying the plants growing on the verges and 'waste' ground in the village, with a view to planting more wild flowers over the next few years. We hope to organise more work days in the

future. We have compiled a list of relevant bodies to get things done or to complain to.

Contacts: Patti Beasley Tel 390206
Peter Trewhitt Tel 390287

Social Housing

Agreed Aim:

- *Ensure provision and continued availability of low cost housing in the village.*

The Housing Group has been concentrating its efforts into looking at the possible options for social housing on the site of the School House. This has been given Peak Park officer approval in principle, and a number of housing associations have expressed an interest in developing in Parwich. Achieving this will probably depend upon whether the County Council is willing and able to obtain permission not to sell at market value.

The group would very much welcome other members, particularly those who would wish to access social housing and especially young people who would like to remain in the village.

Contact: Fiona Paterson Tel 390450

Community Hall and Sports Hall Facilities

Agreed Aims:

- *Development of a multi-use community hall in Parwich, providing additional facilities to the existing hall.*
- *Improve sports pavilion facilities.*
- *Explore a combined solution to both the above.*

Our first obstacle was trying to obtain a consensus of what was wanted. All groups and organisations in the village were sent a further questionnaire, which confirmed the need for a larger community hall and for sports hall facilities.

We have visited Hulland Ward Millennium Hall and the Medway Centre in Bakewell; had some discussion with various funding bodies; and had a seminar organised by the Derbyshire Rural Community Council entitled "Planning Designing Building" all of which have given us a great deal of information.

A site meeting with the Peak Park officers at the Memorial Hall and at Parson's Croft lead to the conclusion that because of parking limitations a planning application for a building on the Memorial Hall site, large enough to incorporate sports facilities, would not be looked on favourably. In contrast the planners would look favourably on an application for a hall/sports hall associated with the Parson's Croft site.

However there is not a consensus for moving the village hall facilities away from the present Memorial Hall site, so we are focusing on exploring possible sites and funding for a separate sports hall on or near Parson's Croft.

Contacts: Di Turnbull Tel 390547
Ann Wheeldon Tel 390571

Children's Play Area

Agreed Aim:

- *Improve existing children's play facilities*

A small and very enthusiastic group of young parents raced ahead with plans and estimates for the children's play area on the green by the dam. Plans were drawn up and a quotation of £25,000 for the preferred option received. The main factor in this apparently high cost is ensuring all play surfaces are 'falling friendly'. The local division of Tarmac Ltd offered sponsorship, but when the much anticipated cheque arrived, it was for £250. This has been banked, while we apply for further grants and funding, though we are waiting for information on the intentions of the other groups to ensure we do not compete against ourselves.

We are also approaching the Parish Council and the District Council to see if they can contribute to this project.

Contacts: Nia Linnel Tel 390661
Janice Wigley Tel 390281

Roads, Traffic & Parking

Agreed Aims:

- *Ensure traffic in the village does not exceed safe speeds*
- *Investigate solutions to parking difficulties*

There were not enough people interested in setting up this group, and it was felt that rather than spread everyone's effort to widely this group would be put on hold for the time being.

As you can see we have made a lot of progress, though money is, as always, a stumbling block. We hope soon to be making a number of grant applications to such as 'Awards for All' Lottery Funding, which is seeking more applications in the East Midlands. As time goes on new issues, not seen as important when we completed the original questionnaire, will arise, so do give us your feedback and get involved if you can.