

# Parwich Village Action Group

(In conjunction with Peak Park Community Planning Project and Parwich Parish Council)

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## Up-date April 2005

The re-drafted Village Action Plan was presented at an open meeting last November, though there was a disappointing turnout. It was also published in the Group Magazine, and is available from Peter Trehwitt. The Co-ordinating Group currently consists of:

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Welcome to Ann Griffiths as Parwich Parish Council representative on the Co-ordinating Group. The Action Plan has five sets of aims. The Children's Play Area has been dropped from the Plan as it had achieved its aims, and aims relating to teenagers added. Current progress is as follows:

### 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.*

Last year the Environment Group was again able to access European funding administered by the Peak Park Authority. We received grants of £750 for further work on the churchyard wall (completed) and £750 for work on Staines Trough. We also have two benches to be put in place next to the children's play area. Unfortunately this source of funding is being wound down.

We are currently looking to provide additional benches around the village, working with the Church Council to produce a long term plan for the churchyard, and reviewing possible new projects, particularly how to increase the variety of plants on verges and 'waste' ground.

We are continuing our survey of 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. Also we will input to the Peak Park's upcoming review of the Conservation Area in the village.

This group has lost several members and we would especially welcome more people to help maintain our momentum.

**Contacts: Patti Beasley Tel 390206  
Peter Trehwitt Tel 390287**

### Affordable Housing

Agreed Aim:

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

The Housing Group had a boost last November when we were awarded the National UK Housing Award 2004 'Best Community Led Initiative'. Despite the delays and increased cost resulting from the Peak Park Planners' insistence on the use of **dressed** limestone (certainly not local vernacular for such buildings), work is progressing on the three new houses on the School House site. Stone for the garden walls is to be donated by Longclffe Quarry,

and the work to be paid for by a grant from the Peak Park Authority. Completion of the houses is now due in May.

Derbyshire Dales District Council will nominate applicants for the houses to Nottingham Community Housing Association, so applications in the first instance are to the District Council. There has been a lot of interest in the houses, and we are currently exploring the possibility of further sites locally, although funding for future schemes may be limited.

**Contacts:**      **Fiona Hadfield Tel 390294**  
                         **Janice Wigley Tel 390281**

## **Community Hall and Sports Hall Facilities**

Agreed Aims:

- *Redevelop the community hall facilities on the Memorial Hall site in line with the identified needs*
- *Identify separately the needs, if any, for improved sports pavilion facilities at the playing fields*

Following the community vote last September on how we want to see the village hall facilities developed, the Memorial Hall Management Committee has set up their own working group to oversee the redevelopment of the Hall. It is planned to build a new hall on the Memorial Hall site. The proposed hall would also provide some sports facilities. It may be possible that we can access some funds not available to the Memorial Hall itself. Therefore Janice Wigley is representing us on the Memorial Hall's working group, ensuring we can, as necessary, provide appropriate support.

Along with 'roads, traffic & parking' the original village questionnaire and our review indicated support for the idea of work on the needs of older people, a village newsletter, public transport (evenings), a local post office and crime. Unfortunately there were no volunteers to progress these issues, so we have not added them to the action plan. The co-ordinating group will bear these issues in mind for future reviews.

At present the Environment Group is the most active sub-group, and in the long term, it may be appropriate for this to be the only group, subsuming the roles served by the co-ordinating group.

We have no action currently planned in relation to the sports pavilion, as we feel the Parish Council is the appropriate forum to initiate any proposals. We would however be happy to support any initiative to improve the facilities on Parson's Croft.

## **Teenagers & Older Children**

Agreed Aims:

- *Identify the social/recreational needs of older children and teenagers in the village*
- *Involve children/teenagers fully in this process*

In late 2003 a sub-group was established with the above aims. They saw their main priority as creating a skateboard area, and several teenagers were coming up with a design. Subsequently, with the development of Ashbourne Skateboard Park and the changing interests of the current teenagers, the demand for a Parwich facility has gone.

## **Roads, Traffic & Parking**

Agreed Aims:

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

Although retaining these aims was endorsed by our review, any sub-group continues on hold because there are insufficient people to support it. It will remain as part of the Action Plan, and be reviewed as appropriate.