

Parwich Village Action Group

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

Up-date April 2006

Last summer we hosted a visit from the Peak Park Board, which let us show off the Parson's Croft houses, the children's play area and our various environmental projects. Also it gave us a chance to raise our hopes for the future (e.g. a new village hall), and to raise the problems relating to the Parson's Croft planning application. One immediate outcome was the prompt replacement of the pink paving blocks in Creamery Lane with the slightly less inappropriate grey ones. Further there was an internal review of the Parson's Croft planning application.

Although we have achieved a great deal, the Action Group has lost its momentum over the last year. Fiona Hadfield has moved to Scotland, so we would like to express our appreciation of all her hard work, especially in relation to housing. The Coordinating Group consists of:

Ann Griffiths (Parish Council Rep.)
Val Kirkham
Peter Trehwitt (Chair)
Ann Wheeldon (Secretary)
Janice Wigley (Treasurer)

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Here are the sub-group reports:

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.*

Since the last up date we have placed the two benches by the children's play area, and completed the work on Staines Trough.

This sub-group's main objective is completing the statement of what is valued in the village, especially important in the light of the up coming review of the conservation area, by the Peak Park.

A number of specific projects have been identified: including the benches scheme, working with the church to produce a long term management plan for the churchyard, restoration of the pinfold and improving the

range of native plants in the verges. We have met with the vicar and church wardens, and Alice and Patty Beasley have been doing a course with the Peak Park on surveying plants.

However we need new members to keep us going, and someone to take on the organising of this sub-group.

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.*

Following the 2004 National UK Housing Award for 'Best Community Led Initiative', we reached the final shortlist in 2005 for the Deputy Prime Minister's

community imitative prize, in front of much larger schemes.

We met with the Peak Park Planners to try to understand their insistence on dressed limestone on the Parson's Croft development. The main conclusion was to stress the need for a design statement produced by the village, in discussion with the Peak Planners, and included in the Environment Sub-group's statement of what is valued. This would then be used by the Planners in considering future planning applications.

The Parson's Croft houses are now successfully tenanted, and much used as examples of good practice. Derbyshire Dales Housing Association has applied for planning permission for further affordable housing in the village, and the sub-group will continue to monitor the situation.

Contact: Janice Wigley Tel 390281

Community Hall Facilities

Agreed Aim:

- *Redevelop the community hall facilities on the Memorial Hall site in line with the identified needs*

Janice Wigley continues to be our representative on the Memorial Hall led initiative to build a new village hall on the existing site.

Once there has been legal confirmation of the exact width of the right of way across the Memorial Hall land, plans for the new building will be finalised and planning permission sought. The funding position is looking more positive as The Big Lottery Fund has 'ear marked' money specifically for community halls.

We still have the following aims in the Action Plan, but there are currently no volunteers active in these areas:

Sports Pavilion Facilities

Agreed Aim:

- *Identify the needs, if any, for improved sports pavilion facilities at the playing fields*

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*

Roads, Traffic & Parking

Agreed Aims:

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

Further any future review of the action plan will also consider inclusion of the needs of older people, a village newsletter, public transport (evenings), a local post office and crime. However in the short term our most pressing need is for volunteers for the Coordinating Group and the Environment Sub-group. Anyone interested in being involved contact one of the Coordinating Group.