

## LOPPINGTON PARISH COUNCIL – Annual Report April 2014 – March 2015

The Parish Council continue to hold its meetings including the AGM bi-monthly on the second Tuesday of the month.

### **1. Highways**

The Parish Council maintains an agreement with Shropshire Council for cutting of roadside verges on unclassified roads in the Parish. Shropshire Council included money in its capital scheme for carriage resurfacing and drainage to B4397 and works are programmed for 2015.

### **2. Planning**

Shropshire Council is obliged to consult the Parish Council regarding planning applications in Loppington. 26 applications have been received so far during this financial year; including the construction of a solar farm at Burlton. Shropshire. There is an offer of a significant amount of money from the developer to fund community benefit payment for the installation of rooftop solar panels on building/s of their choice, or alternatively, identified community projects which promote sustainable energy and uses.

The Parish Council have been allocated £1,111.00 since the introduction of the new Community Infrastructure Levy and LPC anticipate first payments in the new financial year and the Parish have 5 year period to spend the money. Projects are developed with community consultation. Shropshire Council *“Suggests that the ...Parish Council uses the Place Plan process to identify infrastructure priorities as a means of meeting the requirement to consult the local community, adjacent Town and Parish Councils and Shropshire Council on infrastructure priorities”* There was a suggestion that CIL could be used to upgrade footpaths on Brown Heath Moss.

LPC welcome any ideas and suggestions from the community which they might take forward in respect of the above projects.

### **3. Connecting Shropshire**

Work has started to install the fibre network in the Wem exchange area. Cabinet upgrades are anticipated in Summer 2015. The Connecting Shropshire website is updated regularly so that any resident can see the progress of work in relation to individual telephone lines.

### **4. Parish Amenities**

The Council wishes to express its appreciation and thanks all those volunteers and organisations who have helped maintain Council property including the War

Memorial, Pump, Tan Pit, Burlton Bus Shelter and Notice boards and kept public areas clean and tidy by repainting, planting, grass cutting, weeding and general maintenance.

Grant funding is available to carry out work at the Tan Pit which must be match funded. Match funding 'in kind' is acceptable and as a result a working party organised by SWF/Meres and Mosses have recently done clearance and tidying of the Tan Pit with a view to maintaining this as a wildlife area.

The Council has contributed towards the upkeep of St. Michael's Churchyard and supported AED volunteers.

#### **5. Youth Commissioning**

Youth Commissioning by Shropshire Council will provide a budget of £12.5K for two years initially. It is proposed that the LJC will link up with youth clubs to determine their aspirations. A small sub-committee was formed to lead this. The age band under consideration is 10-19 years (24 for those experiencing learning difficulties).

#### **6. Public Relations**

The Council continues to publish council matters and issues in the Village News and holds public participation sessions during its Parish Council meetings. The Clerk continues to add to the website. Agendas and Minutes can be viewed online.

#### **7. Meetings and Consultations**

Members of the Parish Council have continued to represent the Parish on Shropshire Association of Local Councils and Shropshire Area Committee of the Association. Members represent the Parish on Shropshire Council Wem and Shawbury Local Area Committee and Clive medical practice patient group. Parish Council maintains a good relationship with Cllr Brian Williams, Shropshire Councillor.

#### **8. Crime and Safety**

The Council thanks David Edge who has continued the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme for the Parish. Reported crime in the area is low. Crime map and reported crime can be viewed on the West Mercia police website.

#### **9. Financial**

The Council received a satisfactory Auditors report for the financial year 2013/2014. The results of the audit can be viewed online.

L.J. McCormack March 2015