

# Whitmore Parish Council

## NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2017



### HS2 – latest news

During August, there were two well-attended events. On 16th August, HS2 had arranged an Information Event and, following this on 23rd August, the Parish Council called a Public Meeting. It was standing room only at the latter, with well over 100 people present.

The Meeting was held to call for more residents to be involved in the Action Group and also to discuss the proposal of a 'long deep tunnel' under Whitmore, which would eliminate nearly all of the impact on our Parish.

All present were urged to take part in the current Consultation on the Environmental Statement.

The Consultation runs until 30th September and can be found at [www.gov.uk/HS2](http://www.gov.uk/HS2) and WE URGE residents to take part.

Go to [www.gov.uk/hs2](http://www.gov.uk/hs2). Click on 'Phase 2a: from the West Midlands to Crewe'. Click on 'respond to the environmental statement consultation'. This gives the opportunity to respond online or respond in other ways.

### KEEP UP TO DATE

Whitmore Parish Council Website  
[www.whitmoreparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.whitmoreparishcouncil.co.uk)  
for all community interest matters and  
Parish  
Council reports.

Neighbourhood Plan Website  
[www.cmaw-neighbourhoodplan.org.uk](http://www.cmaw-neighbourhoodplan.org.uk).

### Whitmore Information Day and Autumn Fair

Saturday 28th October, 10 am – 3 pm

Whitmore Village Hall

We are now arranging our sixth Information Day.

Local groups and organizations have been invited to take part –  
so come along and find out what is happening in the Whitmore area.

Lots of stalls and crafts. Refreshments available.

Find out more from Debbie Burns – [debbieburns123@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:debbieburns123@hotmail.co.uk) or on 07977561989.

### Two new Parish Councillors.

Since the last Parish Newsletter, Whitmore Parish Council has two new Councillors, Daryl Harvey and Graham Hutton.

Daryl writes:

"I have lived in Baldwins Gate for the past 14 years. I am married to Julie and my two children Laura and Robert have both left the nest!

I worked in the pottery industry for twenty years and I spent thirteen years as Director of Finance at a local consultancy firm.

I now have my own business as a management consultant.

I enjoy football, golf and socialising in the local establishments".

Daryl's email is [darylharvey@me.com](mailto:darylharvey@me.com).

Graham writes:

"I am a semi-retired Management Consultant and Civil Servant. Besides Parish duties, I am Chair of Governors at a Stoke Primary School and a Director of a Newcastle Multi Academy Trust. I have recently been asked to join the Safer Neighbourhood Panel. I live on Manor Rd and this area is my top priority. Next on my list is trying to reduce the devastation that HS2 will bring to the Parish."

Graham's email is [graham.hutton@ymail.com](mailto:graham.hutton@ymail.com).

# Chairman's Report Autumn 2017

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Our Autumn 2017 Newsletter provides me with the welcome opportunity to update you all on a number of topics which will have serious impacts on our Parish. My apologies for its length but there is much to cover.

## 1. Kier Development behind Gateway Avenue

Development of the site is progressing apace and Gateway Avenue has now been opened into the site to access a new sales office. Unfortunately the handling of a number of issues that have arisen recently has caused upset for residents living close to the site. A senior member of the Kier management team, Contract Manager Andy Hall, has now taken over responsibility for dealing with complaints/problems which should in future be reported directly to him (contact him by email – [andy.hall@kier.co.uk](mailto:andy.hall@kier.co.uk))

## 2. Potential Bellway development in land off Meadow Way.

Serious local concerns over the capacity of the Severn Trent Water Sewerage System were finally resolved when the Borough Council adopted the Condition sought by Severn Trent to prevent any new dwellings on the site being occupied until the necessary upgrading of their system capacity has been completed and the applicant has agreed to this.

However, the Planning Application was heard by the Planning Committee on Tuesday August 15th, following a site visit by the committee on Thursday August 10th and resulted in a UNANIMOUS REFUSAL. Well done to all those who have fought so strenuously against this development, although we will now have to wait to see whether it will go to Appeal.

## 3. Neighbourhood Development Plan

The Steering Group continues its excellent work and the three Parish Councils now look forward to the moment when the completed 'Initial Draft NDP' is presented to them for comment.

## 4. Joint Local Plan

The Borough Council has now launched a public consultation on its 'Joint Local Plan Strategic Options'. This is available on their website and I would urge you all to read it. The Borough Council's favoured choice of target for new housing build during the current

base 20 year period 2013-33 is a fraction over TWICE the target level which it has chased, and consistently FAILED TO ACHIEVE over the past few years. Your Parish Council is dismayed and bewildered over what is being proposed, as it is quite clear that the favoured target is quite clearly impossible to achieve and will inevitably fail so that our Borough Council will continue to be UNABLE TO MANAGE OR CONTROL HOUSING DEVELOPMENT IN OUR BOROUGH for the remainder of the 20 year period.

## 5. HS2 Project: Important News Update

The Phase 2a hybrid bill was placed before Parliament on 17th July 2017, presenting the updated HS2 Project and triggering a new Public Consultation which will run until 30th September 2017. The impact upon our local communities will be even more massive than was apparent from the initial draft project definition put out for public consultation last year. The size of the full set of the supporting documentation is eye-watering. Full details can be found on the Parish Council website and the HS2 website, and major proposals include:

- A53 uplift of 7m above current level between Baldwins Gate and the Main waring Arms in order to enable the line to pass under it in a twin bore tunnel.
- Snape Hall Road widening to 5.5m and permanently closed at the intersection with HS2 line.
- Bent Lane diverted.
- Meece Brook viaduct, to be 240m long, height up to 12m.
- Lea Valley viaduct, to be 785m long, height up to 21m + 4m high noise barrier.
- Whitmore Wood: retaining wall length 577m long, height up to 22m, plus a significant proportion of the Wood to be lost entirely.
- Manor Rd uplift on 1,000m long embankment, height up to 13m

## 5a. Public Information Event

HS2 held a Public Information Event in Whitmore Village hall on 16th August when details of the latest version of the HS2a Project were made available for viewing and discussion.

## 5b. Whitmore Public Meeting

This was called by Whitmore Parish Council and held on 23rd August 2017 to discuss the issues and concerns and to raise awareness about the 'Long Deep Tunnel' (see below). It was also a 'call to arms' from the HS2 Action Committee. Fred Smith, the Chairman, desperately needs more volunteers to join him, in the serious time and effort needed to push the long deep tunnel through. Serious financing as well as serious effort may be required. The impact on Whitmore Parish will be enormous – full details are also on the Parish Council website.

## The Long Deep Tunnel

What can we do about it?

The impact on our Parish will be MASSIVE both during construction and permanently, following completion (tunnels, viaducts, roads diverted or permanently closed).

Our only hope, unless the project is cancelled, lies in having the design modified such that HS2a is brought through Whitmore and Madeley Parishes via a LONG DEEP TUNNEL, which would go underground somewhere in the Stableford area and re-surface the other side of Madeley. HS2 has confirmed that this would be possible, but of course it would be very expensive. Sir Bill Cash MP has supported us strongly in this and has argued the case in Parliament, resulting in the Secretary of State directing HS2 to carry out a full appraisal.

WHAT EVERYONE CAN DO is respond to the Consultation and push hard for the long deep tunnel solution. Unless we can significantly raise awareness and support for the long deep tunnel, it won't happen and we will ALL be left to 'grin and bear' the consequences of the current project definition.

TO RESPOND:

go to [www.gov.uk/hs2](http://www.gov.uk/hs2). Click on 'Phase 2a: from the West Midlands to Crewe.' This gives all the details. Then click on 'Respond to the environmental statement consultation', where you can make your response online; other ways in which you can respond can also be found here.

Ian Webb.

# Neighbourhood Development Plan

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Work on the Neighbourhood Development Plan has continued throughout the summer. The Steering Group meets once a month, and a working group meets every week.

We have been continuing to gather evidence to support the Plan, including maps and data from Staffordshire County Council on the built heritage of the three parishes, and maps on landscape quality and character. AECOM consultants paid a visit to the area in July and we have been continuing to work with them on village design statements. We have also been working with our planning consultant, Hannah Barter of Urban Vision Enterprise CIC, to develop the policies of the Plan.

A major milestone was completion of the Local Green Space audit, followed by the

landowner and public consultation. Two pop-up consultation events were held on 5 August, in Whitmore Village Hall and Maer Village Hall. The consultation was also available online for three weeks, from 31 July to 21 August.

In addition to working on the Neighbourhood Development Plan we attended a workshop at the Civic Offices on the Options for the Newcastle-under-Lyme and Stoke-on-Trent Joint Local Plan and submitted a response to the public consultation on the options. We will also submit a response to the HS2 consultation.

We submit an article for publication in each issue of One Way magazine. Because One Way is not distributed to all households, and is not available in all parts of the Neighbourhood

Area, we also post copies of the article on the parish noticeboards and in the bus shelters in Baldwins Gate.

There are now five Neighbourhood Plan groups working in Newcastle-under-Lyme, all in the rural area. In addition to our own area, covering the three parishes of Whitmore, Chapel & Hill Chorlton and Maer & Aston, the other areas are Loggerheads (which started its plan at about the same time as us), Keele, Madeley and Betley. Together, seven parishes covered by the groups comprise more than 50% of the total area of Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough. The five groups held a joint workshop in July and will be meeting again in September.

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## Whitmore Playing Field – facilities.

We'd love to know how you think the existing play/exercise facilities at the Village Hall Playing Field could be improved. Any suggestions? Let the Parish Clerk or any Councillor know.

## The local Bus Service

The Parish Council would appreciate your feedback about the local bus service – particularly with regard to available seating and time keeping.

So, if you are a regular user, do please let us know if you have any issues and we will bring these to the notice of the Bus Service provider. Please email: [colin.perry@whitmoreparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:colin.perry@whitmoreparishcouncil.co.uk).

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## Lyme Lottery

Last year, Newcastle Borough Council decided to replace the Community Chest scheme (which awarded local projects small amounts of grant money and was administered through the Parish Councils) with the 'Lyme Lottery'. This is a new online lottery launched by the Borough Council to support local good causes. Tickets are now on sale, costing £1 with 60p of this going to local organizations. The jackpot prize is £25,000 and other prizes include £2,000, £250, £25 and free lottery tickets.

Local charities are able to set up their own lottery page and will receive 50p of every £1 spent by players.

Local voluntary and charitable organizations can register to benefit for the scheme and the Madeley and District Community Association has already been accepted as a beneficiary. More information from Irene Lee at [irene.lee@newcastle-staffs.gov.uk](mailto:irene.lee@newcastle-staffs.gov.uk) or via the Lyme Lottery webpages at [www.lymelottery.co.uk](http://www.lymelottery.co.uk).

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## Village Appearance Report

One of the objectives of the Parish Council is to ensure that the Parish Area has a pleasing appearance for its residents and those passing through. As such, we appoint a Contractor to regularly maintain a considerable number of grass areas including the Village Hall Playing Field, Chapel Green and Jubilee Gardens. The contractor is required to take away all grass cuttings and litter and will, as instructed, cut hedges, clean bus shelters, spray weeds and generally keep the whole area neat and tidy.

We also pay the Borough Council to assist in planting out the various flower tubs and beds in Baldwins Gate plus getting them to use the mechanical path sweeper along the A53.

Our appointed contractor visits the area twice a month for two days, some areas are cut monthly, whilst the Playing Field is cut weekly and Chapel Green and the Main Roundabout at Butterton is cut twice a month. Litter continues to be a big problem throughout the Parish and thank you to some local residents who individually or collectively clean up – sadly, a never ending issue.

We would welcome any new ideas as to how we might further enhance the Parish Appearance – please contact Councillor Colin Perry.

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## 'Border Car'

Have you heard of the Border Car service? Or perhaps you use it already. If you haven't, there is some information below:

- The service allows you to travel within our area to and from Market Drayton and it is particularly used for people who would struggle to get to Doctor's appointments at the Ashley Surgery.
- It can be used by anyone living in our area who doesn't have access to a regular bus service or who needs a little help in using the bus service because of disability or mobility difficulties.
- The service can be accessed Monday to Friday, 7 am – 6 pm.
- The cost is £2.50 for a single or £3.50 for a return.
- To book or for further information, ring 07743 456 262. You can book up to 7 days in advance but no later than 2 hours before you travel. Bookings are taken Monday to Friday from 8 am to 5 pm.

This valuable service is currently being reviewed as part of a consultation into bus journeys subsidised by Staffs County Council. Some changes in the regular bus service (the 64/164) are also being considered. To find out more and to have your say, visit [www.staffordshire.gov.uk/busreview](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/busreview) or complete the consultation documents which you can find at any Library.

## Madeley Practice – an update.

It has been a challenging time over the last few months for the practice. You may be aware that at the end of June, Dr Peake moved to Hartshill Surgery, his previous training practice, having accepted a much deserved Partnership. We were sorry to lose him and wish him well. Dr Oleshko is also currently off and it is going to be sometime after Christmas before his return date is set. This had left only Dr Gear and Dr Edwards to cover the practice.

We have scheduled our surgeries carefully to ensure appropriate cover. Our GP Registrars, whilst fully qualified Doctors, are not allowed to work without a senior Doctor being in the same building. Nurse surgeries at Baldwins Gate Surgery have been able to run as normal. We are, however, pleased to announce that Dr Martin Sullivan will be joining the practice from mid-September. Some of you may re-

member him when he was a GP Registrar back in 2005. We hope therefore from October to resume having more regular GP sessions at our branch surgery in Baldwins Gate.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your patience during this time. And finally, the flu season is fast approaching and this year we are trying a new system of pre-bookable appointments for flu vaccinations at Baldwins Gate Surgery to minimise traffic impact. Alternatively both pre-bookable and walk-in appointments are available at Moss Lane Surgery, Madeley. Please see our website [www.madeleypractice.co.uk](http://www.madeleypractice.co.uk) for more details or pick up a flyer at either of our surgeries. Details of the dates will also be on the notice boards within the bus shelters at Baldwins Gate.

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## ‘Safer Neighbourhood Panels’

Safer Neighbourhood Panels, set up by the local Police and Crime Commissioner, are made up of local residents who meet regularly with their area’s local policing commander.

The panels shape local policing and community safety and help to build public confidence. Panel members receive training and they can be involved in a wide variety of activities including innovative work such as examining body camera footage.

The Newcastle area is currently looking for people to join the local panel. If you are interested, there is more information and an application form at [www.staffordshire-pcc.gov.uk/safer-neighbourhood-panels](http://www.staffordshire-pcc.gov.uk/safer-neighbourhood-panels).

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## Dog Control Orders

Newcastle Borough Council is proposing to replace its current DOG CONTROL ORDERS with a PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER.

The following controls, already in place, will continue:

- Dog Fouling – owners MUST ‘clean-up’ if their dog fouls in any public place.
- Dog exclusions – dogs should not be taken into children’s playareas.
- Dogs on leads – dogs must be on a lead in cemeteries, crematoria and churchyards, formal gardens, rugby and football pitches.
- Dogs on Leads by Direction – put your dog on a lead when a Council official requests this.

In addition to these controls, two extra controls are proposed:

- Maximum of six dogs – A person shall not take more than six dogs into the Borough’s Country Parks.
  - Means to pick up dog fouling – A person in charge of a dog must have means to pick up dog faeces deposited by that dog (e.g a bag) when walking in a public place.
- Further information at [www.newcastle-staffs.gov.uk/dogcontrols](http://www.newcastle-staffs.gov.uk/dogcontrols).

REMEMBER – PICK UP AFTER YOUR DOG

You are liable to receive a £100 fixed penalty or a fine of up to £1,000 if you fail to do so.

## News from the Parish churches

Family Communion is each Sunday at 11 am in Whitmore Church and all are welcome. All our local churches will be holding their Harvest Festivals in the next few weeks.

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## Grant for Whitmore Church

Newcastle Borough’s Conservation Advisory Working Party has recently awarded Whitmore Church £531 for repairs to stonework on the tower and also towards gutter cleaning and repairs.

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## ‘Vintage Volunteers’

60+ and looking to do some voluntary work but not sure what is available? Vintage Volunteers is the dedicated destination for potential volunteers in the Newcastle/Stoke-on-Trent area. Check [vintage.volunteers.org.uk](http://vintage.volunteers.org.uk) or ring 01782 683030 for more information.

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## Stoke-on-Trent City of Culture 2021.

Stoke-on-Trent is bidding to become the City of Culture for 2021 and the bid will only be successful if it is backed by local people. You can show your support via the website at [www.sot2021.com](http://www.sot2021.com).

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## Footpaths Group.

Although we have had very little response to this, Whitmore PC is STILL keen to establish a Footpaths Group, to monitor and possibly repair the local Public Footpaths.

If you are interested, contact the Clerk or any Councillor.



# Whitmore & District Village Hall



## Regular Events

<b>Monday</b>	Yoga Club 9.45am (term time only) Tai Chi 6.00pm
<b>Tuesday</b>	Line Dancing 10.00am to 12.00 noon Karate Club 7.00pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	Play and Stay 9.30am to 11.30am Indoor Bowling Club 2.00pm ( <i>October to March</i> ) CAMEO coffee morning 10.00am to 12.00 ( <i>2nd week of the month</i> ) Parish Council 7.00pm ( <i>1st week of the month</i> ) Maer WI 7.30pm ( <i>2nd week of the month September to February</i> ) Beavers 6.30pm Scouts 7.30pm
<b>Thursday</b>	Art Group 9.30am Cubs 6.30pm Village Hall Committee 7.30pm ( <i>1st Thursday of the month</i> )
<b>Friday</b>	Indoor Bowling Club 2.00pm ( <i>October to March</i> ) Dance Club 8.00pm
<b>Sunday</b>	Tai Chi 6.00pm Last Sunday of the month Car Boot Sale 8.00am

If you require more information or you are interested in joining any of the activities just turn up at the Village Hall on the day and time presented

**To book the Hall contact**  
**Krys Holbrook, T: 01782 680481**  
[www.whitmorevillagehall.org.uk](http://www.whitmorevillagehall.org.uk)

## University of the Third Age

For the last few years, an active and successful branch of the University of the Third Age has been growing in Madeley, and the Parish Council has been considering whether there would be any demand for a 'satellite' of Madeley U3A in Whitmore.

In particular, what Whitmore has to offer that Madeley does not is our Recreation Ground at Whitmore Village Hall, which could be used for outdoor classes or games. Inside, we have also the possibility of a table tennis club, if there was any demand for this. So – "U3A Whitmore" - is there any demand for this????????? Would you consider attending a discussion group or an adult exercise class or anything else?

We need to know from you – ring or email the Clerk if you would be interested in any of the above or maybe there is something else you would be interested in joining. The present 'interest groups' at Madeley include topics as diverse as croquet. Philosophy and ukulele!

Keep up to date by visiting the Whitmore Parish Council Website  
[www.whitmoreparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.whitmoreparishcouncil.co.uk)

## Book the Village Hall

Parties, Weddings, Anniversaries, Charity Fund-Raising Events and Meetings

**Krys Holbrook**

Bookings Secretary

**T: 01782 680481**

## Car Boot &

## Table Top Sale

## Whitmore & District Village Hall

Last Sunday of the month

8.00am to 12.00 noon

Tables are provided indoors

£6.00 per table indoors or outside pitch

No booking required

## Ashley Music School

Tuition given at Whitmore Village Hall

[www.amsprojects.webplus.net](http://www.amsprojects.webplus.net)

## 96th Whitmore and Baldwins

### Gate Scout Group

Whitmore & District Village Hall

**Cubs for Boys and Girls**

Age 8 – 10½

Thursday 6.30 to 8.00pm

**Scouts for Boys and Girls**

Age 10½ to 14

Wednesday 7.30 to 8.00pm

Contact the Scout leaders for details

[jayaukland@hotmail.com](mailto:jayaukland@hotmail.com)

Learn more about the Scouts at [www.scouts.org.uk](http://www.scouts.org.uk)

We are also looking for volunteers to get involved.

If this is of interest please get in touch.

## Quiz

### How well do you know Whitmore Parish?

Answer all questions correctly to stand a chance of winning £25.

Which family own Whitmore Hall?

What is the name of the road that connects Whitmore Village to Keele?

What is the name of the Grade 2 listed building in Baldwins Gate?

What are the opening hours of the village Post Office?

In what year is work due to commence on HS2 in Whitmore Parish?

What is the speed limit through Whitmore Village?

What is the name of the restaurant at the Sheet Anchor?

What local brewery manages the Mainwaring Arms?

What is the website address for Whitmore Parish Council?

What road in Baldwins Gate sits on the site of former reservoir?

Completed questionnaires must be deposited in the special box at the village Post Office no later than 31st October 2017. The winner will be the first correctly completed questionnaire drawn at random at the commencement of the monthly meeting of Whitmore Parish Council on Wednesday 1st November 2017. Members of the public are welcome.

## Parish Council Meetings

Whitmore and District Village Hall  
Commencing 7 pm  
Open Forum: 7 – 7.15 pm  
Wednesday 4th October  
Wednesday 1st November  
Wednesday 6th December.

## Whitmore Parish Council



**Clerk to the Parish Council**

**Mrs Wendy Kinson**

"The Old Laundry", Maer

Newcastle-under-Lyme ST5 5EF

T: 01782 680 613

E: parish.clerk@whitmoreparishcouncil.co.uk



**Councillor Ian D Webb**

**Parish Council** Chairman

T: 01782 680 522

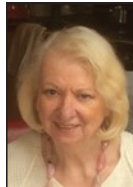
E: lanandninawebb@aol.com



**Councillor Geoff R Corbett**

Parish Appearance Group

T: 01782 680 645



**Councillor Audrey Pedley**

Parish Appearance Group

T: 01782 680 985

E: audreypedley@yahoo.com



**Councillor Derek Davies**

Parish Appearance Group

T: 01782 680383

E: derodavie@yahoo.co.uk



**Councillor Roy Peddie**

T: 01782 681016

E: roy.peddie@btinternet.com



**Councillor Colin Perry**

Chair Parish Appearance Group

T: 01782 617132

M: 07831 484288

E: colin.perry@whitmoreparishcouncil.co.uk

**Councillor Daryl Harvey**

T: 07826188444

E: darylharvey@me.com

**Councillor Graham Hutton**

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E: graham.hutton@ymail.com.