



The newsletter for residents of Audlem & District

Autumn 2015

Audlem Parish Council

Business Summary, October 2015

Playing Field Complex

In response to positive community feedback, the Parish Council submitted a formal proposal, including cost projections, to Cheshire East Council at the end of July to take over the playing field, car park, tennis courts and children's play area. Approval will be required at Cabinet level and we now have to wait until all the due processes are gone through before we learn the outcome.

Budget Time Again

November is the time that the Parish Councillors look to set the budget for the following financial year. This year is more complicated than normal as there will be significant additional expenditure because of two decisions taken this year. We have agreed to give a grant of £10,000 next year and an interest-free loan of up to £10,000 repayable over five years for the Public Hall Annexe. Also, we are waiting for the decision to take over the playing field complex, which it is estimated will add significantly to total expenditure.

Therefore, even though money has already been set aside for these, it is inevitable that next year's Council Tax element for the Parish Council will increase. We will continue to diligently manage available funds for the benefit of all residents.

In order to reduce the burden on residents and keep the increase as low as possible, the Parish Council is looking into ways of recouping some of this additional expenditure through charges for the use of the complex.

Neighbourhood Plan

Audlem's Neighbourhood Plan has now gone through four of seven stages and, at the time of writing, is undergoing stage five - Independent Examination. Subject to the Examiner being happy that the Plan meets the Basic Conditions and is a robust document in planning terms, we should then be in a position to proceed to stage six - a referendum.

Cheshire East has organised and funded these later stages of the process so we are in their hands as to timing. We shall be calling on all Audlem residents to go out to vote in favour of the Plan. If the vote is in favour, then the final stage is that Cheshire East formally adopts the Plan. The good news is that the Plan was recently used by Cheshire East Councillors as a material consideration in refusing a local planning application.

Parish Councillors' contact details

Heather Jones, Chair - 811836

Geoff Seddon, Vice Chair - 811282

Frances Christie - 811340 **Bill Consterdine** - 811647

Kate Down - 811160 **David Higham** - 812069

Mike Hill - 811843 **Phil Johnson** - 811774

Pam Seddon - 811282 **Dave Siddorns** - 811012

John Thompson - 812333

Your Parish Clerk is **Kirstin Dixon** - 01630 658456

or Email audlemparishclerk@gmail.com

Reporting Street Lighting Faults

First you need to gather some information about the street light that has an issue:

- The number on the column or the number of the house the light is outside
- The name of the road
- What is wrong with the light

Then you can report the issue direct to Cheshire East Highways on-line at:

<http://www.cheshireeasthighways.org/Street-lighting-and-street-signs/Report-a-Fault.aspx>

Alternatively, if you do not have access to the internet, you can call the Parish Clerk on 01630 658456 and she will report the issue on your behalf.

Cheshire East Highways Customer Services can also be contacted on 0300 123 5020.

If you feel that the fault you have reported has not been dealt with in a timely manner, please contact the Parish Clerk with the details of your report, but please bear in mind that Cheshire East will wait until they have a few issues within a geographical area before dispatching a repair team due to the costs involved.

Kirstin Dixon, Clerk

Wow! Yet More Awards

Representatives of Audlem and Hankelow attended the awards ceremony for the Cheshire Community Action Community Pride Competition in Ellesmere Port on 15th October – and came away with a fist-full of prizes.

Hankelow won a “Little Gem” award for the floral display at the steps by the public footpath near Hankelow Hall and they won the Best Kept Village award for a village with a population of under 400.



Audlem won: a “Little Gem” award for the mill stone outside St James’s Church; the Best Community Website; the Best Kept Village award for a village with a population of 1001-2500; the Best Community Spirit award and, finally, we were crowned Overall Champions of the Community Pride Best Kept Village award, receiving a painting of the village from Gordon Wilkinson.

Well done Audlem and Hankelow. Congratulations to all who were involved in any way!

Pam Seddon

Audlem District History Society

After our Summer break, our September meeting took us on a nostalgic journey when Jeremy Nicholls gave a comprehensive but easy to follow talk on “Local Railways in WWI”. It was illustrated by a range of memorable photographs including an example of the “Crewe tractor” that was adapted by Crewe Works to run on road or narrow gauge lines behind the Western Front (130 were built at Crewe) and a photo of the volunteer ladies of the Crewe Station tea staff who served refreshments to the thousands of servicemen.



In October a small selection of photographs from our summer display about “Growing up in Audlem” was exhibited at the History Fair in Alsager. We are hoping to repeat the full display in the near future so if you missed seeing it in July then watch out for further information.

Dorothy Jones

Local Hero

Tom Hassall, local Hankelow resident and Probus member, received the Legion d'Honneur – France's highest honour on 28 September 2015 – for his contribution to the D-Day landings in World War II whilst a member of the West Yorkshire Regiment.



Along with 14 other veterans, eighty-nine year old Tom received his medal at a ceremony in the French embassy in London. He was alerted to the possibility of receiving the honour after a newspaper item seen by Shirley and Tom Firth that the French were seeking to award the Legion d'Honneur to veterans of the D – Day landings for their bravery.

Adapt Autumn Report

With the Summer activities behind us, it is time to take stock. Once again our Apple Pressing event was a resounding success - so much so that our members were kept busy well beyond the time we had publicised. Our Saturday Stall has again proved very popular even though the weather has given us a very uneven growing season. The Lock15 Gardeners Group is another of our exciting developments.



Behind the scenes, our Transport Group has been busy preparing a local cycle route map and implementing cycle racks in the village. Our Energy Group has been advising APHAX on energy matters for the Public Hall Annex.

Coming up are a presentation on LED lighting in November, and our popular Homemade Christmas event.

Adrian Leighton

ADCA Report

At the ADCA (Audlem & District Community Action) Annual General Meeting in September, we were able to report on another successful year.

Since its inception in 2011 when we had 10 members and 12 volunteers, we have now grown to have 90 members of our day and coffee clubs and befriending services, 44 carers involved in the Carers Support Group, 45 "amazing" volunteers and 2 hard - working and committed members of staff. ADCA's Medical Transport Service has also now been used by 30 people, many of them on a regular basis. We also have nine active Trustees, all volunteers, who work behind the scenes to support ADCA.

An update was provided by our Coordinator, Ronni Briggs, who described all the activities and progress of the services during the year. Special thanks were given to all volunteers and supporters. Ronni also explained that the Befriending Scheme needed more volunteers to help out with visits and the Medical Transport Scheme was desperately in need of more volunteer drivers as requests for these services were continually growing. Lynn Morear, our Assistant Coordinator described how Carers' Support and Break Days that had taken place during the last twelve months was helping carers in a number of ways.

If you are interested in becoming an ADCA Volunteer, please contact Ronni by email on ronni@chapelhouse.org or leave a message on our office telephone [01270 747163] for her to contact you. You will receive full information, induction and training and will really enjoy the activities you support!

Roger Millns, Chairman

News about Prescriptions

Boots Pharmacy in Audlem is experiencing continually increasing demand for issuing medication and is encouraging customers to sign up to their free Repeat Prescription Service so that their supplies are ordered on time and available when needed. For information about this service ask at the pharmacy.

For patients who order their own medication, Audlem Patient Participation Group is urging patients to request their prescriptions at least seven days before they run out.

Patients can order their repeat prescriptions from Audlem Medical Practice either online see <http://www.audlemmedicalpractice.nhs.uk/how-do-i/3582-order-a-repeat-prescription> or by taking the tear off portion of their previous prescription to the surgery.

Jean Stainthorpe, Audlem Patient Participation Group

5As January Pantomime

5As next pantomime will be "The Little-ish Mermaid" written by Cat Maddocks who has performed with and been involved with 5As for many years. Performances will be in the Public Hall, starting at 7.30 pm, from Wednesday 27th to Saturday 30th January. There will also be a Saturday Matinee Performance at 2pm on 30th January. Tickets will be on sale in November.



Rehearsals have begun, lines are being learnt and costumes are being made all ready to give our audiences a night to remember. This pantomime is one for the whole family with fun, slap-stick comedy for the little ones and over-the-head humour for the adults. A night not to be missed.

Lucy Davenport

Audlem Voices

Audlem Voices, with their Musical Director Jenny Collis-Smith, will be presenting a combined Christmas Carol Concert with the angelic voices of St James' School Choir on Saturday 12 December at 7.00 pm in St James' church. It should be a truly memorable concert.

We are expecting it to include another "raising the roof" range of Christmas Carols with the two choirs combining on some of the pieces to provide everyone with an inspiring start to the Christmas festive period. Tickets are £5, with under fives free.

Stephanie Richardson

Christmas at St James'

13th December: 11am Christingle

– the service with the orange

20th December: 6.30pm

– Village Carol Service

24th December – Christmas Eve: 4pm

Crib Service – an all age celebration and 11.15pm

First communion of Christmas

Christmas Day: 8.15am

Holy Communion and 10.30am Family Communion

Everyone is welcome

Helen Chantry

Audlem Methodist Church News

In October we welcomed back our minister, Jennifer Matthews, after her period of medical treatment. Parents of very young children may like to note that we can now provide a creche for our Sunday morning service at 10.30am.

The Summer Garden Party helped to raise £1572 for church funds and Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research. Many thanks to all who contributed and braved the showers to come to a really happy afternoon.

Our Christmas Services are at 7.30pm on Christmas Eve, and at 10.00 am on Christmas Day. There will be a joint Mission Area service in Audlem on Sunday 27th December at 10.30 am.

Christine Lawson

Audlem District Amenities Society (ADAS)

On the evening of Thursday 12th November ADAS will be holding its AGM at Audlem Public Hall. It is an opportunity for ADAS to reflect on the past year and celebrate successes in the village. All are welcome to join us for the meeting and drinks afterwards, where you will be able to meet the ADAS and Audlem in Bloom committees and share any ideas and find out how you can join us in our work.

At the end of November the count down to Christmas will start with the decorating of the village in preparation for the Big Switch on Friday 27th November. The evening will feature the arrival of Father Christmas on the Audlem Lass, the lighting of Christmas Wish Candles on the canal, the Switching on of the Big Christmas Tree lights, singing by Audlem St James' pupils and, after visiting the traders open for late night shopping, Father Christmas will meet children in his Grotto.

ADAS will round off its Christmas celebrations with Carols in the Square on Friday 18th December, accompanied by Crewe Brass. Carols start at 7.30pm and The Lord Combermere Team will again be providing warming soup during the singing.

Bryony Dixon

Dates for Your Diary ...

November

- 2 At 7.30 pm: village memorial service at St James' church to remember those we have loved and lost
- 7 ASET's Bonfire Night and fireworks on the playing field, from 4 pm. Tickets cost £5 from the Post Office
- 8 Service of remembrance at St James' Church at 10.45 am
- 27 "The Big Switch-on" of the village's lights at 5.45 pm and late night shopping



December

- 12 7.00 pm Audlem Voices and St James' school choir in concert in St James' church. Tickets cost £5
- 17 Concert: the story of Dickens' "Christmas Carol" at the Methodist Church with the Grove Singers
- 18 Carols round the tree in the Square
- 20 Joint Christmas churches' service at 6.30pm in St James' church

January (2016)

- 27 5As pantomime, "The Little-ish Mermaid", for 4 nights and matinee on Saturday 30th January