



**Meriden Parish Council**  
*the centre of england*

**Meriden Parish Council  
Newsletter  
for  
Meriden Mag  
Autumn 2016**



# Meriden Parish Council

*the centre of england*

The public and press are cordially invited to all parish council meetings at 7.30pm. An opportunity will be given for the public to speak. Look out for the agenda and venue which is posted on the parish notice boards and our website [www.meridenparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.meridenparishcouncil.org.uk) prior to the meeting.

The next Parish Council meeting dates are:

- 19 September 2016 - The Pavilion
- 17 October 2016 - The Pavilion
- 21 November 2016 - The Pavilion

Community Surgeries 10am-12pm:

- Monday 05 September 2016 – Meriden Library
- Monday 10 October 2016 – The Pavilion
- Monday 07 November 2016 – Meriden Library

Police Beat Surgeries at the Library 11am-12pm

- Monday 12 September 2016
- Monday 10 October 2016
- Monday 07 November 2016

Should you wish to contact the Parish Council, please contact the Clerk or drop into the Parish Council office on Monday mornings where you may access information or have a private chat with the Clerk to address local community issues.



Barbara Bland  
The Pavilion  
Meriden Sports Park  
Main Road  
Meriden CV7 7SP

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Mobile: 07767 162423

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Web: [www.meridenparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.meridenparishcouncil.org.uk)

## Your Parish Councillors are:



Rosie Weaver  
BEM  
(Chair)



Frances  
Lynch-Smith  
(Vice Chair)



Bob Kipling



Melanie Lee



Paul Lee



Mandy Haque



Jon Barber



Matthew Nunn

## Neighbourhood Plan Survey topline results

Many thanks to the residents of Meriden Parish who completed the Neighbourhood Plan Survey. We had a return rate of 27.1% and this is very good as the average for such surveys across the country is between 20 and 25%.

A full analysis of the survey will have been produced in August so look out for the results through your letterbox and the library in the next month or so. In the meantime, here are a few topline results:

Line 1: % wanting to remain in Meriden

Line 2: % wanting affordable housing

Line 3: % wanting to preserve the village feel and greenbelt aspect of the parish, etc

## Neighbourhood Plan public meeting – ‘call for sites’

SMBC planning officer Gary Palmer spoke at the recent Solihull Area Committee meeting and said Solihull’s preferred options for the sites for Solihull borough, including Meriden, aimed to be published in autumn 2016 but is more likely to come out nearer to Christmas. The pre-submission draft will be published in spring 2017 and examination in public will be sometime in 2017.

In the meantime, funded through the Locality bid our independent planning consultant is reviewing the 12 identified ‘call for sites’ in Meriden as a key part of the Neighbourhood Planning process. Residents are invited to a public display at the Village Hall on Saturday 24 September in the Village Hall between 10am and 12pm to comment.

## Queen's Birthday Honours List

Meriden Parish Council is delighted to announce that Cllr Rosie Weaver has been awarded a British Empire Medal in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

Rosemary Weaver BEM has served nine years as an elected councillor for the parish council and her contribution has been recognised 'for voluntary service to the community in Meriden Solihull' by Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth, to mark her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Rosie's nomination was put together by Cllr Melanie Lee with the help of Rosie's family, friends and former colleagues. Honours and awards officer Andrea Crowther from SMBC submitted the final version of which a few excerpts feature below.

*"With great commitment and dedication to the residents of Meriden she has devoted all her adult life to the wellbeing of her community, has led on many areas, being head and shoulders above the rest and is the key person within Meriden.*

*"She was the Ambassador who passionately encouraged a local sports coach to come to Meriden and provide football training for the village children.*

*"The whole village benefits greatly from her drive and understanding of community needs and she has changed things for the better for all residents, young and old."*

Cllr David Bell, ward councillor for Meriden, who nominated Rosie for the Queen's Honours List, said in our press release:

"When I first met Rosie I could tell she was unsure how we would work together for a number of reasons. I quickly found that she had great abilities to lead the parish council at one of the most difficult periods in its history. Her drive and commitment together with others on the parish council has resulted in a major asset for the village, the sports park.

"Her professionalism drove this forward and has dealt with issues such as the quarry, the local plan and HS2. All these tasks have been demanding and I feel that recognition, which took some time, is very well deserved. I feel that the Parish Council of Meriden does sterling work and Meriden should be proud to have such an excellent team serving their needs."



## The Parish Council would like to thank



Meriden Parish Council submitted a House of Lords petition to the HS2 Select Committee to raise issues of concern regarding the implications of traffic, noise, construction and the possible relocation of the Bickenhill Household Waste Recycling Centre. The petition can be found on our website.

We would like to thank **Cllr Richard Lloyd** of Balsall Common Parish Council who acted as our House of Lords agent and local resident **David McGrath** who represented the parish council.

## Tree warden

Are you interested in trees and their preservation? We are looking for a resident to volunteer to be Meriden's tree warden and link in to Solihull Council's tree warden group. If you're interested in finding out more please contact the Clerk, Barbara Bland, on 01676 522474 or email her at [barbarablandmpc@btconnect.com](mailto:barbarablandmpc@btconnect.com).

## Co-op transport meeting

The Clerk met with the Co-op's Area Manager and Transport Team with Cllr Ken Allsopp, Cllr Paul Lee and SMBC Neighbourhood Co-ordinator Bruce Brant regarding residents' complaints and issues surrounding deliveries via Arden Close. Here are the outcomes of the meeting:

Insurance for damage to private driveways/walls; reduce size of vehicles from artic to 4 wheel rigid bodies; refrigeration units to be turned off; drivers to be reminded of risk assessment; review feasibility of composite delivery of perishable and non-perishable groceries; delivery times to be changed to a.m. 07.30 and 09.00 and p.m.18.00-20.00. Avoid 08.30 to 09.00 and 15.00-16.00; review clash of deliveries; review deliveries to front of store; use of Banksman (store manager trained) and additional training given to other staff to provide Banksmen at all times on site; all drivers to use Banksman prior to reversing vehicles for delivery purposes.

## Incidents of vandalism in the parish

It is sad to report that somebody has dug out and stolen the new plants on Coronation Island and a bus shelter has been vandalised.