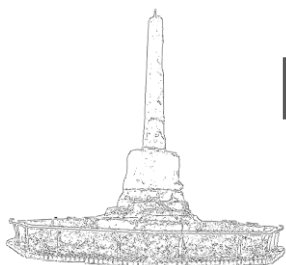


Meriden Parish Council

The Centre of England

**Meriden Parish Council
Newsletter
for
Meriden Mag
Autumn 2017**





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 prior to the meeting.

The next Parish Council meeting dates are:

- 18 September 2017 - The Pavilion
- 16 October 2017 - The Pavilion
- 20 November 2107 – The Pavilion

Community Surgeries **11am-12pm**:

- Monday 11 September 2017 – Meriden Library
- Monday 09 October 2017 – The Pavilion
- Monday 06 November 2017 – Meriden Library

Police Beat Surgeries at the Library **11am-12pm**:

- Thursday 21 September 2017
- Thursday 26 October 2017
- Monday 23 November 2017

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

Tel: 01676 522474 (Mondays)

Mobile: 07767 162423

Email: barbarablandmpc@btconnect.com

Web: 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

Meriden's Neighbourhood Plan - update

Following the residents' survey in the summer of 2016, we have now surveyed Meriden businesses, the results of which can be viewed on our website. The next stage is to draft the pre-submission version of our Neighbourhood Plan by November 2017 which will go to consultation throughout December and January. Feedback from the consultation will determine the submission version which will go the public examiner in the spring of 2018. If you would like to get involved, the steering group meets monthly at the Pavilion from 7.15pm. Next meeting dates are 14 September, 12 October and 16 November 2017.

Our new look website



We have a new look website which we hope you find is easy to navigate and covers all relevant news for our parish.

You can find us still at www.meridenparishcouncil.org.uk and on Facebook at Meriden Parish Council.

The Parish Council would like to thank



Bruce Brant who nominated Meriden to trial wildflower planting and **Solihull Rangers** who prepared the banking and sowed the seeds to provide a splendid vista for residents and visitors to enjoy as they enter the village from Birmingham Road. Hopefully more to come next year as part of Bloom 2018.



Taxi Bus - 89 bus - Ring & Ride update

There are no plans to withdraw the "blue bus" from September.

The patronage on Service 89 has continued to drop away since the timetable changed earlier in the year. TfWM are concerned about this as it will affect the longer term viability of the service and seems to suggest it is not meeting the expectations of the travelling public. **TfWM would really appreciate your views** on whether going back to the old timetable with the "blue bus" continuing to do what it does now would be acceptable. It seemed that before the change people were using the bus to get to work and school, because of the consistent timetable, but since then this seems to have been lost. TfWM believe the timetable should be changed back; please email your comments to barbarablandmpc@btconnect.com or leave your comments in the Library addressed Mrs P Mills. TfWM have given their assurance that any timetable change will be subject to comments from all those Service 89 users.

Cllr Nunn sent Meriden's petition to Mayor Andy Street of West Midlands Combined Authority with an endorsement from the Parish Council. A letter acknowledging receipt and advising that the correspondence has been passed to TfWM section of the Combined Authority for review under TfWM's Petitions Protocol. There was a detailed investigation with stakeholders and consideration by elected Members of the Transport Delivery Committee at the Lead Member Meeting on the 19th July 2017. The Parish Council await the outcome.

School bus service from Millison's Wood to Meriden C of E Primary School

Despite a parents' petition and both the Chair of Governors and the Chair of Meriden Parish Council talking at SMBC's CPH Children, Education and Skills Decision Session, the decision was made to axe the school bus for a saving of £21k. The repairing of potholes, pavement improvements and cutting back of vegetation on an increased maintenance programme to enable a safer walking route to school may cost in excess of this saving...

Traffic Calming

The Parish Council met with Ashley Prior, SMBC's Head of Highways, for the purpose of discussing a traffic management plan, traffic calming strategy and shared space concept to assist with speeding traffic, inconsiderate parking, pedestrian footpath obstructions, hatching and all day parking on Main Road, pedestrian crossing Fillongley Road, Meriden School parking and speed limits on all Meriden gateways. It was a positive discussion and walkabout to all hotspots. A follow up meeting will be held in September with a presentation at the next Parish Council meeting being 18th September 2017.

Meriden Pool

Further to a recent meeting with SMBC, confirmation for an 'in kind' contribution and through internal services, they will lead on the delivery of the following actions from Meriden Pool management plan with the following proposed spring bulb planting, proposed natural and intuitive play space, proposed seating, proposed proactive tree works and technical advice and support. Chris Edgell, Public Realm Manager, will be the officer leading for SMBC.

The Parish Council in partnership with SMBC will be making an application to Suez (previously SITA Trust) for an environmental grant to improve the Pool as part of the ongoing Pool Management programme. There will be a display in the library of what will be done when the action plan is firmed up.