

# **Duffield Parish Council News Letter - Issue No.41(JANUARY 2007)**

## **HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE PARISH COUNCILLORS**

As the New Year breaks Councillors and staff at the Parish Council send their wishes of happiness and good health to all

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## **NEW YEAR REFLECTIONS**

Like many businesses the New Year is a great time for the Parish Council to review its progress over the past twelve months and look to the future year with anticipation.

The Council has been through significant change over the last year. The appointment of a new Clerk and the change in tenure of the Chairman, were accompanied by the reorganisation of the structure of the Council. The introduction of new Committees to concentrate on Council Strategy, the Cemetery and Recreational area has led to focused attention on both the Parish assets and its future direction.

## **THE CEMETERY COMMITTEE**

At the Cemetery significant clearance work has made way for two new allotments and an extended seating area in the Garden of Remembrance. The Committee Room had benefited from a refurbishment and repointing of all the Cemetery Building is now complete. New paths and improved safety measures around the Cemetery and the adjoining field have also enhanced the area. The tranquillity and beauty of the area has however been maintained by the loving care given to it by David and Moya Guy who work tirelessly on the maintenance of the grounds and the stunning flower displays

Looking ahead, the Lodge will soon look gleaming from a fresh coat of paint and electrical work will ensure that all buildings are fully compliant. Further clearance work around the allotment area will provide additional allotment spaces, however the continuance of thriving wildlife in the area will be ensured by the development of a nature reserve.

Most significantly a data base is to be established to enable memorial testing within the cemetery grounds. This will also give important information to those seeking their genealogy.

## **THE RECREATIONAL COMMITTEE**

The Recreational Committee has also been busy this year with improvement works to the footways on Cockpit lane and Styles walk giving safer access to the ever popular Eyes Meadow. The resurfacing of Donald Hawley Way has also ensured that this site remains open and accessible to all who wish to use it. The Council was pleased to receive compliments from the Derby in Bloom judges on the maintenance of the Meadow and particularly the condition of football pitches on the site. The Council now supports seven senior and junior clubs playing at Eyes Meadow offering sport to both girls and boys across the age ranges including adults.

As ever the continuance of village activities on the Meadow is anticipated, with planning for the Vintage Steam Event, Carnival and Firework Display already underway. Further work on the access ways are planned for the New Year, as are improvements to the Meadow itself with over 170 trees and bushes now ready for planting to create an avenue along the road way.

At Gray Recreational Ground, plans are already afoot to improve the play area, following extensive consultation through the Parish Plan, and this newsletter. On writing plans for the area have just arrived and more details on how you will be able to view these will follow next month.

## **THE STRATEGY COMMITTEE**

The main focuses of the Strategy Committee this year has been to support projects from the Parish Plan as well as developing public access to the Council.

Earlier in the year the Parish Council gave outline consent for a Youth/ Community development at Eyes Meadow and work continues with this group to develop this important village project.

The opening of the Parish Office at the Weston Centre and the introduction of Councillor surgeries has also given a focus point for the Council with many people now accessing this service.

Looking ahead the development of a Youth Parish Council in conjunction with Ecclesbourne

**A map showing the site of the trial nature reserve at Duffield Cemetery.**

**School, and the extension of Councillors surgeries together with work to support ongoing projects will surely keep Councillors, Clerk and Assistant Clerk (to be appointed-see advert next month) busy well into next year.**

**Special thanks for all their hard work must also go Meryl Hutchings (Administrator) Michael Forkin (Village Warden) and all advisors who work tirelessly for the Council....here's to next 2007.**

**COUNCILLORS SURGERIES**

**You can come and meet your Councillors at the Parish Office at the Weston Centre to discuss items of concern on the following dates:**

<b>Monday</b>	<b>January 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.00am</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>February 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.00am</b>

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**Clerk , Sally Bygraves on 01332 842368, or email us through the contact button at [www.duffieldpc.org.uk](http://www.duffieldpc.org.uk)**

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