



# Drayton Bassett Village News

## Spring 2025

Welcome to the first newsletter from your recently elected Parish Council! Councillors have been busy getting to grips with their roles and responsibilities in and around the village but now feel that they would like to introduce themselves to you and let you know what activities are going on in your village.

### *Who's Who?*

We have some familiar and some new faces as Councillors. Hopefully you will have met some of them when they came door knocking to get your views on the questionnaire about allowing dogs in the village park. Here are their names and email addresses:

Rosemary Bridge [rosemarybridge@draytonbassett-pc.gov.uk](mailto:rosemarybridge@draytonbassett-pc.gov.uk)

Matthew Gwynn [matthewgwynn@draytonbassett-pc.gov.uk](mailto:matthewgwynn@draytonbassett-pc.gov.uk)

Alice Price [aliceprice@draytonbassett-pc.gov.uk](mailto:aliceprice@draytonbassett-pc.gov.uk)

Adrian Stockil [adrianstockil@draytonbassett-pc.gov.uk](mailto:adrianstockil@draytonbassett-pc.gov.uk)

Chris Williams [chriswilliams@draytonbassett-pc.gov.uk](mailto:chriswilliams@draytonbassett-pc.gov.uk)

John Williams [johnwilliams@draytonbassett-pc.gov.uk](mailto:johnwilliams@draytonbassett-pc.gov.uk)

Emma Wilson [emmawilson@draytonbassett-pc.gov.uk](mailto:emmawilson@draytonbassett-pc.gov.uk)

The Councillors are assisted in their work by the Parish Clerk who is Hilary Goodreid [parishclerk@draytonbassett-pc.gov.uk](mailto:parishclerk@draytonbassett-pc.gov.uk)

### *What is the Parish Council?*

A parish council is a local authority that makes decisions on behalf of the people in the parish and has an overall responsibility for the wellbeing of its local community. As the level of local government closest to the community, parish councils are the first place people will go with concerns and ideas.

Parish councils make all kinds of decisions on issues that affect the local community. Probably the most common topics that parish councils get involved with are planning matters (they are statutory consultees), crime prevention, helping local groups, managing open spaces and campaigning for and delivering better services and facilities.

It's true to say that on their own, parish councils have limited powers to make decisions. But they do have the ability to negotiate with, and the power to influence, those other organisations that do make the final decisions (such as the borough or unitary council, health authorities, police etc).





## *The budget for 2025/2026*

At our January meeting, we agreed the Precept for the coming financial year. This is the amount of money that we collect from the local Council Tax. At our meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> January 2025, it was agreed that a 2% increase would be sought in order to fund ongoing price increases for utilities etc. You should be getting your council tax advisory information from Lichfield District Council in the coming weeks.

Some of the money being collected will go towards the following projects:

- Repairs to the children play equipment in the village park
- Possible ground works in the village park
- Issues around dogs in the village park
- Tree survey on parish council owned land
- Tree works to trees on council land
- Additional traffic calming measures

## *Upcoming meetings for 2025/2026*

The Parish Council meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month in the sports pavilion on Rectory Close but they include annual meetings as well. Here are the upcoming dates for your diary for 2025 which all start at 7.30pm:



**Come along and join us for a meeting - even if it is just to observe what is happening.**

18 <sup>th</sup> March	Ordinary monthly meeting
15 <sup>th</sup> April	Annual Parish Assembly in the WI Hall
20 <sup>th</sup> May	Annual Parish Council Meeting
20 <sup>th</sup> May	Ordinary monthly meeting
17 <sup>th</sup> June	Ordinary monthly meeting
15 <sup>th</sup> July	Ordinary monthly meeting
16 <sup>th</sup> September	Ordinary monthly meeting
21 <sup>st</sup> October	Ordinary monthly meeting
18 <sup>th</sup> November	Ordinary monthly meeting

## **SpeedWatch**

We have a burgeoning Speed Watch team in the village. They are a group of dedicated volunteers who, after training, go out on agreed dates to sites within the village to monitor vehicle speeds. Their work in the first year of operation saw 4,027 vehicles logged of which 224 were speeding. If found speeding, warning letters are issued by the police and if this is a repeat offence, then the police follow up.

If you would like to join this group, please contact Cllr Rosemary Bridge on the email [rosemarybridge@draytonbassett-pc.gov.uk](mailto:rosemarybridge@draytonbassett-pc.gov.uk)

The Parish Council have also been awarded a grant to put in flashing speed awareness signs. Work on this project will take place over the coming year.





## Volunteer Day – Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April 10am – 1pm!

In the coming months we are looking to hold a number of volunteering sessions where we invite residents to come and join us in the village park at Rectory Close. We will be doing a bit of weeding of the beds, planting bulbs, planting trees and undertaking small scale repairs. In return for your hard work we will provide hot and cold drinks, a Cllrs surgery so that you can raise issues with the Cllrs, and a chance to get better acquainted with your neighbours. Put the date in your diary and come on down to support your local recreation site....Saturday April 26<sup>th</sup> from 10am – 1pm.

## FAQ's

### Can I speak at a parish council meeting?

There is a public session of 20 mins at the start of every meeting so that the public can raise anything they want the council to consider. If you want Cllrs to consider a specific item – please contact the Clerk so that it can be placed on the agenda.

### Where can I see the agendas and minutes of the meetings?

Agendas and Minutes are posted on our website [www.draytonbassett-pc.gov.uk](http://www.draytonbassett-pc.gov.uk) and Agendas are also posted on local notice boards and on our Facebook page: DraytonBassettParishCouncil

### Can I get the parish council to comment on a planning application?

Parish Councils are statutory consultees on local planning applications and have the power to comment on behalf of the community. If you would like Cllrs to discuss a specific application, please contact the Parish Clerk.

### How do you get to be a Parish Councillor?

Elections are held every 4 years but if a space becomes vacant in-between that time, the Parish Council will advertise a co-opted Cllr role.

### What is a Parish Clerk?

The Parish Clerk is appointed by the Parish Councillors and assists with the administrative and clerical duties of the parish council. The Parish Clerk is the only employee of this Parish Council.

### What can the Parish Council help with?

Parish Councils have many powers but here are some things that we work on: SpeedWatch, care of the village park and other patches of open land, planning consultations, lobbying on issues, applying for grants.