

April 10th - Parish News Belbroughton and Fairfield Parish Council

Parish Grants

The Council is pleased again to offer capital and minor grants to parish bodies. Application forms and the terms and conditions are available from the clerk or 'on line' at the website belbroughtonandfairfield-pc.info It has £5,000 available for capital projects and £600 for community activities. Applications need to be submitted by the end of May 2018.

Smartwater

The Council has approved in principle the funding of a scheme for the whole parish area, it will now assess the logistics of implementing the project before committing to the purchase of the kits for each household. The cost to the Council will be around £10,300.

Neighbourhood Planning

A further meeting was held 26th March again well attended by 25 residents. After a full discussion the group agreed to pay close attention to the coming District Council's Green Belt Review by preparing a response to the District's methodology for the review. There was also discussion on the Hearn Report. It was agreed to progress an application to the localities commission for grant assistance when the new application window opens. The higher level political situation both at District Council, West Midland and National levels will be closely monitored.

Requirement for Expertise and General Assistance:

To assess residents' views on how the neighbourhood should be shaped in the future and to establish if there is an appetite for a Neighbourhood Plan, a further survey will need to be undertaken which is robust and valid and this will probably require paid specialist expertise. Individuals with project management skills will also be sought as well as volunteers for general assistance with the task. If you would like to be involved please contact Cllr. Bob Morgan 01562 710337.

Planning Decision

Land off Glebe Fields Belbroughton – the District Council has Approved the residential planning application ref. 17/01224/FUL – full details of the decision and conditions are available on the District Council website or from the parish clerk.

New Councillor and a Vacancy – The Council through the co-option process has elected Ms Barbara Allington to represent the Belbroughton Ward. Members welcome her to the Council. We still have a vacancy in the Fairfield Ward so if you would like to represent your community and influence the direction of the Parish Council please consider applying to join. You can speak to the clerk or one of your councillors to find out how the Council operates and what is required of a councillor.

Fairfield Recreation Ground

To help to alleviate parking issues on Stourbridge Rd. the Council is seeking quotes from architects to assist with the submission of a planning application for an extension to the present car parking area.

Parish Action Plan / Annual Parish Meeting

The council is developing a specific action plan which will be put to residents at the Annual Parish Meeting of 30th April – seeking comments and amendments before considering its adoption by the full Council at its annual meeting in May.

A reminder again of this year's meeting being held in the Belbroughton Church Hall at 7.30pm on 30th April 2018. All residents are welcome we are grateful to the Fairfield W.I. for providing pre meeting refreshments.

Council Meeting date

The next full Council meeting is on 14th May taking place in The Jubilee Room Belbroughton Recreation Centre. All residents are welcome to attend, the meeting starts at 7.30 pm.

Community Engagement The Council holds an 'Open Surgery' session of up to 15 minutes prior to the commencement of full Council meetings to give residents the opportunity to meet and discuss any issues directly with their councillors.