

The Bugle



Resounding for a better Burton

Issue 4: October, 2014

Happy Halloween with States smile-style



GET ready for Halloween with a touch of Stateside style.

Villagers Dawn Willis, Missy Sell, and Paula and Pete Coyle are organising a special Halloween party in the village with an American theme.

That should mean a Halloween with plenty of laughter, as in the US the gala for ghouls and ghosts tends to be about having fun rather than being scary.



Dawn explained: "The party will be aimed at local children, but we would like their parents there, too, to join in the fun. We will have two papier mâché pumpkins - piñatas - for the children to take turns to whack at, probably with a broomstick. The piñatas are filled with sweets which will fall out for the children to gather when they break open. That's an American thing.

"We are also planning an apple bobbing stall, pumpkin decorating and craft stalls, and some other fun and child-friendly stalls. Mostly, it's about the children getting to do several activities and then getting some sweets once they've finished each one."

The party – the Burton Village Family Halloween Fest – will be held in the garden of Al and Marje Caie at The New House on Church Hill from 6.30pm on Friday, October 31, when all would-be witches and wizards, phantoms and goblins are expected to gather after trick or treating.

Dawn added: "The children, of course, will want to come in costume, but it would be great if their parents came in fancy dress, too. They might even win a prize. There will be three costume contests – one for children at primary school or younger, another for those at senior school, and then one for adults. There will be prizes awarded for

Continued on Page 2

Halloween with States smile-style *continued from Page 1*

each category. As well as asking people to come in fancy dress if they want to, we are asking them to bring their picnic blankets and camp chairs and enjoy the family fun activities, games and food. Everybody's welcome with or without children."

Tickets - £2.50 for children, £3.50 for adults or £10 for a family ticket (two adults and two children) – include burgers, hot dogs and desserts. However, partygoers are asked to bring their own drinks. Tickets can be bought by contacting Missy Sell on 07447 535 315 and at the Old House At Home pub every Friday in October during Happy Hour.

Villagers who do not want to hand out sweets to trick or treaters, should turn off their porch lights as a sign on the night.

Ticket money will pay for the cost of food and decorations for the event, but any proceeds will go the Burton Community Association fund for the benefit of the village.

Take a look at Burton's future

THE first step has been taken towards looking at how Burton's future may be shaped.

A meeting was held by Wiltshire Council at nearby Grittleton Village Hall on September 22 to explain locally a new idea being rolled out by the Government and local councils across England and Wales called Neighbourhood Planning.



The aim under a new law is to involve communities in having more of a say through their parish council on how they will develop. Features of Neighbourhood Planning include changing attitudes to growth, so communities are more likely to say 'yes' rather than 'no'.

Also, there may be the chance of money to spend on improving the infrastructure of the local community. For example, may be on safer roads, a local park or a community building. The money would come from a new kind of levy a local authority such as Wiltshire Council could charge the developer.



Burton Community Association chair Amanda Read (pictured left) attended the meeting. Here's her report: It began with an overview of Neighbourhood Planning by Georgina Clampitt-Dix, Head of Spatial Planning at Wiltshire Council.

Points of note included the council's intention to decide where to build another 150 new homes in the Chippenham area – which includes Burton and Nettleton. No specific locations have been targeted for this development. Within Burton, any development would be limited to infill within the existing built-up area.

Continued on Page 3

Take a look at Burton's future... *continued from Page 2*

The importance of a policy of sustainable development was stressed. In other words, any new housing development should coincide with the provision of local leisure facilities and places of work.

It was also explained that a parish does not have to have a Neighbourhood Plan, but, if it does, residents must back and actively buy into the idea. But it needs to be understood that establishing a Neighbourhood Plan is a process that would take a lot of hard work from the community over one to two years.

The evening also included a workshop to identify residents' priorities for the future of Nettleton parish. A number of potential items were put forward as discussion points, including a village hall, children's playground, allotments and business sites, and participants in the exchange of ideas were invited to identify other possible priorities.

Opinions expressed by the nine Burton residents who attended included:

- no strong desire for a village hall (a suggestion included making better use of the church);
- wide support for a children's play area;
- concerns that further hard-surface development (for example, housing or business premises) would increase the burden on drainage in Burton – already an issue for several flood-prone homes in the village;
- inadequate existing infrastructure, such as the lack of a footpath on the Hillside road;
- the scope for housing and accommodation for small businesses;
- and that wider consultation was necessary before priorities could be clarified.



What also came across in conversation as being of interest were a mains gas supply and improved Broadband. The meeting closed with the conclusion to consult the wider community on the question of engaging in a Neighbourhood Plan.

After the meeting, Al Caie, secretary of Burton Community Association and a Nettleton parish councillor, said: "A Neighbourhood Plan would be important for the future of Burton, enabling us to proactively shape future developments, instead of reacting to proposals when they are submitted, and by which time developers can be resistant to change. Also, it would build on the good work in preparing the Parish Plan of 2011."

To find out more about Neighbourhood Planning, go to

- Nettleton Parish Council's website: <http://www.nettleton.org.uk/>
- And website links: <https://www.gov.uk/government/policies/giving-communities-more-power-inplanning-local-development/supporting-pages/neighbourhood-planning> and https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/6077/2116950.pdf

Wiltshire Council leader supports village's initiative



A MESSAGE for Burton from local councillor and Wiltshire Council leader Jane Scott (pictured):

Wiltshire Council has a vision to build stronger and more resilient local communities.

Why? Because in a largely rural county like Wiltshire, funding for all public services will tend be lower than in more urban areas because of how the Government works out where money will be spent.

But at the same time the financial pressure on the county's services is often just as great as anywhere else. Wiltshire has an ageing population growing faster than almost any other area in the country, while the number of vulnerable young people who need support and care grows every year.

Such pressures - including the council's need to support businesses to stay in the county and come to the county to keep unemployment down, to be able to invest in our roads and all those other essential services such as waste, public health, libraries (and all of the other 300 or so we provide) - mean the authority will not be able to provide every service in the same way in the future.

This, in turn, means Wiltshire Council must look to local communities to help themselves, and the authority will help them do that. This is why I was so pleased to meet Amanda Read, the chair of the recently-formed Burton Community Association and hear of all the ideas for Burton. I have seen other communities across the county where similar groups are working well. So much more can be achieved, and so much fun and a feeling of achievement can be had, in delivering such ideas and projects together in a community.

Wiltshire Council can help in many ways, with things such as community clear-up days, when the authority will send in a team of highways officers to undertake tasks such as gully clearing, sign cleaning and small pothole filling. I know Burton recently held a very successful Tidy Up Day.

The council also has small grant schemes available through its Area Boards (Burton's board is Chippenham). The board grants were set up to support community group projects and I am happy to help and support these projects at any time.

Your local board is for people in Chippenham and surrounding villages and if you have an evening free I would urge you to attend, as it is a good opportunity to find out what is happening in the area and get ideas from others. The meeting dates and venues are on the Wiltshire Council website.

But, back to where I began. Burton is doing exactly what we hope all Wiltshire communities will do: work together, have fun together and support each other so they will grow in strength and resilience with support from Wiltshire Council.

As your local councillor I am available to help. Just get in touch. If I don't know the answer, I am sure I know someone who does. Good luck Burton.