

Barlaston Parish Council

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The Heron



barlaston.org.uk

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Issue 6

January 2015

News from the Parish Council



Parish Council
Chairman Gareth
Jones

Welcome to this first edition of 2015. I hope that you find it interesting and informative.

There certainly seems to be a lot going on in Barlaston at the moment.

At its January meeting the Parish Council reviewed its financial position and thought it prudent to increase the Parish precept which each householder pays as part of Council tax by £1.86 per year for a Band D rated property. This will be the first increase in the precept for four years and will allow the Council to restore financial reserves to a more acceptable level. It will also enable the Parish Council to support the purchase of much need defibrillators and to ensure that good progress can be made on completing the Neighbourhood Plan.

Details of a series of Steering Groups established to support the development of the Plan and to examine key aspects of village life can be found overleaf. I strongly encourage residents to become involved in these Groups so that as many views can be taken into consideration as possible.

Barlaston is one of eleven designated 'key service' villages in Stafford Borough. Broadly speaking a 'key service' village is defined as a community that has infrastructure such

as transport, shops, schools and health centres that can support population growth. As has been stated before the Parish Council view is that any growth that occurs in our 'key service' village should be in areas agreed by the local community. Whilst its position in the North Staffordshire 'Green Belt' affords significant protection against development, the view of the Council is that village would be even better placed if there was an approved Neighbourhood (Village) Plan which sat within the framework of the approved Stafford Borough Development Plan. Most of the 'key service' villages are currently preparing their own plans which when approved will have legal status.

Before a Neighbourhood Plan can be approved by the Planning Inspectors, the Parish Council will have to demonstrate that there has been widespread consultation in the process and that the majority of residents support the Plan objectives. In fact the last stage will be the holding of a referendum whereby it will need to be demonstrated that the majority of villagers support the objectives of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Barlaston is a special village and it is suggested that it is important for all its residents that any developments that take place should be against an agreed framework.

The 2014 Village Show was a special occasion, fondly recalled by those that attended. Plans for the 2015 are in hand, the Show will be held in the Village Hall and on the Village Green on

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5th September and it is hoped that it will be equally well supported.

During 2015 there will be considerable activity to the north and south of the village. The David Wilson Homes development at Wedgwood Park is gaining momentum and the first occupants have moved in, the redevelopment of the WWRD site is reaching a critical point and the familiar landscape is changing. To the south of the village work will shortly start on the construction of a new roundabout at what will become the new entrance

to the Meaford Industrial site and this development will have a major impact on traffic going to Stone.

During February Barlaston's new vicar, Rev Helen Barton, will be moving into the vicarage in Longton Road with her husband Stephen. Helen currently has parishes in the Diocese of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Her installation as our Vicar will take place on the afternoon of 21st February in the Parish Church. It will be good to have a resident Vicar in the village once again
Gareth Jones.

Barlaston Neighbourhood Plan - Have your say!

Our Barlaston Neighbourhood Plan is beginning to take shape following further consultation with local community groups and the identification of the settlement boundary that generally follows the former residential development boundary around the village. Along with known residential building plots that have already been approved the council have identified several other potential sites for development such as the Wedgwood Memorial College, although as yet no application to build on the site has been made and the site remains for sale.

You are now invited to join one of the steering groups that will formalise a draft plan in 2015; these groups are meeting as listed below and you would be welcome to join any or all of the groups- your views would be welcomed.

Barlaston Neighbourhood Plan - Steering Groups 2015

Date	Time 19:00 - 20:00	Time 20:00 - 21:00
Tuesday January 27th	Housing & Planning	Health & Well-being
Tuesday February 17th	Environment	Social Facilities
Tuesday February 24th	Transport	
Tuesday March 17th	Health & Well-being	Housing & Planning
Tuesday March 24th	Social Facilities	Environment
Tuesday March 31st	Transport	

All meetings are in the Ruth Dickson meeting room at the side of the Village Hall at the time stated.

Election 2015

Parish Council elections will be held in May 2015; there will be at least one vacancy to fill - so if you wish to be involved then do consider standing for your ward. Contact Neil Hemmings on 07855347761 for further details.

County Highways

Any local Highways problems such as potholes can be reported by ringing: **0300 111 8000**. You will be given a reference number that allows you to track progress on the problem. County Highways are in a new partnership with AMEY Infrastructure+ that aims to improve the effectiveness of the service.

Barlaston School News

The School has a new after school club which is run by Meaford Nursery. The club is operated from the school hall and is already proving to be very popular.

"Marvellous"

Eagle-eyed viewers may have noticed that the nursing home scene in *Marvellous*, the recent hit BBC2 Drama starring Toby Jones, was filmed in our village. The scenes were filmed inside and outside the now abandoned *Limes* house at the former Wedgwood Memorial College.



Barlaston Herons WI Defibrillator Fundraising



The WI empowers women to identify and tackle issues that matter to them. Following a teaching session from Heart Start

trainers Viv O'Dunne and Julie Sentence, Barlaston Herons WI decided that we would like to raise funds for defibrillators for Barlaston. There is an urgent need to widen public access to defibrillators to significantly increase the survival rate following a cardiac arrest

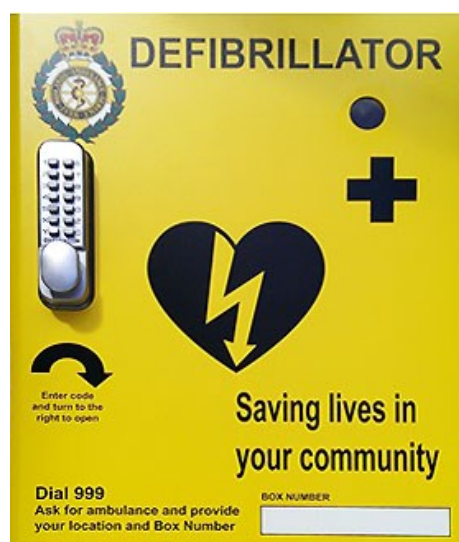
Barlaston is a rural area, where it can take several minutes to get medical help to the scene. Public access defibrillators placed in various locations around the village could be at the scene more quickly. The more of these public access defibrillators in the community, the better as they really can make the difference between someone surviving or not.

The WI is renowned for taking on issues. Much of

this reputation stems from the WI's resolutions process and the innovative campaigns that evolve from it. It is through the resolutions process, by working together that members bring about real change at local and national level on issues that matter to them and their communities.

We decided that widening public access to defibrillators would make a good resolution as it has the potential for the WI nationally and WI members locally to have an impact and take action. It was amazing to see our resolution in WI Life as one of the seven short-listed resolutions. It was stimulating to do the research and write about a cause in which I am interested.

After taking advice from West Midlands Ambulance Service we are aiming to raise funds for ten defibrillators for Barlaston to be placed in various locations around the village in vandal proof key coded cabinets. Through fund raising and some very generous donations including support from the Parish Council we are hoping to get the first two defibrillators installed in the village in the very near future. We will continue to raise funds throughout 2015 and if anyone would like to make a donation, please contact **Jo Gent** on 01782 374086. *Erika Calladine*



Canal working party - help needed!

A **canal working party** has been arranged for **Friday the 13th February** and **Saturday the 14th February** meeting at **10am** on the **Plume of Feathers** car park. The main tasks will be:

- Litter picking and removal of debris from the canal
- Trimming of overhanging branches
- Laying of new gravel along towpath towards Wedgwood to remove hollows and eradicate puddles.

Please help at any time during the day.

Contact Neil Hemmings on 07855347761 for further details.



Barlaston Village Show & Fete



2014 saw the return of the the **Barlaston Village Fete** which ran alongside the annual **Barlaston Village Show**.

We were lucky enough to receive funding from County Councillor Ian Parry through the County Council's Local Community Fund and Barlaston Parish Council, which enabled us to hire a marquee. We were also overwhelmed with the support from local groups, businesses and individuals who kindly donated their services, raffle prizes, equipment and cash. We also had an excellent team of helpers on the day and would like to say a huge thank you to them – we couldn't have done it without you.

What a success the event turned out to be. We were lucky that the sun eventually shone for us and we were overwhelmed with the number of people who came to support us. Entertainment was provided for all ages from the Uttoxeter Morris Men to the childrens' entertainer. We were also treated to live music from the Lyndsay Bishop Duo and Yaz the 'Singing Landlady' from the Duke of York as well as the traditional fairground stalls and a wide variety of stalls in the marquee.

Our Committee have already started planning for next year's fete and show – 5th September 2015 – make sure that you save the date.

Help on the day would be much appreciated so if you have some spare time and would like to help out then contact lynnescoates@btinternet.com.

Keep up-to-date with announcements - barlastonvillageshow.co.uk

Facebook: [facebook.com/BarlastonVillageShow](https://www.facebook.com/BarlastonVillageShow)

Twitter: [@barlastonvs](https://twitter.com/barlastonvs)



Barlaston Community Group - Patrick Linehan

'To foster community spirit by participating in activities that enhance the environment and encourage neighbourliness within the village of Barlaston' -

This is the mission statement for the newly formed Barlaston Community Group – The aim of the group is to encourage all residents to look out for their neighbours, engage with local events and to keep the environment tidy and litter-free, making the village of Barlaston an even better place to live in and enjoy!

As you may be aware the Parish Council has supported the Best Kept Village competition for the last two years and there has been a concerted effort by a number of people to improve the appearance of the village with strategically placed flower planters and the formation of The Barlaston Womblers group, who have done sterling work in the reduction of litter in the area.

The intention is now to build on these successes and capture the goodwill generated by the Village Show by working with each other to create a caring and engaged community. We are asking any like-minded residents to come forward with ideas for physical improvements to the village – help with litter picks, get to know our neighbours a little better and hopefully make new friends within the village as well.



Michala Black and two of the Barlaston Womblers

unable to make the journey into town.

There will be an Open Meeting for residents who are willing to help on Tuesday 17th February 2015 (Pancake Tuesday) at 7.00 pm in the Ruth Dickson room to the rear of the Village Hall. Please come

along, share your views and give us your ideas - in particular the areas you feel should be targeted this year. We anticipate the meeting will last for around 45 minutes to an hour, but feel free to come and go as you need to.

We would like to reassure any prospective volunteers that we are not looking for this to be a time-consuming and onerous commitment... However, if you are able to give up a few hours, particularly during the period March till July that would be marvellous, and for those of you with more spare time there will always be a project on the go!

The Parish Council, Barlaston and Herons WI and other local groups are supporting this venture and we will be working closely with them. In the meantime please contact the following if you have a question or would like to join the group. Patrick Linehan 01782 372878 Patrick_linehan@btinternet.com. Michala Black 01782 373554 michala.black@btinternet.com



Bringing London to Barlaston on Remembrance Sunday, the ladies of Barlaston WI

WANTED

VOLUNTEER HELPERS IN BARLASTON

**BARLASTON GOOD NEIGHBOURS
SCHEME IS SEEKING MORE
VOLUNTEERS FOR THESE ROLES:**

Befriender	Driver	General Helper
Duty Officer	Committee Member	Fundraiser

DEVELOP YOUR SKILLS, MEET NEW PEOPLE,
DO SOMETHING REWARDING FOR YOUR
LOCAL COMMUNITY

CONTACT 01782 789450

Meaford Energy

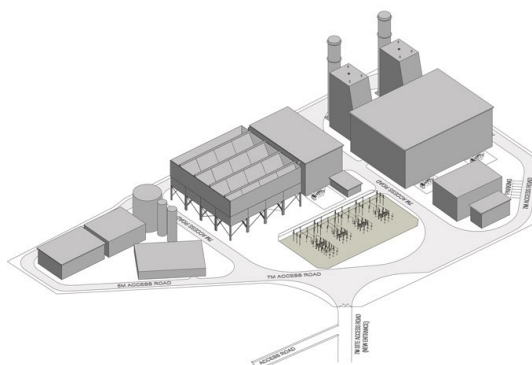
Meaford Energy Limited would like to thank everyone who participated in our statutory consultation on proposals for the Meaford Energy Centre last summer, a 299MWe combined-cycle gas turbine (CCGT) power station and its gas and electrical connections.

The feedback has helped us shape the proposals. The project team is currently working to finalise the Development Consent Order (DCO) application for submission to the Planning Inspectorate. The Planning Inspectorate is the government agency that will assess the DCO application and invite everyone who may have an interest in our application to register for participation in the examination as well as setting a timetable for the examination.

We aim to submit this application by Spring 2015. We will notify those registered for updates when the application is submitted. The process of submission, examination and determination can

take up to 16 months.

If you have any other questions or would like to be added to our mailing and email list, please contact us by calling 0800 319 6185, emailing info@meaford-energy.com, or writing to Meaford Energy Centre, RTLA-GHRX-SSXA, Local Dialogue, 77a Tradescant Road, London, SW8 1XJ. Please note that our postal address has changed.



An isometric view of the proposed Meaford Energy Centre

Men in Sheds

What do retired men do all day? Especially if they live alone. Barlaston ladies have a fair choice of societies or interest groups but gents do not. As part of our Good Neighbours Scheme I thought it worthwhile to use "The Heron" to invite anyone looking for a more interesting and rewarding retirement to think about the possibility of forming a village group.

Please ring John Russell on 372992 or email to john.russell@ntlworld.com

The Plume of Feathers

The **Plume of Feathers** has closed for 2 months whilst internal and external refurbishment is carried out. The pub will reopen on the 6th March. Landlord John West has moved to the Plough in Uttoxeter and regulars wish him well in the new hostelry.

Punch Taverns kindly donated two bench seats and two litter bins which when painted will be placed in the village for use. Punch & Inglenook Inns are undertaking the refurbishment which hopefully will provide a modern and comfortable pub and restaurant in the village.

Recycling

I recently saw a statistical table that greatly surprised me. It showed that Barlaston as a ward had slipped down a league table showing recycling performance. Usually Barlaston is one of the best performing areas in the Borough. I expect there is some 'quirk' in the numbers but it gives me a chance to remind everyone of the importance of using the 'blue' bin whenever the opportunity presents and thereby recycling as much as possible.

Gareth Jones.

Barlaston Cub Scouts

Barlaston Scout Group have re-opened the Cub section on Tuesday nights from 18:30 - 20:00 every week. They have leaders, but **need some Cubs!** Cubs is open to boys and girls from 8 - 10 1/2 who want to do something other than watch the TV or play computer games in the evening.

The Cubs meet at the Scout Hut (next to the Railway Station).

Harold Beeson

Here is a little bit about my father, Harold Beeson, who passed away August 2014.

He was born in Bury Bank, near to Stone in 1919 working at Tittensor post office when he first left school and various other jobs. His family moved to Barlaston when he was a young boy, living in the top of Barlaston in a cottage called West View. He lived in Barlaston for 93 years.

My father was called up on during the outbreak of the second world war, serving in the army with the South Staffordshire Regiment and other Regiments, serving in France and Belgium. He was evacuated from the Dunkirk Beaches the day before the final day of the evacuation. After the war he worked at several places and then helped to build the road from Meaford Road to the new power station (Meaford "A")

Having secured a job there, he got promoted to Locomotive Driver on their steam engines, working there for a total of 19 years. From there he then went to work for the National Coal Board.

Upon retirement from the coal board, he concentrated on his hobby of flying model aircraft, he was a long time member of the the North Staffs Radio Fliers having designed and built his own aircraft. My father continued to drive until he was 94 years, but unfortunately he had to give up his driving in March 2014 owing to ill health.

In commemoration of our father we had decided to plant a tree on the village green, we hope this brings happiness to all the residents in Barlaston.

Michael Beeson on behalf of the Beeson Family.



Phil Cartlidge

Sadly in May last year Phil Cartlidge of Barlaston died despite assistance from local emergency services and the Midland Air Ambulance . A subsequent fund raising evening was held in the Plume of Feathers organised by Lyndsay Bishop and John West that raised £1400 for the Air Ambulance.

Pictured are Phil's widow Wendy, his father Arthur, Lyndsay and John West handing over the money raised to the representative from the Midland Air Ambulance Service.



Barbara Lawton

Graham Lawton of Ridge Close has, with the Councils agreement, placed a memorial bench on Meaford Road in memory of his wife Barbara (1939 -2014).



WWRD - Progress

As Wedgwood moves forward with the exciting new development, we are also taking this opportunity to adopt best practises in sustainable growth.

Sustainable growth is something that modern companies are addressing more and more - in this day and age, everybody should be doing all they can to protect the environment, enhance employee's health and minimise costs. This encompasses a number of initiatives including reducing our carbon footprint and minimising waste using the principles of Reduce, Reuse, Reclaim and Recycle (4R's), implementing environmental management systems and even introducing 'green travel' schemes for our employees that commute to Barlaston.



The image above depicts how our office block will look upon completion.

To help the workforce here at Barlaston achieve our goals for sustainable growth for Wedgwood's future, our 9 voluntary Sustainable Champions from the Barlaston site and Stafford Distribution Centre have been appointed to an 'Action Committee Team' to work on the company's mission to be committed to sustainable growth for the future.

The World of Wedgwood

The World of Wedgwood is our new visitor experience that is being developed as part of Project 281. The World of Wedgwood is planned to be a world class tourism destination, leveraging the rich heritage of our luxury home and lifestyle brand with global appeal.

Guests to the World of Wedgwood will arrive at the amazing triple height atrium where they can learn about the World of Wedgwood offer and from where their journey can commence.

As you will have seen in recent media, the Wedgwood Collection is to remain at Barlaston in the Wedgwood Museum as an integrated component of our overall offer. This is a direct result of an extremely successful public fundraising campaign.

The Factory Tour showcases the complete manufacturing process and is an opportunity for the visitor to experience first-hand the people and processes that have defined the Wedgwood brand for over 250 years, exhibiting fine details of craftsmanship.

Our concept store will be the largest display of Wedgwood product anywhere in the world and will celebrate the 'world's aligned to a dedicated retail area.

The Wedgwood Tea Room is a uniquely English and whilst thoroughly modern and contemporary, it has roots in Wedgwood's unique heritage. Afternoon tea comprises an extensive selection of quality Wedgwood teas served in fine tea ware accompanied by finger food and well known English dishes of a similar refinement.



Diary Dates for 2015

Feb 13/14: Canal working party meet Plume of Feathers car Park 10am

May 12: Annual Parish Meeting followed by the Parish Council AGM 7.00 pm.

September 5 : Village Show

December 31st: Wassail

We hope you enjoyed reading this edition of *The Heron*. If you would like your club / community group featured in the next issue, contact the editor: Viv O'Dunne vivienodunne@gmail.com