



DOXEY Newsletter

Welcome to Doxey Parish Council Newsletter

Doxey's Irreplaceable Green Space (DIGS)

**We need you
to help save
our green
spaces!**

What can residents do?

Please like the facebook page -

https://www.facebook.com/DIGS-Doxeys-Irreplaceable-Green-Space-107508774122302/?ref=br_rs

We need EVERYONE to get involved, this doesn't mean giving up huge amounts of time but we need to show that the community feel strongly about keeping their green spaces in order to show the County Council that THIS IS the best use of the ground for our community and therefore represents the best use of their money.

There are several hurdles in the next year which require support including responses to the many stages of Stafford Borough's latest plan which may or may not try and designate this as employment land. We will keep residents updated and we will ask for your help when we need it. The time for action is now during policy setting and local plan designations as this is where we can make a difference and get the land designated as the community want it.

In our last newsletter we updated residents that the rugby pitch had been secured for a short term lease until June 2020.

Representatives from Doxey Parish Council, St Leonards Rugby Club and our Borough Councillor met with Mark Winnington (County Councillor) and Officers from Staffordshire County Council.

They are currently unable to grant any leases beyond 2021 as they are required to assess the value for the land and get the best value for taxpayers.

Doxey Parish Council are concerned that this is likely to result in housing (highest potential bidder) and that we could lose another green space to housing like we did with the bowling greens

Some of our Parish Councillors and local residents have already pulled together to form DIGS (Doxey's Irreplaceable Green Space) and propose to work together in a similar way that DASH did to successfully fight against the affordable home transfer at Baswich.

**Doxey Annual
Public Meeting**
Tue April 28th 7pm



The Annual Meeting is your opportunity to attend and raise your views with the Parish Council. We will also be focusing on the issues of loss of green space in Doxey and how the community can help make a difference. Please attend if you are able and give your thoughts.

Vandalism - Castle View Park

The Parish Council are sad to report that the kissing gates which were installed in July 2019 were subject to vandalism almost straight away.

The fences have now been smashed through and will be fixed at considerable cost.

The Parish Council would like to reiterate that the kissing gates are suitable for both mobility access and bicycles to pass through. Speaking to some young people in the park there is some misinformation that we are trying to stop bicycles in the park. This is untrue - we welcome any well behaved cyclists who are aware of other users in the park and acting in a considerate manner. We are trying to prevent motorcyclists who have sadly been using the park and the greenway as a through route causing upset to local residents. Thanks to Staffordshire Police - 2 motorcycles were seized last summer and the police are happy to receive information from residents to continue to remove noisy, illegal or inappropriately driven vehicles from our area. We would suggest you continue to report issues, descriptions and registration numbers via 101 as our PCSO's work tirelessly to resolve this.

In addition, the spring brake on the zip wire had to be replaced in January following excess weight use. We would remind everyone that the zip wire is only for one person at a time and that this should be for use of children and young adults only. Please use equipment in the park responsibly.

We would like to thank everyone who takes the time to pick up litter while they visit the park - this helps keep our park nice for everyone and the Parish Council are very grateful.

Neighbourhood Watch & Smart Alerts

Councillor Chris Shirley is looking to restart the previous neighbourhood watch scheme in Doxey and is looking for supporters to assist with this.

We will advise in a future newsletter about updates to the Local Scheme.

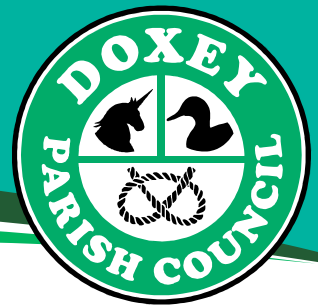
In the meantime, we would recommend signing up for Smart Alerts - Staffordshire Smart Alert allows Staffordshire Police, local authorities, Neighbourhood Watch and other public organisations to keep you informed about issues affecting your area in a timely way.

You can choose how you receive information but this can come direct to your email or as a text and allows important information to be sent to the community quickly – for example about burglaries or other issues.

<https://www.staffordshiresmartalert.co.uk/>

Building in and around Doxey - Burleyfields

Work has started on the Burleyfields development which is in between Castlefields and Stafford Castle. This work will comprise of around 400 houses which is phase 1 of 6. The full development will take approximately 18 years to complete and will comprise of approximately 2500 homes.



Bowling Green Housing Update

Work has now started on the development of the old bowling greens at the rear of the Universal Club to create 24 affordable homes. The work will be carried out on behalf of Telford & Wrekin Housing Group and expected to be completed around October 2020.

Parish Finances

At their meeting in January 2020, the Parish Council agreed to set the average band D precept at £21.18. For the year 2018/19 average band D in Stafford Parishes was £30.06 with the highest £104.47.

The Parish Council uses this money to fund the Play area, organise events including Doxey Day and the Senior Citizens Christmas Meal. We produce a newsletter 3 times a year, keeping residents updated with information about things happening in Doxey. We also pay for the dog waste bins in Doxey to be emptied and provide the refuse freighter 3 times a year for residents to take excess waste.

Parish Council Meetings

Parish Council meetings are held at:
St Thomas and St Andrew's Church
starting at 7pm (in the back room)

Members of the public are welcome to attend to raise any issues during the public open session at the beginning of the meeting.

NEXT MEETING DATES:

March 12th **June 11th**
April 9th **July 9th**
May 14th

**Do you have anything
you'd like to see included
in our next issue?
If so, please let us know.**

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Dates for your diary



Apr 11th	Amenity Visit (Refuse freighter, Doxey Church car park)
Jul 11th	Amenity Visit (Refuse freighter, Doxey Church car park)
Sep 5th	Doxey Village Day, 12-4pm (Castle View Park)
Oct 17th	Amenity Visit (Refuse freighter, Doxey Church car park)
Decr 5th	Senior Citizens Christmas Meal (Doxey Church)