



Quarndon Parish Council

November, 2016

**From Dr Paul Hodson, Chair,
Quarndon Parish Council planning subcommittee**

Kedleston Estate look as though they will achieve their objective of building 400 houses on agricultural land bordering a Heritage site of National importance, despite the opposition of Quarndon villagers, Allestree residents and Heritage and wildlife experts.

I have written to Patrick McLoughlin on behalf of the Parish Council, asking whether he would help but, realistically, I fear the likelihood of a reversal of the decision to build is not very good. However, Kedleston Voice has now filed a request in the High Court for a Judicial Review of the Inspector's decision to allow the development to go ahead. Their legal advisor feels the case is worth pursuing, albeit with no guarantee that the outcome we all would like will be achieved.

There is still work to do, as a full Planning Application will have to be submitted by the developers and we will have the responsibility of responding to that, to ensure that the dwellings and associated infrastructure proposals are fit for purpose. We will be looking for the developers to deliver on a series of important issues: affordable housing, adequate educational provision, mitigation of transport difficulties etc.

Likewise, our Neighbourhood Plan is moving ahead and even if not finalised may still have some influence on the final outcome. Remember, you can contact the Parish Council by email to the Parish Clerk: quarndonpc@virginmedia.com

We would like to build up an address book of residents' email addresses to facilitate communication in our community, it is perverse how often things happen just after we have distributed the Quarndon Newsletter.

Quarndon Website

www.quarndon.parishcouncil.net is looking rather dated so we will be upgrading it with a new, modern design. Any suggestions for new website pages would be welcome.

Rubbish Skip

Saturday 19 November 2016
Village Hall Car Park
8.00 am to 11.00 am

Christmas Light Switch On

Saturday 10 December 2016

Poppyfields Meadow, the 23 house development off Memorial Road, is Quarndon's latest development. 7 houses are occupied, a further 6 sold and the rest under construction. To all these new parishioners, "Welcome". You will receive a Newsletter twice a year from the Parish Council. We normally meet at the Village Hall on the last Monday of the month at 7.30pm. There is no August meeting. Submitting comments on planning applications to the planning authority, Amber Valley Borough Council, is one of the Council's principal roles. You can contact a councillor or the Parish Clerk at the above addresses and are welcome to attend meetings.

QUARNDON PARISH COUNCIL

Dr Matthew Pitt (Chairman)	69 Burley Lane	842114
John Cunningham	33 Church Road	550787
Dr Paul Hodson (Vice Chairman)	61 Burley Lane	840201
David Knight	Greenbank, Coach Drive	551818
James Richardson	Fernhill, The Common	559140
Christian Rossel	162 Burley Lane	556808
Andy Small	214 Burley Lane	07412 423964
Clare Turner	39 Burley Lane	840138
Steve Walton	133 Church Road	07970 022371

Clerk to the Council: **Mrs Laura Storey**, PO Box 8108, Derby, DE1 0ZU.

Tel: **07941 052009**. e-mail: quarndonpc@virginmedia.com

Neighbourhood Watch

Thursday 17th November and Monday 19th December

The local Safer Neighbourhood policing team is holding a surgery in the Mobile Police Station. It will be parked in Church Road near Curzon School from 1.00 to 1.30 pm. Residents can call and speak to officers about any concerns.

Quarndon has a **Neighbourhood Watch scheme** with just over one hundred members. Although some members are not computer users the majority can be reached efficiently with an email. This allows communication of current local incidents (many lead to repeat offences so a warning can be very helpful); security advice and opportunities to meet the local police Safer Neighbourhood team. Over the last twelve months I am aware of two house burglaries, six shed break-ins and six other miscellaneous suspicious events. This is about average for our population but we could do better.

There is evidence that active neighbourhood watch schemes do reduce crime so the police are very supportive. We do find that if we take interest then they reciprocate. This is important us as with limited resources they have many competing calls on their time.

A further advantage is that by being a member of a neighbourhood watch scheme you may be eligible for a discount on house insurance (e.g. the Coop). If you have yet to join us and wish to then please contact me: Gerald Price, email Pricegerald3@aol.com or call either 07982 129421 or 01332 550783

Parking on Pavements

There have been numerous complaints about the problem of vehicle parking on pavements and the dangerous nature of this to children, babies in push chairs, the disabled and pedestrians in general who on many occasions have to walk into the main road to get around vehicles. Drivers appear to have no consideration or concern of pedestrians and many park so far onto the pavement they do not even allow room for walkers and people with push chairs to get down the side of these vehicles.

A related problem is parking in the area near the school which makes it very difficult for buses to negotiate the junction opposite the Hall. To reduce the number of cars, parents are welcome to use the car parking area behind the Hall. A complete ban on pavement parking in the village is not realistic. In the case of inconsiderate parking which blocks the pavement, residents are advised to talk to the householder or, in serious cases, to contact the police on 101.

The Localism Act, in November 2011, gave local communities the opportunity to have more say in the development of their local area through formulating a Neighbourhood Plan (NP). This is a community-led framework that, in conjunction with the applicable Borough Local Plan (AVBC in our case), sets the planning policies, for the next 10-15 years, to direct and control development of a designated area, i.e. the policies that will be used to determine the outcome of future planning applications.

The decision to produce a Neighbourhood Plan for Quarndon was taken at a village open meeting in May 2016. A Steering Group (QNPSG) of volunteers, working in conjunction with the Parish Council, to develop our NP was established and, in June 2016, it was agreed that Quarndon Parish should be our designated area. Through the summer and to date, the following milestones have been achieved:

- 18 Jul: AVBC public consultation on the designation of Quarndon Parish as the area for our NP was completed and agreed.
- End Jul: Hannah Barter, a Neighbourhood Planning expert, who works for a small Staffordshire-based Community Interest Company was engaged as our consultant.
- 19 Aug: An initial government funding grant to develop our NP of £2890 to end 2016 was awarded and paid to Quarndon Parish Council.
- 2 Sep: Hannah Barter delivered a Neighbourhood Plan training event to the QNPSG.
- 10 Sep: Quarndon NP website launched: <http://quarndon-np.co.uk/>
- 24/25 Sept: Leaflets were delivered to all households in Quarndon to summarise what a Neighbourhood Plan is, and invite everyone to our October Drop-In sessions.
- 27 Sep: An introductory meeting was held with the Planning Officer, who will be our point of contact with AVBC whilst we develop our NP.
- On 2, 4 & 6 Oct 2016: Neighbourhood Plan “Drop-In” sessions were run at the Village Hall; almost 100 villagers came to find out about our NP and share their ideas on what is currently good about Quarndon and how Quarndon could be improved in the future.

The Drop-In sessions were really useful to help the Steering Group understand what people value about Quarndon at the moment, and therefore what needs to be protected by future planning policies. Recurring themes that arose included: the rural environment; Quarndon’s identity as a village separate from Derby; the community facilities (cricket, village hall, church, pub, playground, etc); the Green Belt and green spaces in the village; access to good schools; a strong sense of community; local walks and views; the street scenes with traditional buildings, hedgerows and mature trees.

Traffic the single biggest issue where villagers would like improvements to make Quarndon safer, quieter and less congested. This is useful data to help provide evidence to the local Highways Authority for the actions needed, but unfortunately most of the issues cannot be addressed by NP policies. The remit of an NP is primarily to steer local development by setting planning policies that will determine the outcome of planning applications.

The main themes for improvement identified that could feature in our Neighbourhood Plan included: housing type, style and size; Green Belt retention; protection of trees & hedgerows; encouraging a local shop; establishing a central (outdoor) meeting place; development of better recreation facilities.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to come to the Drop-In sessions and help us by sharing your ideas. We will continue the analysis of these and ask follow-up questions, where necessary, in a detailed questionnaire that we plan to deliver to all households and discuss with all outside stakeholders during November 2016. Please take the time to respond to the questionnaire when it arrives – it will be a key opportunity for everyone in living in the Parish of Quarndon to contribute to its future. It is aimed to feedback results in a further open meeting and formulate a vision for the Parish of Quarndon by end 2016.

Neighbourhood Plan October Update continued

Looking beyond 2016 the outline plan is:-

- Jan-Apr 2017: Draft policies for Quarndon Neighbourhood Plan.
- May-Jul 2017: Pre-submission consultation and publicity on draft NP.
- 31 Jul 2017: Submit NP to local planning authority for examination.
- 31 Jan 2018: Completion of independent examination following Amber Valley consultation, appointment of examiner and independent examination.
- 31 May 2018: Referendum.
- 31 Jul 2018: Formal making of the Quarndon NP.

In Dec 2015, the Borough Council withdrew the emerging Amber Valley Core Strategy (Part 1 of the Local Plan) primarily because it made insufficient provision for identified housing needs, including “overspill” from Derby City. In Jan 2016, AVBC launched preparation of a new Local Plan. This will replace the current Local Plan, adopted in April 2006, and is expected to be adopted in March 2018. These timescales are broadly similar to those for the Quarndon NP and, by working with AVBC, we aim to ensure that the policies defined for Quarndon Parish complement and, where appropriate, inform those in AVBC’s new Local Plan.

If anyone has any questions or comments about the Quarndon Neighbourhood Plan please email them to: sec@quarndon-np.co.uk or call 01332 556395.

Road Safety Concern and Actions

One of the main concerns of residents is road safety within the village. The Parish Council is well aware of the problems and makes representations to the Police, Amber Valley Borough Council and Derbyshire County Council on their behalf. The following is a list of the main concerns and progress to date.

Speeding through Village

The Council raises this issue regularly with the Police and Derbyshire County Council (DCC). The police do carry out random speed checks. DCC have stated that they do not have any funds to carry out traffic calming measures at present. These could include extending the 20mph speed limit area, speed humps, road width constrictions or ‘dragon’s teeth’.

Further to parishioner concerns the Parish Council contacted DCC for advice regarding 20 mph speed limits in urban areas. DCC replied “Derbyshire County Council as Highway Authority is currently consulting on governmental advice on the implementation of 20mph speed limits. As such, until we have formulated a policy on 20mph speed limits, we are not at this time introducing any further such schemes”.

The Parish Council has also enquired about the purchase by the Parish Council of a portable speed camera. DCC have said that the village does not meet the necessary criteria. The Parish Council is not satisfied with this response and is taking further action.

Dangerous Crossing on Church Road

The crossing of Church Road north of the Joiners is very dangerous for pedestrians as they cannot see traffic going down Church Road due to the bend. The pavement north of The Joiners on the eastern side of the road ends and pedestrians have to cross the road to the western side. It is indeed difficult to cross the road if you are elderly or with children as you cannot see what is coming down Church Road in particular if driving at higher speed. A zebra crossing would be desirable here but DCC consider that the crossing would not meet required guidelines.

Heavy articulated Vehicles

There have been numerous complaints about these vehicles coming through the village. One possibility would be to extend the existing weight limit area on Woodlands Lane to the remainder of the village. However, this would be difficult to enforce because many vehicles, for example those with building materials, are coming to sites in the village.