# **Longdon Parish Council News**

Welcome to the latest edition of our Newsletter, which summarises the key points from the monthly Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2016.

### **Upper Longdon Traffic Calming**

The Parish Council have received concerns from some Upper Longdon residents concerning the lack of detailed works as part of the proposed traffic calming. Lichfield and Staffs County Councillor Martyn Tittley, advised the parish council that only Phase 1 of the speed reduction scheme had been completed. This included the gateway features from Cannock Chase AONB and some road marking. Staffs County Council are now looking at a package of works to be included in Phase 2 and these may include chicanes and other speed reduction works. Parish Cllrs have asked to have sight of the second

phase before they are commissioned, in order that the local residents' concerns be allayed.

#### **Local Council Award Scheme**

This scheme offers parish councils the opportunity to show that they meet the standards set by the sector, assessed by their peers, and put in to place the conditions for continued improvement. The award has 3 levels: Foundation, Quality and Quality Gold. As the parish council now meets the basic standard, it was agreed to apply for this award. The Parish Council will now look to attain the Quality Standard and hope to apply for this soon.

#### **Planning Issues**

Over the past months, the Parish Council has seen an increasing number of planning applications for development in the Green Belt. This is causing concern for councillors. It may be worth reminding residents that the green belt policy is used to retain areas of largely undeveloped, wild or agricultural land surrounding

urban areas. It is important that the green belt retains a feel of 'openness'.

## **Neighbourhood Plan Consultation**

The consultation for Regulation 14 of the N. Plan has now finished. A meeting to go through all of the comments will take place at the end of September.

# Changing context of the Parish Council

One message that comes through at our council meetings is the fact that Lichfield District and Staffs County Councils, are having their budgets continually cut. This has an impact on delivery of local services and it is thought that Parish Councils may need to step in and carry out more of their work e.g. grass cutting.

To see the full minutes, please go to our website. If you require a paper copy, please contact the parish clerk:

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