



Seasons' Greetings: Alas it is November again, the festive season is upon us and so on behalf of Church Aston Parish Council I am delighted to wish all our community Seasons' Greetings. We hope you enjoy a peaceful Christmas & a happy, healthy, & prosperous New Year.

Simon Stacey, Chairman: Church Aston Parish Council

Low Energy Lighting First for Church Aston..... We are delighted to confirm completion of our latest project to convert all Parish Council owned and operated street lighting in the parish to low energy lighting (LED).

Cllr Brian Richards (project lead Cllr) said "Church Aston is setting a trend as the first Parish Council in the area to convert all of its street lights to LED lamps. Not only does this improve quality and direction of street lighting it is also much cheaper to run with energy savings of ~60% compared to traditional street lighting systems".

Brian continued... "The project has cost us ~£12,000 plus VAT but generates savings in the order of £3,000 making the payback period just 4 to 5 years. Thereafter, all savings are available to invest in new projects and/or to help keep the parish precept low.



Cllr Brian Richards with EON operative Mark Simmons installing the final LED light at Mulberry Close



Cllr Brian Richard with Cllr Simon Stacey inspecting an LED lighting unit before installation.

Cllr Richards commented that the project had been a huge success overall from the Parish Council's perspective but welcomed residents' feedback. It's always important to hear what those affected by the project think. Cllr Richards concluded by thanking EON Energy Solutions Ltd for carrying out the works with minimal disruption to residents, within budget, and in line with an agreed contract programme ensuring the new lighting is in place for the autumn.

Have Your Say on Play Area Improvements..... What would be your priorities for the children and young people of Church Aston if someone said you had between £40,000 and £50,000 to invest in play equipment?

Despite the Parish Council working hard to resist some recent new housing developments in and adjacent to the village, planning approvals were given. However, successful developers are obliged to contribute towards a raft of community services affected by their developments - and this includes play facilities. Therefore, it is some compensation that Church Aston will benefit by up to £50,000 to fund new & improved play provision.

Parish Councillors have carried out an initial assessment of options and have concluded:

- (i) that the Wallshead Way Play Area should be the focus for any new investment;
- (ii) there is no practical and affordable solution to the drainage issues at this site;
- (iii) that any new proposals must meet the play needs of local children and young people; and
- (iv) that everyone with an interest should be encouraged to have your say on this latest Parish Project.



Poor drainage means parts of the Wallshead Way Play Area are often too wet for children and young people to access

Over the coming months the Parish Council will be working alongside Telford & Wrekin Council to develop design options, engaging you to canvass views, before improving proposals to achieve the best possible designs for any new facilities.



Example MUGGA facility located on Beechfields Way, Newport

One idea is a new sensitively designed Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) to replace the existing half-sized facility. This proposal could include provision of new outdoor gym equipment on the existing paved area. Also, the project would include raising the surface around a slide on the existing children's play area where water currently ponds.

What do you think? Please have your say by emailing: churchaston@gmail.com