

Chairman's Christmas Greetings... as another year comes to an end it is time to reflect on the Parish Council achievements during 2019, and to review what effect we have made in making Church Aston village centre and the wider Parish a better place to live.



As Parish Council Chairman I especially want to thank all those who serve our community and voluntarily give their time in creating opportunities for our young people, supporting the elderly and the sick, and for keeping our village & churchyard tidy and in good order.



Thank you and Seasons Greetings from Simon Stacey

Crime Prevention Initiative Proves a Huge Success..... Throughout 2019 the Parish Council, in partnership with West Mercia Police and Smartwater Limited, has actively promoted the 'We Don't Buy Crime' initiative to help minimise a risk of domestic burglary.

Statistics show Church Aston to already be a low-crime area; however, the Parish Council felt this was an initiative worth investing in to keep it that way. Well over half of all homes in the Parish now enjoy added protection thanks to their 'free' Smartwater kit.

It's not too late so if you haven't collected your 'free' Smartwater kit just email the Parish Clerk at churchaston@gmail.com providing your name, address, telephone number and email details and he will register you and provide you with your kit.

Also, if you know of an elderly and / or vulnerable person in Church Aston village / parish that may benefit from this initiative, please let us know so that we can arrange a personal visit.

Wanted..... two well-balanced and community minded individuals with energy and enthusiasm to complement the current group of Parish Councillors. Ideally, candidates will have good communication skills and be able to represent the local community. For more information email: churchaston@gmail.com

❖ **Website & Facebook:** the Parish Council has a website: www.churchaston-pc.gov.uk and a facebook site: simply search for Church Aston PC



Lest We Forgetjust a few weeks ago back on Sunday 10th November members of the Church Aston community came together in remembrance.

Wreaths were laid on behalf of the community at the memorial in St. Andrew's Church and at the recently refurbished memorial at Brockton

Did you know that.....

- ✓ St. Andrew's PCC has recently published a management plan for the Churchyard;
- ✓ The Village Hall Committee is 'Going Green' thanks to a programme of heating and thermal efficiency works;
- ✓ New pedestrian safety signs are to be erected on approaches to Liddle's Bank;
- ✓ The Military Wives Choir is at St. Andrew's Church in support of the RBL on Saturday 14th Dec.

Looking Back, Projecting Forwards..... just a few weeks ago the independent auditing process of Parish Councils for 2018/19 was finalised with Church Aston PC gaining a clean bill of health. This formal commendation of our approach provides a firm basis for delivery of our current year priorities; it also creates a platform for planning next year and future years' projects.

In recent years Church Aston PC has:-

- ✓ Converted all street lighting in the village to low energy lighting reducing our carbon footprint whilst saving thousands of pounds;
- ✓ Joined forces with the police and Smartwater Ltd to make parish residents safer through the 'We Don't Buy Crime' initiative;
- ✓ Refurbished the Brocton WW1 Memorial and sponsored the 'Silent Soldier' initiative;
- ✓ Supported St. Andrew's PCC to maintain the cemetery grounds and hedges;
- ✓ Supported improvements to Church Aston Village Hall with £10,000 grant funding;
- ✓ Introduced village planters and annual planting initiatives to brighten the village;
- ✓ Part-funded a new Multi-Use Games facility on the Wallshead Way Play Area;
- ✓ Given grants to ~20 community groups providing activities for young & older local people.

We are now planning for 2020/21 and beyond so please let us know about any ideas or projects that you think are worthwhile that your Parish Council may be able to support by emailing them to churchaston@gmail.com