

A Christmas Message from Simon Stacey: 2021 has been another challenging year for all of our community. Despite the continuing effects of Covid-19, I and my fellow Parish Councillors have been uplifted by so many positive examples of individuals and groups working selflessly and with great determination to support those in most need.

The new variant *Omicron* is spreading fast and vaccines, including the booster programme, are increasingly vital to our prospects of returning to 'normality' in the foreseeable future.

In parallel, jobs and the economy is a concern however, I am proud to confirm that the PC will not be increasing the parish element of Council Tax for 2022/23. We will absorb price pressures; and can continue to support local community groups and retain a small programme of parish projects.

With much brighter prospects for 2022, I am delighted to extend the warmest of seasons' greetings to all Parishioners and to wish you good health and happiness in the New Year.

Simon Stacey Chairman, Church Aston PC

Recommendations to Change Electoral Boundaries: back in July edition 10 of our Newsletter (www.churchaston-pc.gov.uk) explained a review being carried out by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) into electoral boundaries across Telford & Wrekin. Whilst this review has no powers to change parish boundaries very often their decisions on electoral wards can prompt future reviews of parishes.

Many of you will already be aware that voters in part of Church Aston Parish (i.e. Mulberry Close, Richmond Close, Primrose Drive and Nos 45 to 90 Wallshead Way) vote for Newport (S&E) Borough Councillors. The Parish Council set out a comprehensive 'representation' to the LGBCE asking for this area to be returned to the Church Aston & Lilleshall electoral ward, and aligning the electoral & parish boundary.

We are delighted to report that the LGBCE has accepted our lines of reasoning and has included the above change at page 24 of their **Draft Recommendations Report**. The draft recommendations are now out to public consultation with organisations, groups and individuals invited to have their say by no later than 7th February 2022.

Church Aston PC has already reaffirmed its views on the proposals as they affect this parish however, if any of you are minded to make a 'representation' to the LGBCE then you can find a copy of their Report & Recommendations on the 'home' page of our website (www.churchaston-pc.gov.uk) and you should send your views by (i) writing to: Review Officer (Telford & Wrekin), LGBCE, PO Box 133, Blythe, NE24 9FE or (ii) emailing to: reviews@lgbce.org.uk

Improved Seating for the Play Area: after consultation with our community the Parish Council, in partnership with T&WC, are in a process of purchasing and installing two additional seating facilities in the Wallshead Way Play Area. A new picnic table capable of seating 6 people and providing wheelchair access is to ...



... be located adjacent to the older half-MUGA court, and a new sloper seat is to be positioned adjacent the grassed football area. Both facilities are made from a heavy duty recycled plastic, will be coloured black to contrast with their surroundings and will have a concrete base to help maintain a clean dry standing area. Our aim is to complete this project by March 2022.

What's On at the Village Hall

Group	Days	Contact
Aerobics	Mon	07961 385754
Bowls	Tues/Wed/Thurs	01952 812345
Cubs	Thurs	07791 352399
Computers	Wed	07961 506124
Karate	Sun	07890 349451
Line Dance	Tues	07951 833251
Medau	Thurs	01785 822442
Sewing	tbc	01952 276061
Tai Chi	Wed	07983 404245
Tea Dancing	Tues	07932 050002
Urban		
Outsteppers	Wed	07821 568449
U3A		
Shakespeare	Thurs	01952 820376
U3A Guitar	Thurs	01952 810355
Whist	Thurs	01952 605747
WI	Wed	01952 813267
Yoga	Mon/Fri	07590 437712

Parish News in Brief:

- ✓ Local groups gifted £2,500 in Community Grants;
- ✓ Street lights safety checked and maintained;
- ✓ Worthy Citizen Awards made to Mrs Bryon (retiring Teacher) and Mrs Janet Bennett (school governor);
- ✓ Village planters cleared and planted with bulbs for a spring display;
- ✓ PC continue to lobby Severn Trent Water and T&WC to resolve garden flooding issues in Wallshead Way;
- ✓ Churchyard projects supported;
- ✓ Church Aston PC & Chetwynd Aston & Woodcote PC agree collaborative working;
- ✓ Vacancy for one Parish Councillor - are you interested?
- ✓ Next Parish Council meeting is Monday 10th January 2022 in the Church Hall.

❖ **Contacts:** Email: churchaston@gmail.com Tel: 07581 454882

❖ **Website:** www.churchaston-pc.gov.uk and **Facebook:** search Church Aston Parish Council