

Barton in Fabis Parish Council Newsletter December 2007

A453 Consultation

We expect the orders for the new road to be published early next year, as soon as they are the council proposes to hold another open meeting in the village. In addition a poll of the whole village will be held to assess the opinions of the whole community. In the meantime you can still make comments to Highways Agency ,A453 Widening Team, Room C8, 5 Broadway, Broad Street, Birmingham B15 1BL. or e-mail a453widening@highways.gsi.gov.uk.

Highways Agency: For information on congestion, any road closures on motorways and major trunk roads: 0870 0660 115, for automated traffic info 0845 7504 030, Website: www.trafficengland.com

Flood Defences

The work to improve the flood defences of the village is running behind schedule. There are two main reasons, firstly more material has had to be brought onto the site than originally thought and second in order to complete the work the bank has to be diverted across the road and a ramp constructed, however, before this can be constructed an electricity pole has to be moved. As yet we have no date for this to happen.

A special request for everyone to stay off the new banks where they have been reseeded, we need to give the grass a chance to get established otherwise erosion will take over.

For information and advice on flooding, and where it is: Floodline: 0845 9881 188, Website: www.environment-agency.gov.uk. Met Office for up to date weather forecasts and weather warnings: Website: www.metoffice.gov.uk.

Taking the Chill out of Winter Bills.

A Winter Fuel Payment is an annual payment made to households with someone aged 60 or over, to help with heating costs. You qualify simply by your age. If you are aged 60-79 your household normally receives £200. If you are aged 80 or over, your household normally receives £300. Extra payments are made when the weather is very cold in your area. Winter Fuel Payments should be received automatically; however, if you are a man aged 60-64 you will need to make a claim because you are not of pension age yet. To ask about your payment, or to make a claim, phone the Winter Fuel Helpline on 08459 15 15 15 by 30th March 2008.

Also, Warm Front is a government- funded scheme which offers grants to make your home warmer and more energy efficient. It includes a package of insulation and heating improvements, up to the value of £2,700 (or £4000 for oil fired central heating.) To qualify you must be aged 60 or over, own or privately rent your home and be receiving one or more of these benefits: Pension Credit, Council Tax Benefit, Housing Benefit, Attendance Allowance, Disability Living Allowance or Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance. If you have a low income, your energy supplier may help to improve the energy efficiency of your home by offering you products like insulation free of charge. The Warm Front Grant Scheme is run by the Eaga plc. To apply for a grant, phone 0800 316 6019 or visit their website, http://www.warmfront.co.uk/

For help from energy suppliers, contact your local Energy Efficiency Advice Centre, or call the Home Heat Helpline on 0800 33 66 99.

Happy Christmas

The Parish Council would like to thank everyone who has supported the various campaigns this year to save Our Greenbelt and wishes everyone a Very Happy Christmas and New Year



THE GREEN BELT MUST BE SAVED

The report on the Examination in Public held in Leicester into the draft East Midlands regional Plan has been published. You will probably have heard the news – we have won our campaign to have the reference to 5,000 houses south of Clifton removed from the Regional Plan. **Thank you** once again to everyone who wrote in during 2006 – without those letters, we may not have had the same result.

That is where the good new ends though. The Inspector has recommended that the Green Belt is completely removed from Barton, Gotham, Ruddington and Thrumpton – and also from the east and north of Nottingham. If the Secretary of State accepts that recommendation, we can say goodbye to the protection that it can give us.

The Secretary of State is expected to respond to the Inspector's recommendations next spring. All we can do at the moment is to try to persuade her that she should not accept the suggestion that the Green Belt should be killed off – after all, the government keep saying how the Green Belt is safe with them!

Please write to:

Rt Hon Hazel Blears MP, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

And ask her <u>not</u> to accept the Inspector's recommendation to abolish Nottingham's Green Belt in his report on the Draft East Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy, and explain to her that this would allow uncontrolled expansion of Nottingham.

If we needed reminding of the threat we are under, the map on the back of this leaflet explains just what awaits us if we stop fighting. It sets out the site boundary of the development that Barratts/David Wilson Homes want to see built here. They want to build up to Gotham Hills, over Glebe Farm, and even halfway down the hill into Barton. No doubt they would want to build over the whole of the village if we weren't in a floodplain. The Parish Council has been told that their initial proposals are for

- 5000+ houses
- 50 hectares (70+ acres) of industry offices, warehouses etc)
- Food and retail
- Football stadium
- 1 x 200 bed hotel
- 2 x100 bed hotels
- 2,000 sq metres of leisure facilities
- an extension to NET (further into the site)
- an 'energy centre'
- 2 primary schools

The full report can be downloaded from www.goem.gov.uk/goem/planning/rssreview

The Parish Council remains committed to doing all we can to fight for the future of the parish, and we know we can reply on your support

Immobilise Property Registration Scheme

Nottinghamshire Police is working in partnership with the Immobilise Property registration scheme. Registering your valuables with Immobilise means that if they are ever stolen, the Police will be able to return them to you if they are recovered.

Like all police forces, they have access to the Immobilise database and actively check the database to see if property that they suspect is stolen has been registered by its rightful owner. If the Police know property is stolen they can prosecute the offenders and return your valuables to you. To register your property free of charge, visit the website www.immobilise.com

More to do for teens in rural areas

There is now an exciting range of mobile fun things to do for teenagers living in rural villages thanks to Lottery funding. There's a mobile skate ramp, in-line skating, a climbing wall, street dance and beat box sessions. This is only available for rural communities where facilities are minimal. Local groups should now contact the parish council and decide what they would like, when and where and we will do the rest

Cinema Exhibitors' Association Card for Disabled People

This is a national card that can be used to verify that the holder is entitled to one free ticket for a person accompanying them to the cinema. The card is valid for 3 years from the date of issue. To apply for the card, you will need to meet at least one of the following criteria:

Be in receipt of the disability living allowance or attendance allowance

□Be a registered blind person

Application forms are available from cinemas supporting this card (most cinemas in Nottingham do) or can be downloaded from the website. www.ceacard.co.uk 2: 0845 123 1292 - Please select option 2, Minicom /Text phone: 0845 123 1297

Listening Books service

Listening Books provides a postal and Internet based audiobook library service to people who cannot read in the usual way. It is the only national audiobook charity offering MP3 CDs, internet streaming and audio tapes to a full range of print impairments. They have around 4,000 members, who are people with visual impairments, learning difficulties such as dyslexia, or physical impairments that mean they cannot easily hold a book or turn a page. Membership Information from

www.listening-books.org.uk/Index.htm or membership@listening-books.org.uk 2020 7 407 9417.

Community Outreach Advisor

This is a new service aimed at people over 50 to help them stay safe and independent in their own homes. Rushcliffe's outreach advisor is Jessica Molineaux 🕾 0115 981 6988 and she is available to advise on adaptations to your home where necessary, pensions and benefit advice, help with transport and making your home more secure.

Parish Council & Other Contact Information

www.bartoninfabispc.org.uk

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