

## Cawston Parish Council

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The Magazine of Cawston Parish Council Issue 4  
September 2008

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The Inclusion of advertisements does not imply any form of endorsement by the Parish Council, and any views expressed in the Parish News are not necessarily those of Cawston Parish Council.

## Chairman's Message

Welcome to the latest edition of the Cawston Parish News. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to Phil Sharples from Dorset Close who agreed to accept the vacant seat on the council at our July meeting. We welcome Phil on board and look forward to working with him.

Regards,

Pete Venner

## The Annual Parish Meeting

**The Annual Parish meeting will be held at Cawston Grange Primary School on the 24<sup>th</sup> September starting at 7:30pm.**

The agenda will include 3 guest speakers and is outlined below

- 7:30 Agenda
- 7:35 Financial Statement
- 7:40 Who's Who on the Council ?
- 7:45 Achievements to date
- 8:00 Looking Ahead
- Village Hall Survey

### Guest Speakers

- 8:15 Police
- 8:25 Consortium
- 8:35 RBC Planning Officer

- 8:45 How to contact us
- Clerk
- Website

- 8:50 Q & A

The Annual Parish Meeting is open to all residents

(Guest speakers still to be confirmed)



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Tel: 01788 521595  
[admin@crescentschool.co.uk](mailto:admin@crescentschool.co.uk)

The Crescent School is a Registered Charity No. 528781



Freecycle is a fantastic network that I stumbled across a couple of years ago. Whenever I have things that I no longer need, be it a child's toy or a set of old saucepans, somebody may well be able to put these items to good use. This not only saves the items going to landfill but also creates a feeling of goodwill amongst our neighbourhood.

Freecycle is made up of 4,565 groups with 5,571,000 members across the globe so you can pass the word onto to all of your friends and relatives wherever they live.

Freecycle is an entirely non-profit movement of people who give and receive items for free in their own towns and each group is moderated by a local volunteer.

Membership is free and you'll be very surprised by what people are giving away.

Go on, have a look and post your own items next time you have a sort out.

## read it swap it

This is another favourite website of mine, being an avid bookworm. Although I use the local library I also like to buy books to keep particularly by my favourite authors such as Lesley Pearse and Maureen Lee.

This website is a swap system for any books that you no longer want. You simply register for free and then list all of the books that you are willing to swap.

You choose a book you want from the online library and then mail that person. They will see if you have a book that they want and you simply post the books to each other.

Have a look, there's every sort of book on here and not just novels.

Rebecca Latham

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## Village Hall Survey

As you know we have been carrying out a survey asking whether residents would like a Village Hall on Cawston Grange. We have now completed the survey.

Letters were delivered to all properties and Parish Councillors called at each property at least twice. Of course, we never expected a one hundred percent response; some people were on holiday, away on business, at work, or just didn't want to be disturbed.

Of the 1038 households on Cawston Grange, we received answers from 650, a response rate of 63%.

Of these 650, 77% supported the idea of a Village Hall, 12% were against, and the remaining 11% had no strong opinion either way.

In other words, a large majority of the people we spoke to support the idea of a Village Hall.

Possible uses were many and varied, including scouts, brownies, keep fit, mother and toddlers groups, badminton, evening classes, children's activities and children's parties among many others.

None of this means that we will now automatically have a Village Hall; there are many things to consider, but it does mean that parish councillors will start to investigate possibilities.

Thank you to all of you who took the time to give us your opinion. We will keep you informed of any progress.

## Small Ads

Are you a resident of Cawston Grange and have a service you would like to advertise? Maybe you are a plumber, decorator, baby sitter etc. The Parish News will be delivered 4 times per year and we are happy to include a small ads section with eight adverts per page for a charge of £5 per advert.

**Interested?** Contact [margaret.brett@cawstonpc.org](mailto:margaret.brett@cawstonpc.org)

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## **The Clerk – Role and Responsibilities**

The clerk is employed by the council to provide administrative support and professional advice for the council's activities.

The clerk is not answerable to any individual councillor – not even to the chairman. The clerk is an independent and objective servant of the council, recognising that the council is responsible for all decisions and taking instructions from the council as a body. The clerk must be objective in responding to the interaction between councillors. It is not professional to favour one councillor or group of councillors over another.

The clerk is normally the 'proper officer'. This title used in law refers to the appropriate officer for the relevant function. The council must appoint the officers it needs to discharge its functions. In finance, the proper officer is known as the Responsible Financial Officer. The RFO is often the clerk, but not always.

A clerk's workload can include a broad range of activities. As an independent and objective professional, the clerk advises the council on whether decisions are lawful and ways in which decisions can be implemented.

The clerk can be asked to research topics of concern to the council and provide unbiased information that helps the council to make appropriate choices.

It is good practice for a council to delegate to the clerk the power to make decisions on its behalf – especially in an urgent situation. Many councils indicate in standing orders the powers and functions that are delegated to the proper officer.

The clerk keeps up to date with all developments affecting the work of the council and should therefore be alert to training needs and opportunities.

## **DAYTIME ART CLASSES FOR BEGINNERS**

*A Course in :- Drawing, Watercolour, Pastels, Oils, Acrylics.*

**INTERESTED?**

**LOCAL STUDIO - CAWSTON GRANGE**

*For details ring Pauline on 01788 811273*

## **Friends of Cawston Grange PTA**

# **Summer Sizzler**

## **5th July 2008**

This year's event at Cawston Grange Primary School, was the best yet with over 750 people attending from all over the Parish and beyond!

Home made burgers on the barbeque and ice cold beer proved a hit with the adults, whilst the children were trying their hand at riding an "unrideable bike", finding their way through the bouncy obstacle course and getting wet in the stocks! Not to mention climbing all over real Army tanks and "posh" cars, and trying to score goals against the excellent volunteer keepers (the adults had great fun too but the teenage goalies got the better of them!)

With over 26 stalls to choose from the three hours went very quickly, tea and cake in the tea rooms was welcome by all particularly when it rained for all of five minutes (we were lucky with the weather).

We look forward to seeing even more of you next year.

# Band of Go d

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## Rugby Western Relief Road Update

Bilton Lane was closed to the public while work on the junction was being carried out. This was reopened on August 29th, but there are still temporary traffic lights in place.

You may have seen that the tarmac has started to be laid between Potford's Dam and Cawston Roundabout.

The excavation of a cutting to the south of Sow Brook has now recommenced, and work on the Cawston Underpass, which is to span part of the National Cycle Network, has resumed with the construction of concrete bases for the walls.

The concrete of the remaining pier base of Avon River Bridge has been poured and work on the abutments is continuing.

There have been a number of mini bus tours of the site over the last few weeks. These have been held on Tuesday mornings. They are open to members of the public but it is requested that children under 14 are accompanied by an adult.

For more information see <http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/roads>

Then select Rugby Western Relief Road from the menu

## Parish Christmas Tree

Some of you have raised concerns during the summer about the state of the Parish Christmas Tree. I am pleased to say that our Borough Councillor, Mike Stokes, has had discussions with the RBC Tree Surgeon. In short, he is not overly concerned and thinks the tree is in a normal state considering it was only planted last year. The ground around the tree is quite moist and a few weeks ago, they did pour 500 gallons of water around the base of the tree and intend to do the same again.

In terms of watering, he said if people want to water it, there is no harm and it all helps. He commented that it would be virtually impossible for us to drown the tree and it would have to be sitting, with the roots under water for several days for this to happen.

The browning is a combination of several things;

- Some of the branches, at the bottom and mid-tree have never fallen back into position after transportation and some are broken at the ends. These are now starting to brown off and die.
- Some is due to wind burn, but generally only at the tips
- And some due to general stress caused by the planting

RBC have been and cut the grass around the tree, which has now re-grown, but are coming to do it again and scrape the ground clear. RBC also received several tonnes of mulching - unfortunately, this was over-mulched and virtually compost. They will come out and mulch the tree as promised as soon as the new load arrives.

A very good sign is the amount of new growth all over the tree, particularly at the top and also some pine cones. Apparently this demonstrates that the sap is rising well.

There will be another inspection in late September to check the progress.

## Don't Talk the Walk, Walk it.

Do you know as far as new developments go Cawston Grange has a very large traffic free parkland area. Something that is unlikely to be repeated in future developments. So let us take advantage and enjoy it.

There are many opportunities to take a walk in the area. You do not have to walk the complete estate as there are many little bridle paths than can be taken depending if you are looking to do a long or a short walk.

If you were to complete the whole perimeter of the estate, the distance walked would be approximately 1.5 miles or 2.4 kilometres. Sounds better in kilometres.

Walking the estate will open your eyes to what is happening around you and in your parish. You may see things that you do not like; equally there may be things that are pleasing. None the less you will have gained information that you may want to share with your local parishioners and parish council.

Of course there are many other benefits, one of the most important being your health.

Walking is one of the best exercises that you can take to keep healthy and fit. One mile a day, which is less than one circuit of the estate, is enough to use 100 calories which will result in a weight loss of approximately 10lb in a year. Provided you do not change your eating habits

Walking does not cost you anything except time. Put your shoes on, put one foot in front of the other and get that heart and lungs working. The body needs a good supply of oxygen to perform efficiently.

## Don't Talk the Walk, Walk it. (cont'd)

You should walk at a pace which is **comfortable** for you and, build on this. A brisk pace is one which you can just do whilst holding a conversation, "**the talk test**".

For those of you seeking a challenge, you should be aiming for the "**training zone**". This means you should take your age away from 220 and then multiply by 0.45. The result is a value that you should aim to get your heart rate up to when walking.

Increasing your walking speed, Power Walking, will make your heart and lungs work harder increasing the efficient intake of oxygen by the body.

Now you have read the walk it is time to walk it.



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