

Studley Parish Council would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Bypass update

Warwickshire County Council has reluctantly withdrawn its Legal Challenge at the High Court on the Government's decision not to build a bypass.

The sole ground of the challenge was that the Government had, in breach of its own declared policies, rejected the bypass scheme without carrying out an appraisal. The High Court hearing was scheduled for late November.

At the Public Inquiry in January 2004 the Government accepted that no such assessment had been carried out therefore the County Council began High Court proceedings. However, in May this year the Government revealed an assessment had indeed been carried out in May 2003.

Although the assessment was superficial and its findings not disclosed at the Public Inquiry in 2004, it is extraordinary that the Government failed to discover an appraisal had been carried out in 2003 and only did so after it had become a key issue at the Public Inquiry and subsequent High Court proceedings.

At the Cabinet meeting on the 6th October the decision was taken on the advice of the County's legal team to formally withdraw the challenge as it now would be impossible to succeed.

This is a very disappointing outcome. However, when the section of the A435 is detrunked from Gorcott Hill to Alcester and the responsibility for the road passes to Warwickshire County Council, we can actively start lobbying for traffic calming measures to encourage motorists to find alternative routes.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS APPEAL

Throughout the year we have undertaken a series of fundraising events to raise money to '**Help Light up Studley**'.

Central Networks the electricity distribution company for Central England invited the Parish Council to apply for a grant of £2500 towards the purchase of new lights, a tree and decorations that will benefit the whole community. We were delighted to hear that we were one of the eight Parish Councils to be successful which has given a great boost to our appeal.

We are now actively looking to purchase some of the lighting displays that will help bring some festive cheer to Studley. We will be continuing with our fundraising to add to the displays each year so please support any events if you can. £220.00 was raised by Action Studley at a Quiz Night on Wednesday 23rd November which was very much appreciated.

Vacancy for Parish Councillors

The Parish Council are looking for anyone who is interested in their community and helping to make Studley a better place to live.

There are two vacancies that need to be filled by people who have an active interest and concern for the local community and are willing to represent local residents.

It can be very rewarding.

If you are interested please contact the Parish Clerk Mrs D Mitchell on 01527 853204 Monday to Friday 9am to 12 noon for further information.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION EVENING

FRIDAY 9TH DECEMBER 2005

6.30pm

As part of the Christmas Festivities we are holding a Celebration Evening in the village hall to continue to help raise funds for Christmas lights to 'Help Light up Studley'.

This years event will be bigger and better. Alcester Silver Band will be playing carols outside in the car park at 7pm for everyone to join in together with the choir from New Road Junior School.

Father Christmas will be in his grotto and there will be a huge variety of stalls selling Christmas wares.

The Coffee Shop team will serve refreshments throughout the evening and hot dogs will be available outside from Studley Scout Group.

LAST YEARS EVENT WAS A HUGE SUCCESS AND WE WISH TO MAKE THIS YEARS EVENT EVEN BETTER.

THE HALL OPENS AT 6.30PM. WE HOPE EVERYONE WILL COME ALONG AND SUPPORT THIS POPULAR EVENING.

Admission is free

Anti- Social Behaviour

As many residents are aware there has been an ongoing problem of vandalism and intimidation by a few young people in the village.

This is costing the Parish Council and ultimately residents a great deal of money in repairing the damage they have caused. Recently it has been a very costly business and as a result we have had no alternative but to increase our budget for next year to enable us to carry out the repairs .

It is in the interests of all residents to be vigilant and report all incidents to the police as after all it is your money that is being spent on putting the damage right.

TAKE PRIDE IN YOUR VILLAGE

Studley Parish Council are actively looking for volunteers from the community to help them in trying to keep the village tidy.

The idea is for anyone interested to get together once a month to help with litter picking and generally tidying up different areas of the village.

If anyone is interested please contact the Clerk Mrs Dorothy Mitchell between 9am and 12 noon Monday to Friday

VILLAGE LIAISON OFFICER

A new project has been set up in Studley to help local people find out more about local services.

Mr Simon Moody has volunteered to be your Village Liaison Officer.

This is a free and confidential service to help access information about local services, societies and groups or information about benefits and grants that you may be entitled to.

They are here to help.

Contact Mr Simon Moody.

Telephone: 01527 458236

Mobile: 07811 718222

Email : wentworth12@blueyonder.co.uk

PLANNING

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 has come into force on 15th September 2005. Stratford District Council has to produce a Local Planning Framework (LDF) to take the place of the District Local Plan Review after 2007.

It includes social and economic issues as considerations in planning decisions.

It should be shorter, flexible and quickly updated and involve the community from the start.

It has to conform to the Regional Spatial Strategy (West Midlands) as the County Council Structure Plan will eventually be scrapped.

A Government Planning Inspector will vet it and make recommendations for changes which will be mandatory, not optional on the District Council.

In other words the Framework must follow the Regional Strategy.

VISA SCAM

Computer users are warned to beware of a new scam email that is circulating. The email purports to come from VISA and asks recipients to click on a link to 'update their account information'. The email goes on to say that failure to do so will lead to the suspension of the Visa Card.

BEWARE. this is a 'phishing' scam the email does not come from Visa but from fraudsters who wish to trick you into disclosing personal and financial information and PIN's. If you receive this email delete it immediately—**DO NOT** reply or click on any links