

PARISH FESTIVAL 2014

The Parish Council is happy to endorse the proposals of a number of residents who have begun to make plans for a "Parish Festival" to be held in the summer of 2014. It is understood that a series of events, extending over seven days, is envisaged, including sports contests, quizzes and other forms of entertainment, to be held in different villages during the course of the week. The Parish Council will do what it is able to assist local community groups which choose to be involved to help ensure the success of the initiative.

TOUR OF BRITAIN—18th SEPTEMBER

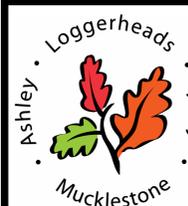
On Wednesday, 18th September, Loggerheads will witness the spectacle of the "Tour of Britain" cycle race, which is scheduled to pass through the village centre along the A53 on its way between Stoke-on-Trent and Llanberis. Further details will be announced in due course.

Parish Councillors by Ward

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Loggerheads Ward | Ashley Ward |
| Cllr Linda Banner-Perry | (two vacancies) |
| Cllr Neil Bown | Cllr Sue Fox |
| Cllr Ian Douglas | Cllr Bunty Hodgkins |
| Cllr Jane Egerton | |
| Cllr Gerald Hughes | Tyrley Ward |
| Cllr Jane Hughes | (one vacancy) |
| Cllr Ed Martin | Cllr Bert Bennion |
| Cllr Paul Northcott | Cllr Roy Claydon |
| Cllr Della Rowley | |
| Mucklestone Ward | All Councillors can be contacted |
| Cllr Graham Sedgley | on 01630 673426 or by email |
| Cllr Jim Vallings | |
| Cllr Jamie Friend | |

Parish Council Meetings

Meetings of the Council are being held on
Thursday, 25th July at Ashley Methodist Church
Thursday, 22nd August at Hales & District Club
meetings commence at 7pm



YOUR Parish Council The newsletter of Loggerheads Parish Council

Loggerheads Parish Council Room
The Presbytery, 75 Church Road, Ashley, Market Drayton,
Shropshire, TF9 4JY
Telephone: 01630 673426
loggerheadspc@btconnect.com
Clerk to the Council— Andrew McRae

www.loggerheadsparishcouncil.com

Inside this edition of YOUR Parish Newsletter **NEIGHBOURHOOD STATEMENT**

The Parish Council recently sent to all residential addresses in the civil parish a draft "Neighbourhood Statement" that presents a number of discussion points which, it is intended, should form the basis of representations to the Borough Council during the forthcoming round of public consultation on the Borough's Local Development Framework. Please see inside pages.

The central premise of the 'Neighbourhood Statement' is a challenge to the arbitrary designation of Loggerheads as a "Key Rural Service Centre". This inappropriate description of Loggerheads first appeared some years ago in a planning document prepared by Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council that, at the time, sought to address the perceived need for an increase in the local housing stock of some fifty units. The Borough has suggested that it now envisages developments accommodating more than 350 new units in the Parish between now and 2026. The reasons why such developments cannot be allowed to proceed without adequate safeguards and appropriate investment in infrastructure in Loggerheads are explained in full in the Statement. The Parish Council needs YOUR feedback on this draft! Please ensure that you forward your comments to the Parish Council to ensure that YOUR voice is heard!

Please visit www.loggerheadsparishcouncil.com to read the minutes of meetings of the Parish Council and its Committees, and learn more about the background to, the issues currently being dealt addressed on behalf of the community.

The following summarises the Parish Council's response to the current Planning Proposals affecting Loggerheads as published by Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council.

Do you agree with the Parish Council's policy? Please let us have YOUR views!

1. Loggerheads is wholly opposed to the continuation of the designation 'key rural service centre', unless it receives categorical assurances from NuLBC that the Infrastructure and Community Facility Improvement will be brought to the level required. A number of such improvements are still required to bring facilities into line with what should have been provided during the course of development over the past twenty-plus years. These improvements have been set out and costed in Annex C.
2. A major improvement [new roundabout] is required in the centre of Loggerheads. This is work the County Highways should have undertaken before now. To put this in perspective, how many residents are aware that County Highways recently spent over £1.8 million 'improving the A53/A51 for motorcyclists'. The Parish Council believes that money could have been used more effectively for the greater good of residents.
3. The bus service currently provided needs to be upgraded even if there is no further development. Young people in particular need reliable public transport if they are to seek work away from the village, which has no employment opportunities on offer. Annex B includes funding proposals for this improvement.
3. The existing electricity supply and drainage infrastructure are overloaded and unreliable. Extensive upgrading is required before any further development takes place.
5. Planning Policy, as published in draft, should include specific policies concerning contributions from developers towards the provision and funding of additional primary, secondary and sixth form education, together with details of how nursery provision will be provided to meet current/proposed future needs.

6. Loggerheads needs its own doctors surgery. The existing facility at Ashley appears to be over-loaded, and access, both to this and to alternative facilities at Market Drayton is very difficult for anyone who has to rely on public transport.

7. There is a need for affordable housing to be included in future plans to enable young people growing up in the village to stay here. Also, many members of the public seem puzzled by the fact that there is social/rented housing within the Parish occupied by people from outside the Parish, to the exclusion of those from Loggerheads.

8. Improved shopping facilities and associated car parking would be required in the context of development. The Planning Authority should consider a requirement for future developers to provide financial subsidies to potential retail developers over an extended period.

9. The Borough Council is urged to publish its Strategy for bringing empty properties back into use before it completes its consultations about the possibilities of releasing more land for development. It would be irresponsible to encourage development in the rural area until every effort has been made to make best use of the significant empty housing stock in the urban area.

10. When the Loggerheads Parish Plan was researched and prepared in 2008, the Parish Council established that a large proportion of residents would prefer to have no further housing development at all. Nearly 30% would have been content with one or two houses and 26% would have been content with a small development of less than 10 dwellings. Support for developments up to 50 units was extremely small. There was consistency in the responses with a large number of respondents believing that any significant development should be conditional upon improved infrastructure and community facilities. Only 8% felt that unconditional proposals for development should be considered.

Please either complete the response form delivered to you separately or send any comments on this matter by email to loggerheadspc@btconnect.com

Alternatively, written responses can be posted to the Parish Council office, or left for collection at the Loggerheads Library.