



HAVE YOU REGISTERED FOR SMARTWATER YET?

In conjunction with the West Mercia Community Support Team, the Parish Council are carrying out door knock sessions for those who haven't yet registered.

Door knock sessions 4pm—6pm running throughout March

FREE SIGN UP AND PACKS FOR BARNT GREEN RESIDENTS & TRADERS

DROP IN TO THE OFFICE TO COLLECT YOURS

WHAT IS SMARTWATER?

SmartWater is a sophisticated security system that protects property and can be directly applied to valuables. SmartWater contains a unique forensic code that is registered to an address. Anything marked can be traced back to where it came from, allowing the police to identify stolen goods linking criminals to crime scenes. SmartWater is almost invisible in natural light but glows brightly under ultraviolet (UV) light.



Office Opening: Mon: 1pm — 4pm, Tues & Wed: 10am—2pm
80 Hewell Road, B45 8NF

BARNT GREEN EVENTS....

Community Walk 2019



The popular event held in September was a great success with each of the 3 planned routes making use of the newly opened Cofton footbridge.

Christmas 2019

The Christmas switch on was enjoyed by all, with entertainment from the Star Project and Father Christmas leading the countdown to the switch on. The parish council was praised for its lighting display which this year saw the introduction of the wrap around lights in the large oak tree in Millennium Park.



Congratulations goes to Bliss Estate Agents who won Best Dressed Christmas Shop Window Competition.



Councillors and guests enjoyed the annual Chairman's Thank You Buffet.



Merriment at the 3rd Barnt Green Wassail Walk. Photo courtesy of James Crockford Photography.

Be on your guard of telephone callers pretending to be police and from other official bodies .

West Mercia Police are continually urging people to be vigilant to Courier Fraud.

Police officers, and banks will never ask for account details or PINs over the phone. They also would not come around to your house to collect your cards or property and will never contact members of the public asking them to assist with investigations by 'moving money to a safe account'.

Fraudsters may seem credible, but if someone you don't know contacts you asking you to help with 'an investigation', be suspicious!

Anyone with elderly relatives or friends are encouraged to talk to them about the Courier Fraud Scam, and make sure that they are aware of the dangers.

If you receive a call by someone claiming to be a police officer asking for money, hang up immediately, wait 10 minutes and call 101 using another phone if possible. In an emergency or if a crime is in progress call 999.

ONE STEP OUT! STEP OUT AND JOIN IN



One Step Out! – step out and join in is Community First's project supporting rural communities to tackle loneliness and isolation. The National Lottery funded project is working to bring people together, building connections and creating a sense of community, encouraging people to take the first step from home to activities.

For more information or to get involved, contact Emma Buckingham at emmab@comfirst.org.uk or Richard Timney, richardt@comfirst.org.uk or call on 01684 312730

comfirst.org.uk

Feeling Creative?

We are looking for poems, prose and short stories about the Lickey Hills and what they mean to you for a new publication.



Have you been moved by the views? Emotions stirred by the bluebells? Fond memories of good times on them there hills...? Well you are not alone! Former Poet Laureate of Birmingham, Giovanni Esposito (aka Spoz), The Lickey Hills Society and The Lickey Rangers are teaming up to publish a collection of poetry and short stories about our beloved Lickey Hills ... and we want you to be part of it!



**Get writing and send it to :
lickey.hub@birmingham.gov.uk or
drop it in to the Rangers at the visitor
centre, Lickey Hills Country Park,
Warren Lane, Rednal, B458ER.**

Less than 400 words please and if you have a drawing or picture you would like to send in with your words please do. Any entries that are selected for the publication will receive a free of copy of the book. Other entries will be displayed in the visitor centre. **The deadline for submissions is Friday 3rd July 2020**



Barnt Green Village Gardens would like to invite willing gardeners to OPEN YOUR GARDEN for this event?

27th–28th June 2020

If you live in the village of Barnt Green and would like to make your garden available for the above event please get in touch with Cath Hawthorne

cathhawthorne11@gmail.com
07798 831618



The Parish Council has received requests for speed awareness wheelie bin stickers.



Great news, these are now in stock and available to collect from the parish office.

*1 per household

Black & White Charity Ball

Saturday 26th September 2020

Birmingham Botanical Gardens



In support of LAM Action

LAM ACTION

Supporting women with
Lymphangioleiomyomatosis



Would you like some Help at Home?

Age UK Herefordshire & Worcestershire's **Help at Home** service provides assistance to help you with tasks in and around the home, including:

- General housework, laundry and ironing
- Companionship, taking you to appointments or events
- Preparation of light meals, shopping,
- Writing and reading letters, reading books and newspapers to you
- Light gardening, pet walking

Contact the Help at Home team for more information:

T: 01905 740950 / 0800 008 6077

E: helpathome@ageukhw.org.uk

Please note, this service is charged at £17 per hour (Oct 2019)



"My house looks so well cared for now. Life saver!"

Herefordshire & Worcestershire
ageUK
Charity no: 1032543

Making Herefordshire & Worcestershire a great place to grow older.



NEWS
IN
BRIEF

The successful installation of the replacement bulbs to energy efficient LEDs to the streetlamps is near completion, only to be delayed in Hewell Road as a result of the coronavirus holding the lamps in quarantine from China.

Barnt Green Parish Council's move toward sustainability continues with proposed additional pollinator sites under consideration.



Residents have asked for more publicity on the local bus timetable so here it is...

Monday to Friday - 182 - Redditch - Bromsgrove

Bus Station, Redditch Stand F	12:25
Sainsbury's Store, Redditch	12:29
Village Hall, Rowney Green	12:39
George Road, Alvechurch	12:44
Blythesway, Alvechurch	12:46
Red Lion, Alvechurch	12:48
Ash Lane, Hopwood	12:52
Telephone Box, Hopwood	12:55
Hewell Road, Barnt Green	12:59
Rednal Island, Cofton Hackett	13:03
Parsonage Drive, Rednal	13:05
Lickey Square, Lickey	13:07
Braces Lane, Marlbrook	13:11
Birmingham Road, Lickey End	13:13
Bus Station, Bromsgrove Stand 1	13:23

Monday to Friday - 182 - Bromsgrove - Redditch

Lickey Square, Lickey	09:31
Parsonage Drive, Rednal	09:33
Rednal Island, Cofton Hackett	09:35
Sandhill Road, Barnt Green	09:39
Telephone Box, Hopwood	09:43
Ash Lane, Hopwood	09:45
George Road, Alvechurch	09:50
Blythesway, Alvechurch	09:52
The Square, Alvechurch	09:57
Village Hall, Rowney Green	10:02
Sainsbury's Store, Redditch	10:12
Bus Station, Redditch	10:16

* Not including bank holidays

If you have any community news to share, please let us know.

This newsletter is issued each year in spring and autumn.

BARNT GREEN ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2020

ALL WELCOME

YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK!

WEDNESDAY 29 APRIL 2020

7.00PM

**FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE
SANDHILLS ROAD, BARNT GREEN B45 8NR**

This is not a parish council meeting or a church meeting, this is the yearly meeting hosted by the Parish Council for electors in Barnt Green to discuss 'parish affairs'.

Any Barnt Green resident can attend and everyone is welcome.

The meeting will commence with the Chairman's welcome and there will be an opportunity to receive reports from local council representatives which may include;

- Chairman's report;
- District Councillor's report;
- County Councillor's report;
- Parish Council finances

There will be an open forum for you discuss community issues that are important to you.

BARNT GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

80 Hewell Road, Barnt Green B45 8NF / tel: 0121 447 9893

exec@barntgreen.org.uk / www.barntgreen.org.uk



THERE IS ONE VACANCY ON BART GREEN PARISH COUNCIL



This is what we do:

- ◆ we meet monthly to discuss and act on local council issues that affect the Barnt Green community
- ◆ we represent the community
- ◆ we look after Millennium Park, Barnt Green playing field, benches, bus shelter, footpath lighting and planters
- ◆ we are consulted on planning applications
- ◆ we can provide support to voluntary bodies
- ◆ we operate the Lengthsman's scheme
- ◆ we liaise with partner organisations such as County and District Councils and other statutory bodies
- ◆ we issue a bi-annual newsletter... among other things

INTERESTED?

Contact us via -

The parish council office at 80 Hewell Road

Email: exec@barntgreen.org.uk

Phone: 0121 447 9893

or view the procedure, eligibility criteria and application form by using the following link

<https://www.barntgreen.org.uk/news/casual-vacancy-for-barnt-green-parish-councillor>

THERE WILL BE A CO-OPTION DATE: 18 MAY 2020 SO PLEASE RESPOND BY 11 MAY 2020 BY THE LATEST

WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU!

NEWS IN BRIEF

A proposed extension of the existing double yellow lines on Hewell Lane from its junction with Fiery Hill Road is under consideration as a result of concerns regarding continuous all-day parking causing safety and congestion issues. This will prevent parking and congestion ensuring a safe free flow of traffic. These proposals are supported by the parish council who have lobbied on behalf of its residents.

Barnt Green will soon see 2 electric vehicle charging points to be located on the parish councils' newly acquired car park in Fiery Hill Road. The scheme will be operated in conjunction with Bromsgrove District Council.

Once again, I stress the importance of the Smartwater initiative. I will not repeat the details of this crime prevention scheme, other than to say that it is being funded by the parish council, so it is free to residents. Details are elsewhere in this publication.

Maybe because crime is relatively low in Barnt Green, the uptake has not been as strong as was hoped. We should not delude ourselves, as the crime statistics evidence a steady number of house burglaries. Obviously valuables, such as jewellery, are a prime target but increasingly burglars look to get hold of car ignition keys. Garden sheds are also a frequent target.

To reiterate the message from West Mercia Police, the more households that register for Smartwater and display the Smartwater stickers in their windows, the lower the risk of burglary in the local community.

On a more cheerful note, the street lights village wide are the responsibility of the parish council and are in the process of being replaced by new white LED lamps. These are much more energy efficient and reliable than the old orange lights which have become difficult to source.

Finally, I'm pleased that the precept, the portion of your council tax payable to the parish council, will remain at the same level in 2020-2021 as it has been for more than 5 years.

Robert Cholmondeley, Chair, Barnt Green Parish Council

MP and Councillors' contacts:

MP	Sajid Javid - sajid.javid.mp@parliament.uk
County Councillor	Peter McDonald - pmcdonald2@worcestershires.gov.uk
District Councillor	Charles Hotham - c.hotham@bromsgrove.gov.uk
Parish Councillors	Robert Cholmondeley, Charles Hotham, Judith Jagger, Joakim Nilsson, Philip Perry, Olivia Polton, Susan Whitehand and 1 Vacancy

Councillor contact details available via: www.barntgreen.org.uk

Chairman Cllr Robert Cholmondeley - robert.cholmondeley@btinternet.com

Executive Officer Tracy Bodley - exec@barntgreen.org.uk

80 Hewell Road, B45 8NF TEL: 0121 447 9893

All information is correct at the time of printing. Views expressed in the newsletter are those of the contributors and may not be those of the Parish Council.

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