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Issue No. 115
October 2010

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Editor's Comment



IT cannot be too often that residents campaign for the local authority NOT to take over maintenance of their road.

But that is what residents of Firs Lane, Appleton, are doing. And Appleton Parish Council has agreed to support them.

The leafy lane has, for years, been considered a private road and, ironically, might still be but for residents complaining two years ago when the borough council included in a booklet entitled "A Guide to Cycling in Warrington."

As a result of residents challenging inclusion of the road in the booklet, borough public rights of way officer John Thorp investigated its status and came up with the view that it was an "ancient highway" maintainable by the council.

The residents have been paying to maintain the road themselves, ever since their homes were built, and might reasonably have been expected to be delighted with the news.

In fact, they claim Mr Thorp's evidence doesn't stack up and do not want the council to take over.

Why? Because they fear a fully tarmaced road could become a "rat run" for motorists going to Walton Gardens or cutting through between the A56 and the A49.

Such is our fear of the motor vehicle in vast numbers. And yet we nearly all drive one ourselves!

Youth grant

A JOINT grant of £100 was made by Appleton and Stockton Heath Parish Councils towards a youth event at Victoria Park.

Money went towards prizes at the Victoria Park Experience which was attended by more than 250 young people in August.

Trees removed

THREE potentially dangerous trees on Mill Lane land in Stockton Heath were removed during the summer.

The parish council heard work was carried out at a cost of £1,300.

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Lucky mistake keeps art in the picture

APPLETON art students agreed to decorate a run down building to improve its appearance – but painted the wrong one.

It was a lucky mistake because the superb mural is now still on show for all to see – while the building they should have done has been given a revamp by its owners.

Coun Celia Jordan told Stockton Heath Parish Council that she had been asked about four years ago by Bridgewater High School if she had ideas for a building to be decorated.

As a school governor she knew Theo Lambrianides (now an assistant head and previously head of art),

who said the students would complete the project.

She was aware of three buildings near the former Greenalls site on Wilderspool Causeway and suggested the one opposite the Saracen's Head pub as most in need of decoration.

But when she went to the grand opening of the project – it was discovered that the wrong building had been decorated. The one completed by the school was a former sub station opposite the shops and terrace houses.

She said: "When they unveiled the work and we realised what had happened – we all collapsed in fits of laughter."

"The building looks great. They have really worked hard and it is greatly improved."

Coun Jordan said the building she

actually chosen had also been improved by the owners, complete with repairs and new brickwork.

Mr Lambrianides said the building had been measured and the work completed on panels at the school – which were then erected on site. Work was completed by Year 10 to 12 pupils, with graffiti artist in residence Claire Rye and workers from the homeless charity Opening Doors.

He said there was a "misunderstanding" about the selected building – with the school believing the substation was chosen. He had since written to the electricity company to get permission to decorate the building.

The art work depicts Warrington life including paintings of Warrington RL legend Brian Bevan, the Town Hall gates, Peace Centre and Bridgewater Canal.

He said: "It is lucky that we did this building. The other building has since



Celia Jordan and Bridgewater High School year 12 students Abigail Flanagan and Bethany Hands both aged 16 who helped paint the murals.

been done up and the art boards would have had to come down."

Police breaking planning laws

STOCKTON Heath police station is breaking planning laws, members of the Parish Council were told.

In May members complained about bright new signs, saying "Cheshire Constabulary Stockton Heath," which were displayed on the police station in Victoria Square.

The parish council thought the signs were inappropriate for the Grade Two Listed Building. They reported their concerns to Warrington Borough Council's conservation officer.

Clerk Peter Briggs told members that the planning enforcement team had agreed that the signs were "inappropriate" because it was a listed building, and the signs were to be removed.

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Law firm continues to help vulnerable families

A Stockton Heath law firm is offering to continue helping vulnerable families, thanks to a new legal aid contract.

Following a rigorous re-tendering process, many law firms have lost their ability to provide family services under the legal aid scheme, leaving the future uncertain for hundreds of family solicitors and their clients. But after October, Forshaws Davies Ridgway (FDR) will be one of the few in the area to have retained the right to provide subsidised advice on divorce, separation, co-habitation or family finance.

Jennifer Roulston, a partner based at the firm's Stockton Heath office, is delighted she will be able to continue to offer this essential service to families in crisis.

She said: "Many families rely on legal aid to fund essential legal work to manage the fall-out from separation

and divorce, particularly where children are involved."

Lead family partner Audrey Venables added: "Some families also choose to cut costs by opting for the new collaborative law process, which allows couples to resolve their disputes outside the courtroom. It involves both sides meeting face to face, with their collaborative lawyers, to agree a way forward. In many cases the process can provide a much cheaper and more amicable resolution to their situation."

For more information about family legal aid services, contact Jennifer Roulston or Audrey Venables at Forshaws Davies Ridgway LLP, Warrington on 01925 230000. www.fdrlaw.co.uk.



St Matthew's autumn fayre

ST Matthew's Church, Stretton, is holding its annual Autumn Fayre in Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlows Green Road, on Saturday November 13 at 2.30pm.

There will be a wide variety of stalls, including cakes, produce, red-gold-and-green, crafts and gifts, nearly new, bric-a-brac, books, toys and tombola.

There will also be children's activities including craft making, spot-the-ball and other games.

Afternoon tea is included in the entrance fee of £1 for adults and 50p for children.

Card making for charity

CARD making enthusiasts at the new Craft Boutique, Cards by Samantha in Thelwall, enjoyed an afternoon of crafting, coffee and home-made cakes to raise money for Macmillan Cancer support.

The new craft boutique on Barley Road opened its doors at the beginning of September. In addition to a wide range of card making essentials, Sam offers weekly card making classes, Saturday workshops and a beautiful range of unique hand-made wedding stationery created by Sam herself.

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Advertiser's announcement

Stockton Heath Travel supports national coffee morning for Macmillan

Macmillan Cancer Support helps improve the lives of people affected by cancer, both those living with cancer and also their families and carer's.

This year we decided to join in and try to raise as much money as we could to support this very worthy cause. We would like to thank various local traders who donated prizes for the raffle ie Living Colour for the lovely bouquet, Lemon Tree for a gorgeous piece of jewellery, Brentwood Gallery for the signed print by local artist, Stuart Long



entitled 'Morning Cruise-Walton'. Our very generous clients also donated wine and chocolates.

The morning was very well supported by our clients who popped in at various times throughout the morning for coffee and cakes - we had cup cakes decorated in Macmillan colours donated by Carole Broughton-Milby of Sweet Olivia and freshly baked scones and cakes by a regular client of ours and I would like to thank these two people for their contribution. The local branch of Macmillan heard about our morning from one of our clients and popped in with literature etc. Our first event was a huge success raising £360 and we are looking forward to this being an annual event, when we hope to raise even more money for this wonderful charity. Plans are already in place!

Any travel plans you need advice on, please pop in for coffee to get a quote. alternatively email: enquiries@island-villas.co.uk . We are taking bookings for 2011 - remember to book early for the best prices and availability! It is 90 days to Christmas from 25th September so

if you want to spend Christmas or New Year in the sun or snow, places will be limited the nearer we get towards these dates.

Pictures show Linda and Jacqueline from Stockton Heath Travel and our first raffle prize winner Jackie pictured receiving her flowers from Linda. Well done to the rest of our winners who have been notified.



Keep the village alive support your local traders!

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A*AAA – Cardiff

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THURSDAY 11 NOVEMBER 2010

THURSDAY 27 JANUARY 2011



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A*A*A*A – Manchester

JENNIFER REEVES – Cardinal Newman
AAA – Warwick

LUCY SMITH – Cardinal Newman
A*A*AA – TBC

WARREN RICHARDS – Fairfield High
A*AA – Liverpool

RACHEL SANDERS – Birchwood
AAAB – Liverpool

ELLIE VIDEAN – Lymm
3 Distinctions (BTEC), A – Leeds College

SOPHIE WILLIAMS – Halton
AAA – Gap Year

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Walton Hall advisory group launched

An advisory group has been launched to explore the best way forward to make the historic Walton Hall and Gardens sustainable moving forward.

The newly formed Walton Estate Advisory Group has met for the first time when the Chair of Walton Parish Council Yousuf Shaikh was elected to chair the group which has been set up to advise Warrington Borough Council's Executive Board on the future development of Walton Hall and Gardens.

Its membership includes the Friends of Walton Gardens, residents from the Area Boards, Walton Parish Council, The Bridgewater Canal Trust, The Walton Lea Project and Visit

Chester and Cheshire as well as council members and officers.

From the outset the group wishes to ensure that it reflects the views of the many residents, visitors and interested parties.

The group will be providing opportunities throughout its deliberations for members of the public to express their views and submit their ideas for the sustainable future of the Hall, Gardens and associated buildings.



Some of the advisory group and campaigners

Help and advice for carers

CARERS in the Stockton Heath and Appleton area can now get help and advice near home thanks to a new series of drop-in sessions being organised by a local charity.

Warrington Carers Centre, The Bungalow, Garven Place, is organising outreach sessions throughout the town.

A spokesman said: "A carer is someone who without payment helps or supports a relative, child, neighbour or friend who because of illness, disability, frailty or addiction is unable to manage alone."

Drop-in sessions are held at the centre every Monday and Friday from 10am to 2pm.

But for those who cannot get to the centre, outreach carers support workers are visiting St Thomas' Church, Stockton Heath on Wednesdays, 12noon to 1.30pm, and St Mary Magdalene Church, Dingleway, Appleton on Thursdays, 1pm to 2.45pm.

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What's On in the Villages

October 5

STOCKTON HEATH FLOWER CLUB
Veronica Southern of Blackpool: B Inspired
Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road, 7.30pm.

October 12

STOCKTON HEATH PARISH COUNCIL
Sandy Lane Centre, 7.30pm

October 19

APPLETON PARISH COUNCIL
Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road, 7.30pm

October 21

LIVE AT ST WILFRID'S
Karina Lucas and Simon Lane
(Soprano and Piano)
St Wilfrid's Parish Church, Grappenhall, 7.30pm.

Every Monday

THE EVERGREENS Senior Citizen's Club
Bellhouse Community Centre, Grappenhall.
Details: 01925 261381

ST MARY MAGDALENE MONDAY CLUB
1.30pm

FOLK DANCING CLUB

St Thomas' Primary School,
Parkgate Road, Stockton Heath,
8-10pm. Details: 01925 262356

BRIDGE CLUB

Grappenhall Village Sports Club
Stockton Lane, 7.30pm. Details 01928 712233

LADIES' FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The Quays Community Centre,
Thelwall New Road, Thelwall,
8pm. Details: 01925 264099

Every second Monday

PARK (APPLETON) WI
Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road, 7.30pm

Second and fourth Monday

WARRINGTON ART GROUP
Bellhouse Community Centre, Bellhouse Lane,
Grappenhall, 7-9pm.

Every third Monday

STOCKTON HEATH FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY
St Mary Magdalene's Church, Dingle Way, Appleton.
8pm. Contact: Linda Pearson 01925 602803.

NATIONAL VEGETABLE SOCIETY

Cheshire District meeting
Grappenhall Ex-Servicemen's Club, Chester Road,
Grappenhall.
8pm. Details: 01925 265773.

Every fourth Monday

MARFIELD WI
Independent Methodist Chapel, Knutsford Road,
Grappenhall, 7.30pm

Every Tuesday

COFFEE MORNING
St Cross Church, Appleton Thorn. All welcome.
10am-12 noon

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

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Thelwall New Road, Thelwall, 7.30pm.
Contact: 01925 757582.

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Ram's Head, Grappenhall.

Every Wednesday

Lymm Afternoon Bridge Club
Appleton Parish Hall, 1.15-4.15pm

Every first Wednesday

Walton WI
St John's Church Community Hall, 7.30pm

First and third Wednesday each month

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS
Sandy Lane Centre, Stockton Heath.
8pm. Details: 01925 268311

Every third Wednesday

HIGHER WALTON WI, St John's Community Hall,
7.45pm. Details 01925 262001.

Every Thursday

THE SILVER QUAYS Senior Citizen's Club
The Quays Community Centre,
Thelwall New Road, Thelwall.
Details: 01925 753474.

BRIDGE CLUB

Grappenhall Village Sports Club
Stockton Lane, 7.30pm. Details 01928 712233

Every second Thursday

STREITON WI
Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road, 2.30pm.

Every third Thursday

NORTH EAST CHESHIRE FLOWER CLUB
Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road, 2pm
Details: 01925 740419

GRAPPENHALL WI

Grappenhall Community Centre, Bellhouse Lane
2.15pm

Every Friday

APPLETOTS TODDLER GROUP
Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road.
9.45-11.30am. Details: 01925 268153.

To list your event call **Village Life on**

01925 623632



Village was 'peaceful' during summer

STOCKTON Heath was 'relatively peaceful' from a crime point of view during July and August according to Police Community Support Officer Peter Crellin.

He told Stockton Heath Parish Council there were few crimes reported. He said a cast iron bath was stolen from the side of a house and there was one theft from a motor vehicle of a lap top from the back seat.

He said there had been 15 anti-social behaviour acts in the village, connected to the Creamfields music festival.

PCSO Crellin said there had been several other minor incidents reported in the village, which were recorded inaccurately as anti-social behaviour.

These included two people from the Creamfields festival camping in Cranleigh Close - which was too near to residential areas. There was also an incident reported of a dog running into a road, and a man who fell out of a wheelchair who was

abusive to ambulance staff.

He said because police telephone operators did not know the codes for such incidents, they were often reported as anti-social behaviour making the figures look artificially high.

Members reported that Creamfields had been quiet with few incidents reported.

PCSO Crellin said: "We compared it with similar events, such as Glastonbury. Compared with the problems they had we did alright."

Coun Wendy Emsley said: "On Saturday as people were arriving it was controlled excellently."

On-going incidents of motor bikes revving engines and speeding through the village were also reported by members. PCSO Crellin said police were trying to tackle the problem.

Phone mast would be unsightly

PLANS for a mobile phone mast on top of a building in Victoria Square would damage the look of the area according to Stockton Heath Parish Council.

Members were considering an application for a 6.8 metre high flag pole on the roof of Victoria Buildings with associated radio equipment.

They agreed the plan was unacceptable and would "severely damage the street scene from all sides." Members also felt it was inappropriate to the locally listed building which was refurbished to a high standard of Victorian design about eight years ago.

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Grants awarded

GRANTS totalling £1,050 have been made by Appleton Parish Council to two local organisations.

A grant of £1,000 was given to the 21st Warrington 1st Appleton Scout Group. Money will go towards the cost of a £7,500 high security fence to the car park side and rear of their premises off Dudlow Green Road.

A further grant of £50 was given towards prizes at the Victoria Park Experience (VPX) a youth event organised by Cheshire Police.

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'The Unexpected Guest'

BRIDGEWATER Players next production will be Agatha Christie's murder mystery "The Unexpected Guest" which takes place at Thelwall Parish Hall from November 18-20.

It is believed the last time this play was presented in the region was at the Lowry, where Simon MacCorkindale (who was Harry Harper in BBC TV's "Casualty" series) played the lead role.

Lost in the fog on a lonely road, a stranger seeks refuge in a nearby house, only to find himself stumbling on to the scene of a murder. When the dead man's wife confesses to the murder of her despised husband, the stranger agrees to provide her with an alibi. But who is he really protecting? And in a house full of suspects, whose are the unidentified fingerprints found at the scene?

The Unexpected Guest will be staged at Thelwall Parish Hall, Bell Lane, from 18-20th November 18-20, doors - 7.15, curtain up 7.45.

Tickets available by calling 0845 331 2958.

Village festival makes profit

THE annual Stockton Heath Festival made a profit despite the recession the parish council were told.

Coun Tudor Pole told members organising the festival and staging shows cost £29,500, and the event raised £31,000.

He said: "Considering the current economic climate it is pretty good. It is fantastic that we raised this much."

Coun Pole said income included £6,000 from grants, £6,000 from local businesses and £11,000 from ticket sales. He said during the event £5,000 was also raised by other charities under the banner of the festival.

Members joined Coun Pole in thanking Coun Helen Dutton - who is resigning as secretary from the festival committee - for her work helping organising the event during the past three years.

Opposition to restaurant plan

STRONG objections have been made to plans for a two-storey restaurant at a computer shop in a "congested" area of Stockton Heath.

The parish council opposed plans to set up the restaurant and extend the first floor to the rear, at the site of DCS Computers in Walton Road by BWF Holdings.

A parish council spokesman said: "The property is sited in a large residential area of primarily terraced properties on the corner of the difficult to negotiate junction of the busy A56 Walton Road and the highly congested Kimberley Drive."

It was reported that in front of the property on Walton Road there are centre double white lines and there are double yellow lines along the side of the plot on Kimberley Drive.

Members felt there was no close provision for customer and staff parking, and access by service and

delivery vehicles would be difficult. They reported that parking was already difficult for residents and would be made worse by the development.

Smells

They also felt residents would be bothered by smells from the kitchen and waste bins and disturbed by

noise as people left the restaurant late at night. They also felt that as first floor restaurant windows would overlook properties there would be a lack of privacy.

Members asked that the council's development control committee make a site visit before making a decision on the application.

Boost for children's charity

A CHILDREN'S charity which helps children with brain injuries, developmental delay and genetic conditions has been given a boost - by a man who cleans ovens.

Birchwood-based Brainwave will receive £1 every time Paul Clark cleans an oven. The donation is to celebrate a milestone for Paul's business - that of serving 3,000 clients in three years.

Former social worker Paul uses the Ovenu process to clean ovens using non-caustic products in the Warrington area. "It has been an incredible three years, building up the business from scratch to where we are today. As well as looking to expand to other areas of Merseyside, I am also celebrating the 3,000 landmark with a donation of £1 for every oven cleaned to Brainwave charity."

Maeri's Make and Do Studio

SEWING skills learned in her cosy New England home when she was a youngster are being passed on by Maeri Howard at her classes in Stockton Heath.

At her home, in Beech Road, which faces onto the picturesque Bridgewater Canal, people are learning the traditional skills of sewing, knitting and felt making in her Make and Do Studio.

They enjoy the sessions, and chat about their lives as they learn new skills in the friendly, informal atmosphere.

And at coffee break time, if the weather is good, they may have their drink sitting on the banks of the canal watching the ducks and the boats go by.

Maeri, who grew up in Vermont, came to England 18 years ago and previously worked in software development at the Daresbury Lab. After having her third child she decided to take redundancy and do something more creative.

Her studios were set up about two years ago in a large room at the back of her home. It can accommodate about six people for sewing or felt making, and more for knitting classes.

She has done workshops in local schools teaching sewing and felt making and run about 35 adult courses at home. Courses are

becoming more popular and she plans to run more than 20 more before Christmas.

Maeri also runs a Lending Stitches programme. As news of her work in schools spread, she received donations of old, unused sewing machines - including some from Cheshire Constabulary. The machines in her studio are new, so she lends these donated machines (which have been restored) free to people to use at home.



Principal tutor Beryl Woodcroft (front) and owner/tutor Maeri.

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MP shows support for Trust

WARRINGTON South MP David Mowat has praised a local specialist mental health provider for its progressive approach to delivering services and challenging stigma.

During a visit to Hollins Park at Winwick, headquarters of 5 Boroughs Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, David said he was "proud" to support the organisation's work.

"The fact that the facility sits on what was once an Asylum shows just how far we have progressed when it comes to treating people with a mental illness," added David.

He was guided around the facilities by the Trust's Chief Executive Simon Barber and visited the Auden Unit during an occupational group therapy session; meeting with and speaking to patients who have a

learning disability.

David also voiced his support for the Trust's 'Sticks and Stones' petition which aims to challenge mental health and learning disability-related stigma.

"Not enough people recognise the seriousness of mental illnesses - usually because those affected do not bear any scars or physical signs of their condition," says David.

"Many problems can be tackled easily at an early stage but people are too afraid to seek help for fear of being branded 'a nutter' or 'a weirdo'. Sadly, this often means their problems escalate. If we are to



Simon Barber welcomes David Mowat to Hollins Park

encourage people to seek help earlier we have to get rid of the 'tags' which get given to people with mental health problems. That's why I'm proud to support the Trust's 'Sticks and Stones' campaign."

Simon added: "Mental ill health is something that has the potential to affect one in four of David's constituents; statistically, two percent of the population have a learning disability. Therefore, it is extremely encouraging that not only has he taken the time to visit our facilities and talk to our patients but that he has also signed and endorsed our 'Sticks and

Stones' petition. We welcome and appreciate David's support."

The 'Sticks and Stones' was launched on April Fool's Day 2010 with the support of comedian Stephen Fry.

The campaign slogan: "Sticks and stones may break my bones - words can also hurt me," is a familiar nursery rhyme with a twist that most people can relate to.

The Trust aims to collect 100,000 signatures on its petition over a 12-month period.

To sign the pledge, visit www.stampoutstigma.co.uk

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No objections

NO objections to late night opening of a bar during the festive season are to be made by Stockton Heath Parish Council.

Members heard the 101 Bar on London Road had applied to extend its opening times by between 30 minutes and an hour, on selected dates during the season.

They agreed not to object, as it was only for a short period.

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Grappenhall promoted to Premier League!

GRAPPENHALL Cricket Club are celebrating after winning promotion to the top flight of club cricket on the last day of the season.

Grappenhall went into the last match of the season against Heaton Mersey, knowing that a maximum points win, and other results going their way, were crucial to their promotion aspirations.

The visitors elected to bat first on a good track, and while batting positively, found themselves at 65-5 after 20 overs, with the early wickets been shared between skipper Steve Titchard and Ian Hall.

With a greasy ball due to earlier rain, the home side were not quite able to exert the control they would have wished for, and Mersey "got away" to a degree, finally posting a useful 192-9. Ian Hall was the pick of the bowlers, with 4-50, and the skipper picking up three. Grappenhall's fielding was generally good in not the easiest of conditions.

In response Grappenhall made a steady start, losing Adam Roylance with the score on 27, at which point former Test star Neil Fairbrother joined former Lancashire player Richard Green. The

two batted very attractively, and were in no trouble at all in a stand of 89, when Neil was out for an attractive 49 with the score on 116. Luke McCoy joined Richard and the two continued Grappenhall's run chase with fluent, positive cricket, until Luke, looking to finish the match in style, fell with the score on 183 for a well compiled 33. Elder brother James came to the wicket, and with Richard fittingly hitting the winning boundary, the match was comfortably won in the 41st over. Richard finished on 88 not out, which was a classy innings, with a mixture of placement, power and concentration.

Grappenhall bagged 25 invaluable points, and with near neighbours Widnes well beaten in their match, achieved their season's goal of promotion to the Premiership.

Over the season Grappenhall have played a lot of attractive cricket, and in an after match speech from the skipper, he thanked the whole squad for their support and contributions.



Next season will be a new and exciting challenge with both 1st and 2nd XIs competing in the Premier League.

Soccer club wins £5,000 grant

A GRAPPENHALL club has been awarded a grant of £5,000 to develop youth football in Warrington.

Grappenhall Sports Football Club (GSFC) received the cash from the Football Foundation to help develop the sport.

It gives the club the opportunity for boys and girls as young as four to learn skills and play the game.

GSFC is an FA Chartered Standard football club and all coaches have the appropriate FA qualifications and CRB checks.

Chairman Danny Woodall said:

"The funding from the Football Foundation is a major recognition of the club's professional approach and marks a significant investment in youth football in the Warrington area.

"We are committed to continuing the development of the club and this cash injection will enable us to offer the highest quality football coaching for the very youngest members of the local area."

Warrington South MP David Mowat said: "Our disappointing performance in the World Cup has shown us that we need to get more young people playing football."

"I'm delighted that Grappenhall Sports FC has been awarded this money by the Football Foundation and I would like to congratulate all those who worked so hard to get this grant. It's good news for Grappenhall and good news for Warrington."

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Money Column

By Margaret Black

Tax avoidance and evasion

Have we missed something? We seem to recall querying some statements made by the Labour government several years ago. We also seem to recall that there has been a fairly recent change of government but strangely the statements seem very similar.

"You cannot, allow people to get out of paying their fair share of taxes."

"Tax avoidance and evasion are unacceptable in the best of times but in today's circumstances it is morally indefensible."

Both of the above are very recent statements by Nick Clegg, the Deputy Prime Minister, but sound very similar to statements made by the previous Labour government. More annoying, the context in which these statements were made suggest strongly that they reflect faults of the taxpayers.

We would remind the current government of the following:

1. YOU, the readers, are the taxpayers. By blaming taxpayers for lack of funding the government should realise that they are blaming YOU.

2. It is up to the government to define the "fair share of taxes". Unless they do so then it is the fault of the government,

not the taxpayers, if someone fails to pay this amount of tax.

3. "Tax avoidance" and "tax evasion" are two very separate matters. Tax evasion is cheating by illegally suppressing income or overstating deductible expenses, and we would agree that this is wrong, whether it is done by the abnormally rich or by the not abnormally rich doing a "cash" job. Tax avoidance, however, is very simply not paying more tax than you are legally required to do, and if the result of this is not "fair" then the fault, again, is that of the government and not the taxpayer.

As a firm, we advise our clients that taxation is an unavoidable cost of receiving income or other gains. However, in exactly the same way that we advise our clients on ways of maximising profits, frequently by minimising overheads, we also assist our clients on ways to pay the minimum amount of tax that the law allows. We might consider suggesting to our clients that they go to the top of Blackpool Tower and throw the difference between this amount and Mr Clegg's "fair" amount from the top and invite Mr Clegg to collect what he can, but we



David Watkinson and Margaret Black

cannot do this as no-one but Mr Clegg knows what this is, and he ain't telling!

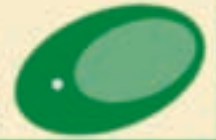
So Mr Clegg, stop talking about "fair shares" and stop blaming people for "tax avoidance". Start doing your job by providing taxpayers with easily understood rules that provide the tax revenue that you require, even if that means (gasp) increasing taxes, rather than suggesting that people are doing something immoral by not volunteering to pay more taxes than they need.

The Money Column.....is provided by WatkinsonBlack, Chartered Accountants, 1st Floor, 264 Manchester Road, Warrington, WA1 3RB.

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Soccer club launch new sponsors lounge



WARRINGTON Town FC have created a new Vice President's Lounge at their Cantilever Park ground to entertain match day sponsors.

The new facility, overlooking the pitch, includes a bar area and comfortable leather seating and is also available to hire for private functions.

It also allows people to sign up to become Vice Presidents of the club from as little as £40 per month, including pre and post match hospitality.

The club is currently enjoying one of its best ever starts to the season and is challenging for promotion from the Evo-Stik Division One North, despite the setback of being docked three points for fielding an ineligible player in the opening game of the season when they won 3-1 at Ossett Albion.

Anyone interested in becoming a Vice President of sponsoring a game please email Chief Executive Gary Skentelbery at garys@warrington-worldwide.co.uk

Wolfing it up at golf day

WARRINGTON Wolves' mascot Wolfie was on hand to help launch a school's fund-raising golf day.

St. Wilfrid's C of E Primary School, Grappenhall held their third annual Golf Day at Lymm Golf Club to raise money for school funds and the Alder

Hey Imagine Appeal, a fundraising campaign which helps pioneering work to develop facilities and to offer the very highest standards of care to young patients.

The event was organised by Pete Barrett from Big Red events.



Golfers, pupils and deputy head Hazel Fryman are pictured watching as Warrington Wolves mascot "Wolfie" starts the Golf Day

Landscaping at shops

LANDSCAPING work at a cost of £835 will be carried out on the northern side of the Bridge Lane shops in Appleton.

New trees, bedding plants and a lawn will be provided. The work, plus more than £500 a year for maintenance and new plants, was approved by Appleton Parish Council.

Grants available

GRANTS of up to £1,000 are available for local groups from the South Warrington Area Board.

Board member Coun Peter Walker told Stockton Heath Parish Council there was £10,500 available during the next six months.

"Bids for projects have to be made by October 8. There is a lot less money available than before and this is for the whole south area, including Lymm and Latchford," he said.

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Lounge 20ft 10in x 10ft 6in with tiled floor and radiator

Bedroom 1 13ft 2in x 9ft 2in with radiator

Bedroom 2 10ft 4in x 10ft 4in with radiator

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