

whitley parish council

www.whitleycommunity.co.uk

COMMUNITY UPDATE
MAY 2011

...from the chair of the Parish Council

Dear Resident,

I'm very happy to say that some of our various projects are now nearing completion.

Our allotment site off Whitefield Lane is now up and running. This has been enthusiastically supported by local residents, and fruit and vegetables are once again being produced on this field. We are expecting work to be completed on the Daffodil Field Park project next to Whitley Farm Close in time for the summer, finally providing a great community park and open space for all local people to enjoy and appreciate. The council now oversees other play areas at the southern end of the village and the nature reserve on Gravel Hill Lane, and looks to promote and protect the local footpath network and local history.

Many residents were understandably upset and angry at the loss of woodland and trees at the Harron Homes/Tunstall Lodge development. The parish council objected strongly to the impact of this development and although were not successful in stopping it, the number of houses now being built is, in fact, substantially less than was originally submitted. Pressure to develop is increasingly a contentious issue for many local people. The parish council also has concerns about the impact of the ongoing expansion of the mushroom farm on Gravel Hill Lane, and is working to achieve the best outcome for local residents where it can.

Pressure from the community and the parish council regarding the levels and speed of traffic along the A19 has at last paid off. Funding is currently being secured for two vehicle activated matrix speed signs to be erected on the A19 to raise awareness of the speed limit through Whitley. We cannot expect this to completely solve the traffic issues, but we have forced the authorities to finally acknowledge and address this problem for the community.

Please read our concerns about the church. Whilst this threat is very real, we can secure this building and provide a beautiful community space, but only if the community actively supports, and helps to fund, this project.

Simon Humphrey & Whitley Parish Council