

# SOMERFORD PARISH COUNCIL

## NEWSLETTER Q

### MERRY CHRISTMAS 2013

Season Greetings to all our residents in Somerford.

#### **NEW MEMBERS**

We have unfortunately lost two of our members this year, Mr. D Lancake and Mrs C Bailey. Parish Councillors would like to thank them both, for their endless support and hard work over the time they served the Council. Mr D Lancake had been a valued member and Chairman for many years and had been involved in many contentious issues always putting Somerford at the fore front of his mind.

We have been fortunate to recruit two new members Mr Simon Hughes, a publisher and Mr Geoff Bell, a solicitor, both from Chelford Road. We would like to take this opportunity to welcome both and look forward to utilising their talents within the Parish.

#### **COLD CALLERS**

We have had some instances across our area of cold callers and received

this response from our local police;

#### PRESS RELEASE

Cheshire Probation advises Cheshire residents to think twice before buying from door to door sellers. There have been several reports from Cheshire residents of ex-offenders selling products and services door-to-door. They claim to be working on a Probation Service-approved doorstep selling scheme. Angela Cossins, Cheshire Probation's Chief Executive said: "We do not involve offenders in any type of doorstep scheme. Our advice is not to buy from any person claiming to be part of this project and to follow the Police's advice below."

John Roberts from the Communities Unit at Cheshire Police said: "We have had reports of this sort of thing happening in the past and our advice would be for residents to always ask for identification from anyone who knocks at their door unexpectedly, claiming to be a legitimate salesperson. Genuine sales people will have no issue with

you checking their ID or calling their employer to verify they are who they claim to be.

As already stated, the Probation Service does not endorse any sort of programme like this so if you are targeted by someone saying they are part of his scheme I would urge you to politely refuse their business and contact the Police by telephoning the Police Non-Emergency number 101."

For more information contact:

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### **SOMERFORD PARISH RESIDENTS ACTION GROUP**

Several local people have set up an action group this summer and have worked very hard to fight against the recent planning application for 180 houses being built on the Chelford Road/ Blackfirs Lane triangle.

The members are; Julie Brown (Chair), Helen Brough, Nigel Buckley, David Crain, Simon Hughes, Jonathon Maginess and Eric Porter (Secretary). Their response to Cheshire East planning department to object against the application took a lot of hard work and effort and when completed was an excellent document over 30 pages. They have done leaflet drops, canvassed outside public meetings and wrote

letters to many key personnel conveying their objections and concerns. The application should be heard by the

'Strategic Planning Board' in December. Details can be found on [www.cheshireeast.co.uk](http://www.cheshireeast.co.uk) if amended.

Somerford Parish Council took advice from a planning consultant to assist with their objection and will be speaking at the committee meeting.

Mr B Bell from Chelford Road has also been very active in the Parish and has submitted a village green application to try and stop the development from going ahead. This application has had a successful submission and is now in a consultation period and will be considered after this has closed by Cheshire East.

Our Chairman hopes the action group continues and supports the Parish Council in current affairs in the future.

The Neighbourhood Plan has not been forgotten but we understand this will lead to agreeing to more development and the Council feel that there has been enough unplanned development in the Parish. Their energy has been driven towards fighting the current situation. The Neighbourhood plan will be considered again in the New Year.

### **SPEED DISPALY UNIT**

The Parish Council has agreed to fund a new post within the 40mph

zone on Holmes Chapel Road. It has been agreed that we will 'rent' a unit from Odd Road Parish Council and if successful will consider purchasing our own. The unit will be used two ways - travelling both into Congleton and towards Holmes Chapel. We will hopefully publish the results when it has been utilised for a period of time.

### **Route Review A54**

Our ward Councillor John Wray has submitted a 'Route Review' for the distance from Moss Lane to 'Lyndale'. The area has now become built up - Hollycroft, Broomfields, Shackerley Place, Ivy house and there is a possibility of the land opposite Rose cottages being built on (currently under decision at appeal). Children are walking to catch the school buses on Brereton Heath Lane and we feel the speed should be reduced. It also has the support of Brereton Parish Council. Obviously we are on a list and awaiting highways at Cheshire East but have been assured in the New Year progress should be made with the review.

### **FLEXIBLE TRANSPORT SERVICE**

This service allows residents of Cheshire East to access their nearest village or town for essential services. The service provides an alternative means of travel for older and disabled people/ Journeys have to be booked in advance so each

route can be planned efficiently. The booking line number is 0845 077 9110 and is open 9.30 to 12.30 Monday to Friday and you may book 24 hours or one month in advance.

### **ALL SAINTS CHAPEL SERVICES OVER CHRISTMAS**

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