

THE WALCOTE WORD

EDITION NO 4: WINTER 2017

COMING TO A GROUND NEAR YOU

Batting for Misterton

Anyone walking the local paths will have seen the extensive tree harvesting operations in the Misterton woodlands. What you may not know is that some of the trees are cricket bat willows. They have been purchased by JS Wright & Sons who are the oldest manufacturers of cricket bat blades in the world.



As for the rest of the harvesting, the County Council is removing the conifers to the north of the Swift, thinning out the Ash plantation and removing overgrown and over mature timber. Once this is done (together with some drainage works) the intention is to replant with a more diverse range of native broadleaf, leaving areas of open ground and glades and creating a mosaic of habitats.

THE LOCAL PLAN

Consultation extended

Harborough DC has extended the consultation period to 17 December 2017. To respond visit: www.harborough.gov.uk/local-plan The Parish Council has made its own response being particularly concerned with the delay in the construction of the spine road on the development east of the motorway and the resulting impact on traffic in and

around Lutterworth. MWPC also objected to the proposal for storage and distribution at J20, where it felt that a need had not been demonstrated and there had been a lack of consultation. Again, traffic congestion and the number of traffic lights were issues raised. For full details of the Council's response please contact the Clerk.

WELCOME

Welcome to this edition of The Walcote Word, a quarterly newsletter sent out electronically by the Misterton with Walcote Parish Council. If you have any news or photos that would be of interest to others, want to help or just unsubscribe, please contact: clerk@mistertonwithwalcote.org.uk Hard copies will be placed on the Parish notice board and in the pub but if you know someone who can't access these or a computer, please let us know.

THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Update

By the time you read this we will have held the Open Event at the Memorial Hall on 25 November explaining the aim of the Plan, seeking your views, and sent out a questionnaire to each household. If you got involved, thank you, but if by any chance you've not received yours please contact one of the Parish Councillors. Please let us have your answers. Your views will shape the eventual plan and provide a framework for guiding future development and conservation in the Parish.

We take our next step on Thursday 14 December when there is a meeting at the Memorial Hall at 7:30 pm to evaluate the feedback so far and to look at running theme groups on such issues as the environment, employment, housing, community facilities, transport and access within the Parish. This is an open meeting. All are welcome, whether you simply want to observe, join in the discussion or join the group that is taking this forward. The more the merrier. We look forward to seeing you then.

THE 2018 WIND FARM GRANTS

Yes, it's that time of year again

It seems no time at all since the last Wind Farm grants were awarded, but the cycle has come around again, so it's time to look for schemes to fund in 2018. If your organisation is based in Walcote or Misterton, ask yourself these questions:

- Is there something we would like to fund that we can't afford?
- Would our scheme support education, a local need, sports, leisure or social activities?
- Have we already found a way to raise some funds towards our scheme?

If the answer is yes to any of these questions, why not consider applying for a wind farm grant? We have up to about £7000 available for grants in 2018. Application forms can be found on the Parish Council website or at <http://eightparishescic.org/downloads/>

Send your completed applications to the Parish Clerk (electronically or as a paper copy) or pass them to one of the Parish Councillors by midnight 28 February 2018. We aim to decide which applications we will fund by 30 April 2018.

SPEED CAMERAS

Where are they?

So, you've seen the warning signs but can't spot the cameras. Leicestershire CC tells us that the tendering process is almost complete but further discussions with suppliers and stakeholders are needed before installation can begin. Additional traffic surveys have been carried out in the meantime and it is now hoped that by Spring 2018 we will have a fully operational system. We will keep you posted.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday 7 December 2018 at 8:00 pm in the Memorial Hall. If there is anything you wish to raise, come along or contact clerk@mistertonwithwalcote.org.uk