

CHELFORD PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER – FEB. 2008

Dear Residents

How time flies! We are already two months into 2008 and it is more than about time that we congratulated two sets of villagers for their hard work on behalf of the Parish. Firstly, Tony Icke and Peter and Heather Hammond, who have given their time and energy to vastly improve the appearance of Chelford Station. Their single-handed efforts have been rewarded by the Best Kept Station Awards in the form of The Tidiest Station in Cheshire. Well deserved congratulations to them. They have further plans for this ongoing project and would be very happy to welcome other volunteers who would like to join them.

Secondly, Kath and Andy Gildon for their sterling work on the village web site. www.chelfordvillage.com was launched nearly a year ago and, thanks to them, has gone from strength to strength in a short space of time. The site is informative, interesting, updated weekly and a real asset to our community – many thanks to you both.

Having received numerous complaints about over-grown footpaths on Dixon Drive, we approached Cheshire County Council last autumn to discuss the matter. The response was inconclusive as they are not sure who is responsible for the offending shrubs and trees. We have been informed by one resident that he maintains the patch outside his house as it is shown in his deeds to be under his ownership. We are currently taking advice from solicitors to try and clear this up but would ask all who have shrubs outside what may seem to be your boundary wall or fence and which are impeding the footpath, to check this out as they may very well belong to you.

Speeding traffic is still an issue. The Community Speed Watch programme, which was suspended some time ago, is now back up and running. We know that various villagers expressed an interest in speed gun training last time round so if they or any other parishioner would like to volunteer to take this on, it would be very much appreciated. Although utilising speed guns cannot bring about a prosecution, it is well known to work as a deterrent and, let's face it; it's definitely worth a try!

You will have recently received a questionnaire from Macclesfield Borough Council regarding low cost rural housing. As a Parish Council, we feel this is an issue of paramount importance for the future of the village. I think it's safe to say that none of Chelford's young people have any chance of setting up home in their own Parish as prices are completely out of reach. A healthy and

productive community needs a wide cross section of residents to ensure it stays that way and so we urge you to complete the questionnaire and return it as soon as possible.

Finally, 2008 is Cheshire's Year of Gardens and so following on from the introduction of hanging baskets and planters into the village we are looking to further improve the appearance of Chelford – any suggestions are very welcome.

Kind regards,

Andrew Norbury (Chairman C.P.C)