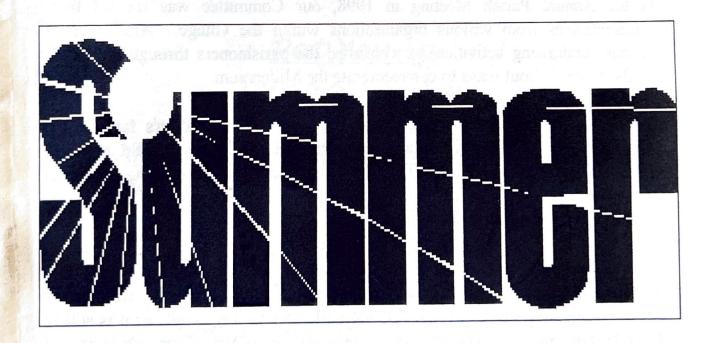
CODDINGTON COMMUNITY NEWS

2001



Hope you enjoy reading the summer edition of the CCN. Many thanks to all those groups and organisations that have taken the time to contribute to this issue.

Please note the deadline for next issue is 15 October 2001.

NEWARK AND SHERWOOD PEOPLE'S FORUM

Are you over 50? If yes, then the Older People's forum wants to hear from you. The Forum has a public launch on Wednesday, 4th July 2001 in the Town Hall in Newark. There will be various agencies and services who would like to hear your views and comments, and offer advice.

Watch Notice Boards and press for more details.

Wendy Parrett (Representative for Coddington). Tel: 672687

CODDINGTON VILLAGE MILLENNIUM COMMITTEE

At the Annual Parish Meeting in 1998, our Committee was formed from representatives from various organisations within the village. After holding various fundraising activities, we consulted the parishioners through the CCN, for their views about ways to commemorate the Millennium.

On 1st July last year, the village joined together for a Children's fancy dress parade from the Green to the School where various activities were held including children's entertainment by Mr Ted and a Pig Roast. In the evening a Ceiledh was held. Everyone who attended said they had thoroughly enjoyed the day but what a pity the weather wasn't a little kinder.

All this was paid for through fundraising and we still have £1300 remaining. The Committee has a project in mind, that hopefully will be a lasting reminder of the Millennium, but at this stage it is too early to give any details as it is still in the very early stages. Once things are more established, we will be informing you all and seeking your comments.

Wendy Parrett
Chairman of Coddington Village Millennium Committee

* . • . . . <u>. • .</u>

DOG FOULING

DON'T FORGET TO TAKE

YOUR POOCH'S HEAPS HOME

KEEP CODDINGTON CLEAN

CODDINGTON VILLAGE MILLENNIUM COMMITTE

TO CLEAR AT HALF PRICE:

XMAS CARDS ----- 50P FOR 5 NOTELETS ----- 65P FOR 10 TEA TOWELS ----- £1.40 EACH

WE MAY AS WELL GIVE THEM AWAY AT THESE PRICES! CONTACT WENDY PARRETT TEL: 672687 FOR MORE DETAILS.

<u>Pat Young</u> <u>Window décor</u>

A RANGE OF DIFFERENT STYLES OF CURTAINS,
BLINDS AND VALENCES PLUS CUSHIONS ETC.
MADE USING YOUR OWN FABRIC.
GOOD QUALITY MAKE UP AT REASONABLE PRICES.
MEASURING SERVICE ALSO AVAILABLE.

FOR A FREE QUOTE CALL PAT TEL: 01636 676762 OR

MOBILE: 07939 391936

CODDINGTON CE PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL

Coddington Church of England Primary and Nursery School has welcomed many new children to the school over the past two terms. As there are many new houses still to be built in the area we expect the numbers to continue rising.

The autumn term was brought to a close by a spectacular whole school performance of Pinocchio. Packed audiences were enthralled and amazed at the standards achieved by the children.

The spring term has been very busy with the appointment of two new teachers and the refurbishment of our computer suite.

On the sporting front we have been very successful with our football team winning a Newark and district tournament and finishing runners up at another tournament held at the Magnus School. The girls continue to enjoy sport, especially netball and we have also formed a girls football squad.

Our musicians have also been very busy, with some competing successfully in the "Young Musicians of the Year" competition and the school band and choir treating parents to "An Evening of Musical Excellence" at the end of the spring term.

We are expecting an action packed summer term; already plans are underway to completely transform our school grounds with extra play area and zones of interest. Later in the term the Friends of the School Association will be organising a Treasure Hunt/BBQ evening (June 9th) and a Summer Fair (July 7th). Your support will be very welcome.

Mr S Daykin - Head Teacher

CODDINGTON'S BEST KEPT GARDEN COMPETITION FOR 2001

WOULD YOU LIKE TO ENTER YOUR GARDEN IN THIS COMPETITION?

CLASSES:

- 1. Small Garden
- Large Garden
- Best vegetable Garden
- 4. Best display of Tubs and Containers

Winner of each section will be presented with a shield and gift voucher.

Please complete Entry Form by 30 June 2001 and return to Cler to Coddington Parish Council, Mrs P Hemphill, 2 Randall Close, Newark, NG24 2LF		
NA	ME: ,	
AD	DRESS:	
Te/	No:	
Cat	egories: Please tick appropriate box:	
	Small Garden Large Garden	
	Best Vegetable Garden Rest display of Tube and Containers	

CHURCH OF ENGLAND CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

£800 has already been donated for the above society this year. Many thanks to all whom have supported the Christingle services, boxes and street collection. A special thank you goes to the new residents at Old Hall Manor for making us very welcome during our street collection.

Local representative - Peggy Harwood

CODDINGTON TODDLER GROUP

Coddington Toddler Group meets every Thursday during term time, 9.30-11am in the Village Hall. We have recently replaced many of the toys, and offer a safe and exciting play environment for children 0-3 yrs, and a relaxing cuppa for their 'slave'! There is a fee of £1 per child to help with running costs. Tea, coffee, juice and biscuits are provided.

We celebrate children's birthdays and have an annual summer outing. Santa Claus calls to see us at Christmas and a photographer visits us once a year.

The toys are now available for Toddler parties at a charge of £20 per party.

Interested in coming along, please phone Tracey - 659927 or Alison 684873.

CODDINGTON VILLAGE HALL

Coddington Village Hall is on Brownlow's Hill, in the centre of the village, near the Church. It has a large hall suitable for parties, functions or group gatherings and a smaller room for meetings or games nights. Toilets and kitchen facilities are also provided.

The hall was purchased, built and is owned by the local community, so it belongs to you, the people of Coddington. You can hire the hall for Children's parties or other activities at £5 per hour. Functions, such as Wedding receptions, are £40 for the evening.

To make your booking, or to suggest any activities you may wish to run or attend at the Village Hall, phone Clerk Pam Hemphill on 686317.



Winthorpe & Coddington Tigers FC

Another season in the new Newark Youth League is now complete and the teams of the Winthorpe and Coddington Football Club have once again put in very commendable performances.

Our three teams, Under 11's, Under 10's, and Under 9's all finished fourth in their respective leagues. Throughout the season, both the players and the managers have experienced many emotions. Highs and lows, brilliant performances, glorious goals, the odd disappointment along the way, but above all great enjoyment for all concerned.

The Club continues to grow. Next year it is our intention to field four teams, Under 12's, 11's, 10's and 9's. The social side of the Club also goes from strength to strength with the parents enjoying just as much fun as the kids!

Any children, boys or girls, who are currently in school years 2 through to 6 and who are interested in joining the Tigers should contact either David Sillery on Newark 687098 or Richard Radford on Newark 688982.

CODDINGTON WI

Coddington WI meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall for a lively meeting, usually with an interesting speaker. This is followed by tea or coffee and homemade cakes. New members are always given a friendly welcome, and anyone interested in joining us should ring our President Mrs Eithne Thompson on 676915 or Secretary Irene Bell on 674574. You can always come as a guest initially to 'try us out'.

In addition to the monthly meetings, we have a variety of optional extras such as the newly formed choir; drama group; French and craft classes; whist; discussion group; and bi-monthly walks of 4-5 miles followed by a pub lunch (husbands may be included!) We also arrange several outings and in November had an excellent coach trip to London where we were taken round the Houses of Parliament and then went on the London Eye. Last month a group of members went to the Sheffield Arena to see the Ice Show, which they greatly enjoyed.

Patricia Mumby – Press Secretary

CODDINGTON OVER 55'S LEISURE GROUP

There are currently 28 members in the Club.

Our Christmas Dinner was held in the RAF Association clubrooms in December. With good food and entertainment the evening was enjoyed by all!

We meet in the Village Hall, every Friday afternoon from 2.00 pm until 4.00 pm. We play bowls and cards and have a cup of tea and biscuits. We also have open bowls every Friday evening. New members are very welcome to come along and join us.

Jim Bell - Secretary

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, CODDINGTON

Beginning on the 1st July there will be a completely new kind of service at All Saints' at 6pm on the first Sunday of the month. This will be centered around the Communion but will be a lively and enjoyable occasion for all ages, whether you are confirmed or not.

WHY NOT COME ALONG ON 1ST JULY AT 6PM TO FIND OUT MORE AND STAY FOR A CUP OF TEA AFTERWARDS.

During the month of June the services will be: -

Sunday June 3rd - Traditional Evensong at 6pm

followed by short Communion for those

who wish to stay.

Sunday June 10th - Evensong at 6pm

Sunday June 17th - Communion at 9am - Evensong at 6pm

Sunday June 24th - Evensong at 6pm

From the 1st of July services will be: -

First Sunday of the month - 6pm Special Family Communion

Service

Second Sunday - 6pm Evensong

Third Sunday - 9am Said Communion – 6pm

Evensong

Fourth and Fifth Sundays - 6pm Evensong

EVENTS:

Coffee Mornings - Saturday, 9th June

Saturday, 14th July 10-11am

Summer Fair - Saturday 16th June 2-4pm

Sponsored Cycle Ride - Saturday 30th June

Sponsored Walk - October (Date to be announced)

All Saints' Fair - Saturday, 3rd November

CODDINGTON POST OFFICE

In January, Bob and Jeanette Thomas became the proud owners of the village Post Office and Stores on Newark Road. I have added the address, as it appears that some new residents are still not aware that we are where we are! This is easy to understand due to the geography of the village, being neatly carved in two by the old A17. Even residents who take their children to the village school from the new housing estate at the top of Beacon Heights mostly skirt along the new road and don't know of the existence of the village post office and shop. We will attempt to rectify this soon when we deliver a leaflet to all houses in the area informing them of available services from both the post office and the store.

This venture is our first in retailing, having spent many years in management in the food industry and our initial views are that it is much more satisfying albeit arduous. The welcome we have received has been tremendous and I hope everyone shares our view that the post office and the accompanying shop are an important part of the community. The days of the stand-alone post office are numbered and I'm sure that the service it provides to the smaller communities is not under-estimated by those who live in them. The unfortunate thing about that situation is that the more powerful sectors such as governments and major retailers do not share that view. The Post Office is trying its hardest to resist the plans of government to withdraw the payment of all benefits through post offices in 2003. The introduction of community banking and Bureaux de Change is an example of substitutional business to keep post offices alive. Make no mistake, though, several more offices will close unless they are supported by a good retail business alongside.

This sounds like an advertising campaign - but it is a fact of life. Coddington has a bright future and it deserves to have a good community convenience store and this is our aim. To provide the right products at the right price for the local residents. This is possible, believe it or not, and it is becoming easier for small businesses to do this. Shoppers do not always pay more at local stores than at major retailers!

Anyway, enough of the 'Soap Box' ... it is a pleasure for both of us to live and work in Coddington and we share your desire to make it a great place to live. We know the Newark area very well as we have lived for the past thirteen years in Elston. We see Coddington as the 'new des res' of the area. We hope you agree.

Bob and Jeanette Thomas

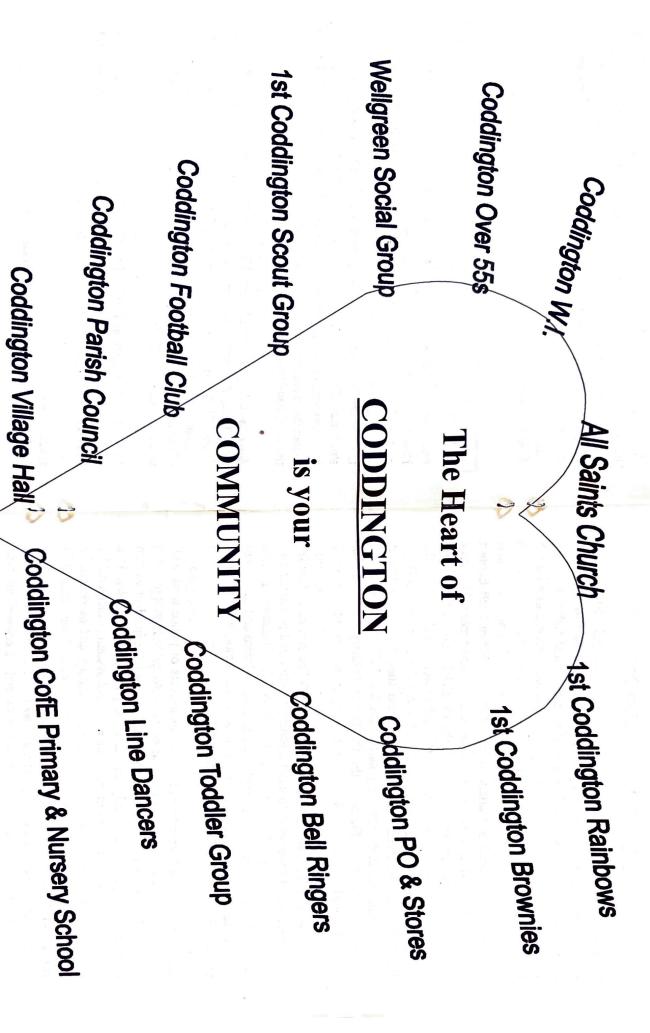
WELLGREEN SOCIAL CLUB

Our busy year ended with Christmas Dinner at Turner's Old Time Music Hall in Nottingham. We were entertained with carols sung by the children of Coddington School and had a Christmas tea in the Village Hall. Thanks to generous help with wool, our Monday Knit 'n natter group has filled seven bags with children's garments and also blankets. Forty-five shoeboxes filled with toiletries will be going to Kosovo - thank you to everyone who donated soap, toothpaste etc. We are now working for the Indian earthquake victims to whom we have donated £100. Please keep the wool coming to help us fill more bags.

A patchwork quilt, made by our Thursday craft class, was donated to the Notts/Lincs Air Ambulance and when auctioned it made £150 for their funds. £118 was given from Bingo, and £50 from our Copper collection. Thanks to the couple who handed in a carrier bag of copper after reading of our effort in the Coddington News - they will be pleased to know when counted it came to £22.78.

In April we had lunch at The Durham Ox, Wellow to celebrate one of our members turning 90 years young. Our monthly trips are all booked for 2001 so we have a lot to look forward to.

Isabel Allen
Social Secretary to Wellgreen Social Club



Nottinghamshire Police Beat Manager - Rural North of Newark.

Let me introduce myself. My name is Richard Wood and I have been a Police Officer for just over 21 years. I have been married to Lynda for over 26 years and have two daughters (Claire is 22 and Rebecca is 18). Both girls attended Coddington Primary School and I served as a Parent Governor there for 7 years.

I was born in Newark and attended local Schools. When I left Sconce Hills Secondary Modern School, (as it was known then) I entered industry and completed an Apprenticeship with the Central Electricity Generating Board. During that time I worked at several Power Stations and for the last seven years of that employment I worked for the Transmission Dept. based first at Nottingham Power Station and then Staythorpe Power Station. I looked at industry very hard in the late 1970's and decided to move on as I saw no future in the the Power Industry. I made that intrepid move in February 1980 and have no regrets whatsoever.

I still live in Newark and have served all of my Police service at Newark Police Station. I have never found it a problem to live and police the area where I was born and brought up, in fact it has it's advantages because when I deal with some of the people I went to school with and sometimes their children, the barriers come down and the atmosphere is easier because they're dealt with by someone they know.

During my service I have trained in various aspects of police work and, for example, I ran the control room at Newark Police Station. In those days incidents were recorded in a very large book with the incident written on the left page and the reply on the right page. Nowadays it is a sophisticated computerised Command and Control system, which enables police units to be monitored and timed continuously, and of course be 'searched' for statistical purposes. For about 12 years I was trained in H.O.L.M.E.S' (Home Office Large Major Enquiry System). This system was used in murders, kidnappings etc. and so I was whisked to HQ and sat in front of a computer screen for weeks on end. I enjoyed my time there and was sorry when it ended.

The majority of my service has been taken up with response/patrol duties in and around Newark. The most of this period I spent in this area, screaming up and down the area to any incident and dealing with it, so some of you have met me already. I have made many friends from these 'incidents'. You will find that I am a great believer in mediation rather than confrontation and I hope that I will deliver what is expected of the Police Force. I have a job to do, and hopefully I will do it to the high standards expected nowadays, but I will need help from the community, so through these pages I will keep you informed of what is happening and what we can do for each other.

CRIME

Just to let you know how the recorded crime rate is going for Coddington: There was an average overall reduction of 38% of all crime in 2000 compared with 1999.

The largest reductions were in burglary (dwelling) - 36%
Criminal damage - 69%
All drug offences - 71%

During the period 1.1.2001 and 23.4.2001 compared with the same period last year the figures are as follows:

Burglary (dwelling) - 69% reduction
Criminal damage - 30% reduction
All drug offences - 100% reduction

MOBILE POLICE STATION

The mobile police station will be in the village as follows:

Friday 15th June 2001 3pm - 5pm Newark Road, Coddington Wednesday 8th August 2001 11am - 1pm Main Street, Coddington Monday 3rd September 2001 3pm - 5pm Newark Road, Coddington

On board with an officer will be a member of 'County Contact'. This person represents Nottinghamshire County Council and Newark and Sherwood District Council and will be available to have a chat with any resident regarding any Council matter in confidence.

Neighbourhood Watch Scheme - Coddington

Hints for summer to safeguard your valuables and property:

- Remember to lock garages and sheds when you are cutting your grass.
 Thieves love summer time, access to mowers, bicycles and tools keep secure.
- Lock doors when in the garden. Thieves can walk in doors and out very quickly when you're occupied outside.
- If a 'service provider' or retail company representative calls, then check for proof of identity. If in doubt, lock out!
- Remember to post code or security mark all new purchases or presents. Golf Clubs have been a particular favourite with thieves over the past few months.
- The holiday season is here again. If your home is unoccupied for any length of time, remember to put lights and the radio on time switches. Don't leave keys in view or near doors or windows. Get a neighbour to check for post etc. Check all insurance policies are paid and meet the requirements set out in the policy in case of a claim.

For your information you can contact me at Newark Police Station on 605999 Ext. 7945.

PC 1868 - R WOOD

CODDINGTON STORES AND POST OFFICE

Rita and Bob Shah would like to thank all their customers for their support and well wishes on their recent move. They hope you will make Bob and Jeanette Thomas as welcome.

1ST CODDINGTON BROWNIES IS 40 YEARS OLD

I am pleased to be able to say that our village Brownie Pack will be 40 years old in July. It has been quite an achievement to keep the pack going in a village the size of Coddington. Over the years we have had 7 Brown Owls, and 8 Assistant Leaders. Snowy Owl (Dawn Bache-Smith) came into Brownies aged 7 and went on to join Balderton Guides. She then became a guide leader and is now back with the Coddington Brownies. After 17 years – that's what I call commitment.

Sadly, we said goodbye to Tawny Owl (Grace Ferguson) after almost 10 years with us - she will be greatly missed. This means that we are now under staffed and desperately need to find another Leader/Helper if the pack is to survive.

The Brownie pack is currently full with 24 Brownies and as many girls on the waiting list.

So far this year, we have had 4 new Brownies take their promise. We completed the First Aid Interest Badge and a few members of the St John Ambulance service came along to teach the girls and test their knowledge.

For Comic Relief, we made cakes to sell and the girls also gave up their tuck money to send to the fund.

We are not off on pack holiday this year, but we have day trips organised. Our first trip is to Hunstanton in June to see the Sea Life Aquarium, and in September we are off to see Toy Story on Ice at the new Ice Stadium in Nottingham.

The Brownie pack meets on Wednesdays in the Village Hall between 6.30 and 8.00 pm. You will be under no pressure or obligation if you want to come along and see what we do.

Sheila Bache Brown Owl, 1st Coddington Brownies

CODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2001

1999/2000		2000/2001				
£		£				
5410.00	Precepts 1999/2000	6000.00				
75.82	Gross Interest 2000/1	117.13				
409.00	VAT	596.16				
78.00	Allotment Rent	82.00				
50.00	Transco (Bulbs)	-				
-	Newark & Sherwood DC	21.62				
_	Coddington Vol, Car Schme	143.62				
-	Coddington P & T Grp.	100.00				
6022.87	TOTAL INCOME:	7060.53				
0022,07	EXPENDITURE:					
1404.02	Clerk's Salary + Expenses	1648.58				
-	Village Handy Person's Salary	375.20				
166.91	Office Expenses	227.35				
751.19	General Expenses	1528.23				
243.57	Environment Expenses	1212.70				
101.88	Allotment & Open Space Exps.	166.45				
215.00	S137 Payments	457.32				
405.60	CCN Expenses	397.60				
145.05	VAT	450.66				
97.52	Project/Grants Expenses	185.28				
3530.74	TOTAL EXPENDITURE:	6649.37				
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FUNDS:						
Bala	4232.05					
Add	7060.53					
Less	6649.37					
Balance at 31 March 2001 4643.21						
COUNTS - 31 MARCH 2001						

NOTES TO ACCOUNTS - 31 MARCH 2001

1. Assets:

1. Assets.	
At 31 March 2001, the following assets were held by the Parish C	Council:
Gravel Pit, Balderton Lane, Coddington (valued at nominal Value	£1.00
Village Seat, Brownlow's Hill, Coddington (Replacement value)	£500.00
Village Sign, corner Newark Road, Sleaford Road, Coddington	£2000.00
(Replacement value)	
Escom Computer (valued at cost)	£1133.00
Notice Board - Coddington Village Hall (Replacement value)	£500.00
2 Topopoios:	

2. Tenancies:

During the year the following tenancies were held

Council as Landlord - Allotments: 13 allotments of which 10 are let at various rents.

Newark & Sherwood District Counc	il £80.00 per annum					
3. S137 Payments: The limited of spending under S137 of the Local Government Act 1972 for this Council in the year of account was £2723.00 and the payments made were: Coddington CE Primary and Nursery School (Dare Campaign) £264.00 Royal British Legion £20.00 £173.32						
4. Debts Outstanding: At the year end debts of £450.66 Vat were outstanding for the period 1 April 2000 to 31 March 2001 BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2001 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2001						
31 March 2000		31 March 2001				
£		£				
LO	NG TERM ASSETS					
2.27	Investments	-				
	CURRENT ASSETS					
145.05	Debtors	450.66				
e Waring e e -	Prepayments	-				
4232.05	Cash at Bank	4192.55				
4376.70	TOTAL ASSETS	4643.21				
116	CURRENT LIABILITIE	ES				
- Credite	ors	-				
- Recei	 Receipts in advance 					
- Temp	orary borrowing	<u>-</u>				
	NET ASSETS	4643.21				
REPRESENTED BY:						
- Genera	al Fund Balance	4643.21				
- Long T	Term borrowing	*				
	l Reserve					
	rked Reserves:	-				
		4643.21				
The above statement represents fairly the financial position of the authority at						
31 March 2001 and reflects its income and expenditure during the year.						
31 March 2001 and Torroots its moon	O:	g the year.				
Signed: Mary Mellos	Signed: THO	mponu				
(Chairman)		e Financial Officer)				
Date: 3.05.01	Date:3	55.01				

Council as Tenant:

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

This is my first annual report since being elected Chairman in May 2000. I hope I can make it as interesting as that of my predecessor, Hugh Daybell – a hard act to follow.

We were very sorry to receive the resignation of Reg Dickinson in January of this year. Reg was a very valued member of the Parish Council and did great work in supporting the interests of people living in the village. We miss him. The notice of a vacancy only resulted in one applicant for the vacancy – but a very welcome applicant, Mrs Isobel Turner. Isobel joined the Parish Council in March and I know will be an enthusiastic and active member.

Wendy Parrett will be giving a report on Millennium activities and projects but I hope that the village agrees with me that the special day at the School on 1 July was a great success. Although the weather was not good, which may have led to a somewhat disappointing attendance, those who came had a wonderful time. Our thanks are due to Wendy, to Bernard Allen for organising the wonderful pig roast and to Bernard Page for finding the super children's' entertainer, Mr Ted, who was a great success.

Now to the nitty-gritty of the Parish Council's work. Over the year we have been consulted on 20 planning applications (as compared to 25 last year). In the situation where the District Council does not intend to follow the views of the Parish Council, a representative of the Parish Council is invited to speak at the relevant Development and Planning Committee. We have taken advantage of this right when appropriate and welcome the opportunity to take a greater part in the planning process. The largest application we have had to consider was that for the development of the Harvey Avenue Estate. The Parish Council made comprehensive comments on the planning brief which the District Council prepared; notably seeking the retention of the large open space and the many trees, car parking for the Community Centre, and the achievement of a good mix of housing.

I'm glad to say we succeeded in securing the open space for the benefit of the village and various modifications to the layout, which we considered, would be beneficial. Planning permission has now been granted but a start has been delayed by certain legal matters and the change in ownership of the developers. We are advised, however, that the new estate should start to rise from the dereliction in May - we're keeping our fingers crossed. I would like to make a special mention here of the considerable time devoted to this project by Cllr Mrs Dobson. She has kept us informed, supported the Parish Council's concerns and done her best to secure the rights of people who lived on the old estate. The Parish Council will continue to keep a close watching brief on the development and is particularly concerned to ensure that the Community Centre is brought into beneficial use. We would like to see it as a sports hall for the village, which in the future could serve, as a focus for sporting activities such as badminton etc. We are continuing to press for this facility with the District Council.

The new development by Beazer Homes and the smaller development at Hall Farm have brought new people into the village. We welcome them and hope they will enjoy and cherish Coddington as we do. The Beacon Heights Development continues to grow, impacting on the school and bringing new life to the area. Here I would mention our Post Office. We said a sad goodbye to Rita and Bob Shah who had so improved the Post Office and Shop but welcomed Bob and Jeanette Thomas. They are working really hard to keep the Post Office in our village and can I ask everyone to support them by using the facilities they offer. So many rural Post Offices have closed we are very lucky to have ours – use it or lose it!

The village now has a handyman – Mr Richmond. I'm sure you all noticed how much tidier it is – he clears litter and attends to any maintenance jobs needed on Parish land. You will have seen the improvement to the landscaping around the village sign, which Mr Richmond undertook. On the question of litter, the Parish Council is hoping to persuade the School to allow a representative from the District Council to talk to the children about litter and for the School to actively pursue an environmental project involving the pupils in looking after the village.

We held the Best Kept Garden competition again this year and prizes were presented to the winners:-

Small Garden

Large Garden

Tubs & Containers

Judge's Special Award

Mr & Mrs Johnson

Mr & Mrs Johnson

Mr & Mrs Johnson

Mr & Mrs Brunning

Because of the low number of entries the Parish Council did consider abandoning the Competition this year. However, with more people coming into the village, it was felt that the Competition should continue for at least this year and we hope it will receive more support – especially from those with small gardens.

From this April, the Parish Council is taking over responsibility from the County Council for grass-cutting in the village. It will not cost the Parish anything – the County Council will still pay for the mowing, but we will have control over the frequency and quality of cuts.

The Parish Council has been active in conserving and improving the environment of the village. More daffodils have been planted and more will be planted. The hedge alongside the plantation on Balderton Lane was damaged in a car accident. This hedge has been replanted with appropriate species, for example hawthorn. Another improvement is that the District Council now consults on applications to fell or lop trees subject to Tree Preservation Orders. And of course we have the Millennium Oak planted by the school children themselves.

I must refer to the considerable work undertaken by the Parish Council in lobbying the County Council for improvements in traffic conditions in the village. The Parish Council is very concerned at the excessive use of the C208, the old Sleaford Road, by heavy vehicles, and the speed of traffic on that road and Balderton Lane. The County Council has to date been very negative in its response. However, a Government Allocation of money for rural traffic management has given us hope.

We have applied for inclusion in the Local Road Transport Plan and we are also harassing the County Council with examples of achievements elsewhere, notably in Leicestershire, in controlling lorry movements. The Parish Council has also urged the School to participate in a School Travel Plan organised by the County, which would release money for making children's access to school safer. We hope the School will take advantage of this wonderful opportunity and the Parish Council will certainly support any such project.

As Hugh mentioned in last year's report the Parish Council will be responsible for providing additional land for burials in possibly four to five years time. To this end, we have raised the precept £8000.00 to provide monies that can be invested on as yearly basis for this need.

On a negative note, the Parish Council is constantly requesting the County Council to carry out repairs to road, footpaths and lights. It can be a frustrating exercise getting these works done, and the end result, particularly on the roads, is not always very satisfactory. However, we will keep up the pressure on the village's behalf. The Parish Council did manage to secure, after much pressure, new bus shelters in the village.

I would like to end by thanking all those members of the Parish Council for their help and support over the year. It can be a pretty thankless and time consuming activity serving a Parish Council, but it can also be very rewarding when things come right. I hope that my report has illustrated that Coddington has an active and pro-active Parish Council, which works very hard on behalf of the village. I also want to thank our DC Cllr Maureen Dobson and County Councillor Vincent Dobson who attend the majority of our Parish Council meetings and work very hard on its behalf. Finally, I extend my personal and sincere thanks to our Clerk, Pam Hemphill, without whose hard work and support the Parish Council could not function.

Mary Molloson Chairman – Coddington Parish Council

CODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATES FOR 2001

Date:Venue:Wednesday 13 June 2001Wellgreen, Coddington.Thursday, 5 July 2001Coddington Village HallThursday, 6 September 2001Coddington Village HallThursday, 4 October 2001Coddington Village HallThursday, 1 November 2001Coddington Village Hall

Please note all meetings to commence at 7.30 pm unless otherwise stated.

CODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Chair: Mrs Mary Molloson, The Gables, Main Street, Coddington
Mr Malcolm Greenfield, The Rowan, Newark Road, Coddington
Mrs Wendy Parrett, Enfin, Newark Road, Coddington
Mrs Mary Carver, The Hollies, Newark Road, Coddington
Mr John Bartley, Bayern House, Newark Road, Coddington
Mr Hugh Daybell, The Homestead, Balderton Lane, Coddington
Mr Bernard Allen, Drove Cottage Farm, Drove Lane, Coddington
Mr James Bell, 78 Beckingham Road, Coddington
Mrs Isobel Turner, Brownlow's House, Brownlow's Hill, Coddington

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