

**GNOSALL PARISH COUNCIL**  
**(Including the Wards of Moreton and Knightley)**

**Clerk of the Council:**  
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**P R E S S   R E L E A S E**

For immediate release  
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**A well-deserved summer break after an eventful period  
for Gnosall Parish Council**

Gnosall Parish Council is beginning its summer recess after some eventful weeks of lows and highs. The arson attack in July shook the community. It ruined the boardwalk which served as a bridge over the Doley Brook on the Council's Acres Open Space. This means a long walk round for those going to or from the allotments or the Greenway/Sustrans cycle route. However, local volunteers rallied round and helped with the clear up. Work is ongoing regarding replacing the boardwalk.

The Gnosall Library Group, known as GLEAN and supported by the Parish Council, has put in a bid to Staffordshire County Council in July to provide a community library on the Grosvenor Centre site. The aim is to replace the library, which had previously been located within St Lawrence Primary School, with one run by volunteers supported by the County Council. It is hoped that the bid will be successful following its evaluation.

Recently the public has shown a lot of interest in a planning application for a rabbit farm. This attracted national attention, as it is such an unusual proposal in this country. The site is agricultural land in Radmore Lane, which is just outside the Parish of Gnosall, but Stafford Borough Council, which is the Local Planning Authority, has consulted the Parish Council as well as Forton and Norbury Parish Councils. Gnosall's Planning Committee considered the proposal at its meeting on 1st August and decided that matters raised by the Head of Environmental and Health Services needed to be resolved before the Council was given another chance to review the application and make an informed decision with all the information that is necessary.

However, the best was kept till last with the announcement also on 1st August that Gnosall had won the Staffordshire Best Kept Village Competition. Gnosall was announced to be the winner of the Best Kept Large Village in Stafford Area, and went on to scoop the award of County Winner for the Best Kept Large Village. Volunteers and parish councillors have since celebrated informally together outside the Grosvenor Centre.

Cllr Pat Alker, Chair of GPC, said "What a fantastic achievement and result - we really are the 'best of the best' and our thanks and congratulations must go to everyone who has helped in bringing the Best Kept Village title back to Gnosall. What a fantastic place we live in!"

The parish councillors and officers will now have a break from meetings until the next Council meeting on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm in Moreton Millennium Community Centre. It is hoped that residents of that ward of the parish will attend the meeting, in order to keep in touch with GPC.

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For more information please contact the Clerk, details above.

As a County Winner of the Staffordshire Best Kept Village Competition 2016 Gnosall Parish Council received a shield donated by the Community Council of Staffordshire, and a crab apple tree donated by Mr Amyas Stafford Northcote on behalf of the Staffordshire Branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE).