

## **Gringley on the Hill Parish Council**

**Newsletter January, 2005**

### **Councillors' Surgeries**

We've been running bi-monthly Councillors' surgeries on Saturday mornings for a year now, and yet we've only had one visitor - presumably everyone's happy? Some might say surgeries are a waste of time, but the thing is that we've got to run them as part of a package of measures necessary to get us Quality accreditation next year. We want accreditation because it's the best way of trying to secure parish government in Gringley. With over 10,000 parish councils in England and Wales, it's a certainty that the Government will soon wish to see if changes can be made.

Remember, if you've any complaint, suggestion or observation about Gringley or local services, then come along to a surgery. They're advertised in Beacon and on the notice boards. The next one is on Saturday 12th March at the usual time of 10.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m.

### **Village Web site: [www.gringleyonthehill.org.uk](http://www.gringleyonthehill.org.uk)**

The web site is now being managed by the Parish Council - Ben Dunkley is the web master - and we're wanting to make it as interesting and useful as possible. One thing we're doing is encouraging businesses, organisations, etc. to link into the web site. We're also encouraging people to advertise on it at the very reasonable cost of £25 per annum. Please contact the Clerk to the Council if you're interested.

### **Playing Field**

We've begun the process of changing the old tennis court into a car park, which has greatly improved the parking situation, especially at the well-supported Ordsall Rangers FC matches. Further improvements are to follow, and we intend to provide better fencing alongside the agricultural field next door.

Talking of the agricultural field, Mr. Hardy, the farmer, is concerned about possible damage to

his crops as a result of people entering the field to retrieve balls from the multi court. We've considered raising the height of the steel mesh multi court fencing along the field side, but the cost is prohibitive, and in any case it could destabilise the rest of the fencing. Notices are being displayed asking for co-operation, but this newsletter gives us a good opportunity to get the word out.

We're also hoping to replace the play equipment tiled safety surfacing with wet pour surfacing in the near future.

### **Cemetery**

The water tap has now been located to a more-convenient position at the entrance to the Cemetery. The WI continue their excellent care work at the Garden of Rest, and a local resident has kindly donated a seat which is being located near the Garden of Rest.

### **Christmas Illuminations**

Whilst the illuminations at The Fairpiece have once again drawn favourable comment, many of you will have wondered what happened to the promised illuminations at the junction of Beacon Hill Road and High Street. Well, the County Council decided that the illuminations could attract the attention of drivers and, therefore, be a road safety hazard. The good thing is that the County Council says it is happy to provide illuminations elsewhere, and we intend to talk to it about illuminating a tree at the old Cross Keys site on High Street.

### **Former Detention Centre**

There is good news in that the Home Office has agreed to substantially increase the amount offered towards a new village community building on the former detention centre site. Talks are continuing and a final decision is expected shortly.

### **Highways**

No meeting goes by without the Parish Council writing to Nottinghamshire County Council about various highways issues. Currently there is a whole raft of issues requiring attention. The main one for us at the moment is to provide street lighting from Beacon Hill Road and along Halls Road to Finkell Street. We'd also like to extend the pavement along the route too.

### **Planning**

As ever, Planning takes up a large amount of time at the Parish Council. We continue to be particularly concerned over the need to preserve the character of the village.

### **Nottinghamshire Best Kept Village Competition**

Remember, we've entered Gringley in this competition, and we're relying on everyone to do their bit. Malcolm Taylor is co-ordinating the entry.

### **Five Villages Responders**

The Parish Council, along with other local parish councils, is now financially assisting the Five Villages Responders, who work with the emergency services to provide an emergency medical response service.

### **Clerk of the Year Competition**

Clerk to the Council, David Wright, has been awarded the runner-up prize in the national Clerk of the Year Competition, after being jointly nominated by Everton, Gringley on the Hill and Misterton Parish Councils.

### **Last Word**

The next newsletter will be out in April, but don't forget our bi-monthly surgeries. You can also use the contact details below if necessary. We try to keep everyone up-to-date with significant developments using Beacon, and unapproved minutes of Parish Council meetings are printed in each issue. You can also read approved minutes of meetings, etc. at the Post Office and on the web site: [www.gringleyonthehill.org.uk](http://www.gringleyonthehill.org.uk)

**Surgery dates:**

Parish Council Surgeries are held on Saturdays from 10.00am to 11.00am in the Village Hall. The next surgery is on 12 March 2005.

**Contact Details**

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