BOLLARD BLOCKAGE

Since the installation of new bollards, shown here is a typical example of the traffic chaos arising when cars are both trying to exit and enter the Village Hall access drive at the same time.

Royal Recognition

Nominated by friends and colleagues, Jean Singleton has received royal recognition in the New Year’s Honours List “For Services to charitable fund raising and the community in Leek Wootton, Warwickshire” by the award of the British Empire Medal (BEM).

Jean has been a committed volunteer to various charities and community organisations for many years. These include Macmillan Cancer Support, the Citizens’ Advice Bureau, Helen Lay Care Centre and organising the ‘Big Breakfast’ at Leek Wootton Sports Club on behalf of Cancer Research UK.

She has also put her talents to good use in psychiatric hospitals as well as finding the energy to help with the flowers at our own All Saints Church.

It would be hard to find a more deserving recipient of this long overdue recognition.

Warwickshire County Council has announced that the new station in Kenilworth will now open on 10th December 2017 after an opening date of August 2017 was delayed.

This latest development comes out of discussions between WCC, Jeremy Wright MP for Kenilworth and Southam, the Department for Transport and Network Rail.

Jeremy Wright MP said: "The Secretary of State for Transport has said that although the station delivery is on track, the main delays to the introduction of the new service are being caused by issues around the signalling project. Whilst this is disappointing, it does give a definite opening date after a number of slipped deadlines. I have written to Network Rail to seek assurance that the December 2017 deadline is met.”

Kevin Ward, the Government’s Inspector, has yet again passed back the WDC Local Plan for further modifications as stated in a letter to WDC dated 16 December 2016.

He stated that he would liaise with the Council to prepare a schedule of the proposed modifications. Then a ‘sustainability appraisal’ will be undertaken before a ‘full public consultation exercise’.

Opinions vary as to the length of time this exercise will take. One optimistic Councillor estimated a period of six months but others have suggested up to 18 months.

Whatever the period, it has local, negative knock-on effects regarding our Neighbourhood Plan and the ‘Masterplan’ for Woodcote as well. Indeed, the consultants appointed to produce this latest proposal, Bilfinger GVA, state: “The Masterplan is to support Warwickshire PCC in obtaining a positive allocation for development of the site in the new Warwick District Local Plan, and the intention is to bring the site to the market following adoption of the plan.”
Cold Comfort

AW Club members’ survival skills were put to the test recently when the Anchor heating system suffered a breakdown.

This even forced the already very well insulated Simon Bell to don a scarf, coat and gloves as shown in the picture here.

We are happy to reassure customers that it’s working again as well as the log fire too!

Lively New Year’s Eve celebrations took place in the AW Club headquarters with the Anchor management laying on a ‘blues band’, Filthy Lucre, for the entertainment of the customers.

The band had obviously done their homework and played a great selection of music enjoyed by all the wide range of ages present.

Dance hall Lothario, Norman, said the band were ‘bang-on’ as he demonstrated his dance moves to all present. Finally, he succeeded in inveigling a victim into a clinch for a whisk round the dance floor as shown in the picture here.

Other Club members also joined in the fun with an expert demonstration of ‘dad-dancing’ with the fireplace by Chris Roberts despite the fact that he earlier stated he was ‘still on the injury list’.

A good night was had by all and the consensus was that this great ‘live-band’ format should become an annual event.

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