

# Heanor & Loscoe Town Council NEWSLETTER ISSUE 38

# Welcome to the Town Council's Newsletter.

This newsletter is produced to keep you informed about what your Town Council is doing. Copies are available from several sites within the area including Heanor & Loscoe Town Council Office, Loscoe Post Office and Heanor Library.

During the last year the Town Council has been proactive in promoting the Town's history, supporting local organisations, and helping improve OUR community.

This year has seen the Town Council celebrate the anniversary of a number of significant events in the Town's history.

#### Bi Centennial of the Pentrich Revolution



Firstly the Council have financially supported, along with Councillors Celia Cox and Paul Jones, the provision of an information board, sited on the former Fire Station, which provides details of the Pentrich Revolution.

The information board details a walk around

Heanor identifying landmarks related to the event. The walk is part of 19 walks around the area supporting the commemoration. Individuals from the Heanor and Loscoe area involved in the Revolution were John McKesswick, Robert Bestwick, Jesse Birkamshaw, Edward Briggs, John Fletcher, John Howitt, Andrew Palmer and George Rhodes.

#### How to Contact the Town Council

Town Clerk: Laura West Telephone/Fax: 01773 533050 Email: heanor-loscoetc@tiscali.co.uk www.heanorandloscoetowncouncil.co.uk Town Council meetings are held in the Town Hall, Heanor 7.00pm on the first Thursday of every Month ALL WELCOME

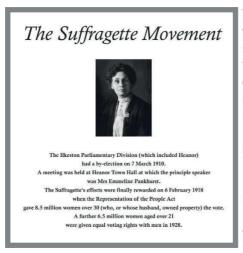


## Bi Centennial of the Pentrich Revolution (continued)

We have commissioned leaflets that provide details of local residents who took place in this historic event, sometimes referred to as 'England's Last Revolution'. The recent bi-centennial provided an opportunity to remember the 300 men who took part in what they thought was a 'general rising' to bring down an unjust and oppressive government. Motivated by poverty and hunger, all efforts to gain a hearing suppressed and having no vote, many saw an armed revolt as the only alternative. A government 'spy' ensured this attempt failed resulting in a confrontation and subsequent capture by soldiers in nearby Giltbrook. Of those captured three were executed and 14 transported to Australia (including one Heanor resident, 38 year old frame worker John McKesswick).

\* Information provided by Pentrich and South Wingfield Revolution group

### Century of Women's Suffrage



To mark the century of partial women's suffrage the Town Council have unveiled a plaque to commemorate the attendance of Emmeline Pankhurst, a leading member of the women's suffrage movement, at Heanor in 1910. A Parliamentary by-election was to be held on 7 March 1910 for the Ilkeston Division, this included Heanor, and a public meeting was held in Heanor Town on 2 March 1910 at which the principle speaker was Mrs Emmeline Pankhurst.

The hall was densely packed, and hundreds of people were stood outside trying to get in. The following day's newspaper recorded a lengthy series of questions to Mrs Pankhurst by Agnes Slack of Ripley. The Town Council were rather embarrassed that the leader of the Suffragettes had managed to get a booking at the town hall without their knowledge, and later in the same week they changed the procedure for renting the building! Similarly, at the by-election in 1912 (caused when the MP, Colonel Seely, was created the Secretary of State for War), suffragette activity was widespread: 'six or more conveyances' were driven around the constituency, 'gaily bedecked with the well-known colours and profusely placarded (sic) with "Keep the Liberals out".



The Town Council now have a facebook page which can be accessed at http://www.facebook.com/groups/heanorandloscoe/members/

During the royal visit to Heanor in 1914 the local Church Lads brigade were given the task of guarding St Lawrence's Church overnight to prevent damage by the Suffragettes to the patriotic banner ("God Bless them Both ") hung there.

A number of property-owners took steps to protect their property – the Miller Mundys at Shipley Hall, for example, had a large wall built close to the hall; this is still known as the 'Suffragette Wall'.

The 'Suffragette Wall' in Shipley Park today, running alongside the site of the hall.

Their efforts were finally rewarded on 6 February 1918 when the Representation of the People Act gave 8.5 million women over 30 (who, or whose husband, owned property) the vote. A further 6.5 million women aged over 21 were given equal voting rights with men in 1928.



The commemorative plaque is placed in the foyer of the Town Hall.

\*information provided by Heanor and District History Society

## Century of William Gregg's VC award

This year marks 100 years since local war hero Sgt William Gregg received his Victoria Cross.

William Gregg was born at Tag Hill, Heanor, and joined the 13th Battalion of the Rifle Brigade in 1915. He was the first British soldier ever to receive the three highest awards for gallantry.

He received the Military Medal on 26 March 1917, for crawling between the opposing lines under the eyes of the enemy to establish the identity of a dead German soldier.

He received the Distinguished Conduct Medal on 26 November 1917, for carrying messages between different sections of his battalion while under heavy machine gun fire.

Finally, on 28 June 1918, he was awarded the Victoria Cross for "most conspicuous bravery and brilliant leadership in action," taking a German

machine gun post after twice being forced back. The photograph above shows him receiving the VC from King George V at the British Army Headquarters at Doullens in France.

A celebration in recognition of Sgt Gregg's VC Award will be held on Sunday 13 May 2018 in Heanor Memorial Park.



After returning to England, he went back to work as a miner, until retiring in 1959. Sergeant Gregg died in 1969, and received full military honours at his funeral at the Heanor Free Church on Midland Road, prior to cremation at Markeaton. The Times newspaper ran an obituary for Mr Gregg, which perhaps goes some way to show how significant his achievement was. He is remembered not only by a street name, but also in the name of the Town's Leisure Centre following a campaign from the Town Council and Sgt Gregg's family following a name change in the early 2000's from the original commemorative name.



\*Information provided by Heanor and District History Society

A commemorative plaque of the actions of William Gregg, previously sited in the leisure centre, can now be viewed on the staircase of Heanor Town Hall. Former Mayor the late Cllr Bob Janes, Lynn Gregg-Boot (William's granddaughter) and former M.P. Judy Mallaber and current Council leader Paul Jones are shown in the photo prior to its removal from the leisure centre.

#### The Town Council - Council's profile

In an attempt to make people more aware of the role and responsibilities of the Town Council we will be going on publicity drive.

We have already in place a number of banners which are located throughout properties i.e.: Heanor Town Hall, The Wilmot Street Centre and The Old Fire Station. The banners include the Council's strap line 'Working together for a better Community'.

We have also provided all our staff with fleece coats which clearly identify them as Council Staff when they are about the Town. The Town Council has its own Facebook page and website wwwheanorandloscoetowncouncil.co.uk In the last couple of years we have supported the following community groups with funding to help them provide the valued services we all appreciate: Amber 1st Responders, Amber Valley Access, Carousel Crafts, Derbyshire CHC, Derbyshire Unemployed Workers' Centre, Gatepost Theatre, Heanor Pre-School, Heanor Swimming and Lifesaving Club, Salcare, Stepping Stones and Treetops Hospice.

We are committed to support the provision of Multi User Games Areas (MUGA) at Lockton Avenue and Charles Hill Playing Fields to help our youngsters become more active.

We hold a Service Level Agreement with Groundwork Cresswell, Ashfield and Mansfield who, along with the local voluntary Group - The Friends of Red River - produce a yearly programme which includes: Maintenance tasks, Site Management and Development, Wildlife monitoring visits and reports, Environmental Education Activities, Open Events, Guided Walks & Talks, Printing of new leaflet/information. Anyone interested in becoming a

'Friend of Red River' or even just occasionally helping with maintenance or conservation work please contact the Town Council office.

We hold regular Band Concerts in the Memorial Park.



Our Annual Christmas Light 'Switch On', May Day Fun Day and Family Pantomime continue to provide enjoyment to hundreds of our residents.



### A Campaigning Town Council That Supports Our Local Community Opening of the new Heanor Memorial Health Clinic

Although the closure of the Memorial Hospital was a very sad occasion for our community and met with significant local opposition, including the Town Council, we have a new replacement health facility which cost £3.5 million. The Health Clinic provides access for the local community to many health disciplines as well as visiting consultants from Derby and Nottingham. This building was officially opened on 13th February this year in a ceremony attended by the Mayor and Councillor Leader.



## **Phlebotomy Service**

We continue our agreement with the NHS to allow The Old Fire Station to be utilised as a site for Phlebotomy services. We realise the convenience of this site and would encourage individuals using this facility to take time to visit the shops within the Town centre.

### Future of Former Grammar School Site

We are deeply concerned about the future of this prestigious site within our community and have raised significant concerns about the proposals for the site.

We held a public meeting last year, attended by planning officers from the Borough Council, to outline ours and



the community's concerns over the lack of community provision within the planning proposals for the site and the future of the historic Robinson-Caley Triptych. At the time of going to print we are still awaiting revised proposals for the site. Let's hope they have listened to your and your Council's concerns.

Cllrs Mrs Celia Cox, Brian Gration, Mrs Jenny Janes and Kieran Hill members of Heanor and Loscoe Town Council for Heanor West Ward collected 20 bags of rubbish from the former Grammar School Site. They decided to take action following a number of complaints about the state of the site. The owner gave permission for the litter pick.

### Withdrawal of Funding for Derbyshire Unemployed Workers Centre (DUWC)

The trustees of Derbyshire Unemployed Workers' Centres (DUWC) have taken the decision to suspend its activities in the Heanor area following the Derbyshire County Council decision to cut £92,000 of its funding.

DUWC have been offering help, advice and representation from Heanor Salcare since 1993, originally from their Fletcher Street premises and again when they moved to Ray Street. Over the past 25 years the DUWC have helped thousands of people in the Heanor area

The Town Council has joined with Salcare and the DUWC to campaign for some reinstatement of the funding for this valued advice. If you wish to give your support please sign the petition, copies of which are available in the Town Hall.

#### **Closure of Town Centre Bureau**

The Town Council opposed the closure of the valued Town centre office in the Town Hall by the Borough Council and presented a petition on behalf of the residents opposing the action. Despite this the Borough Council finally closed the doors on Heanor's Borough Council office on 28 April 2017.

### **Reduction in CCTV Cameras**

The Town Council expressed concern over the decision by Amber Valley Borough Council to reduce the number of CCTV cameras in Heanor from 12 to 3. The Town Council highlighted the amount of vandalism caused to the centre on Wilmot Street, but to no avail as the number have been reduced.

The Town Council as a consequence had a meeting with the police, the local anti-social behaviour team and youth services to look at ways of reducing the amount of anti-social behaviour which seems to have risen since the reduction in the number of cameras.

### Amber Valley Borough Council Housing proposals

The Council have responded to the public consultation from Amber Valley about the proposed locations of additional housing within our Community and the location of the shopping area. A summary of our comments are set out below. The Borough Council's proposals are due to go before a planning inspector and we have asked to speak at the inquiry to put forward your and our concerns. The Town Council are disappointed that there is no detailed rationale for the inclusion of Leafy Lane and Thorpes Road within the document.

Whilst the Town Council has serious concerns about the size of the Newlands/Taylor Lane development (access and egress to the sites, impact on local infrastructure, schools, highways, recycling facilities etc. and wildlife), the Town Council recognize that the site is one that can be developed to contribute to the local housing demand.

In respect of Whysall Street - the Town Council feel it is unrealistic to expect this site to be developed within the short or medium term, and the density suggested is excessive given the nature of the site. The site is split due to the development of the Florence Shipley Care Home complex and their need to provide off street parking for the staff. An additional complication is the right of access for a number of shops on the high street, notably Boyes, for deliveries. The topography of the site is also problematic and adds to the issue over the type of accommodation.

Although linking elderly accommodation with the Florence Shipley complex could be a compromise.

Does the proposal take into account the loss of car parking for the Town and the Borough Council's own emerging car parking strategy?

The area is recognized as a high risk area according to Coal Authority data due to potential land instability and other safety risks associated with former coal mining activity, this again raises issues about the practicality of the area being developed.

The likely impact on a number of listed buildings running parallel with the site is another complicating factor.

Given these concerns the Town Council feel the site should be deleted from the proposals for housing areas. The Town Council would look for something in this area which would be of practical benefit to the community not something which is seen as a potential 'cash cow' for the land owners.

We also recognize that Leafy Lane, being in the Council's ownership, is a potential site but given the recent planning permission for a solar panel farm on the adjacent site, alternative usage should be considered for the site given that it has been available for development for housing for a significant number of years. The problems with the site will not ensure that it is developed within the timeframe of the plan, at least in the medium term. The omission of any details as to why Thorpes Road is included in any proposals for housing is of great concern to the Town Council who oppose any development of this site.

It is a well used local recreation area and its inclusion only smacks of desperation by the Council to find some land on which to develop that will help not only financially but also in delivering enough houses to meet the demands of the local plan. We would be less cynical if the area had been included in previous plans. Given the number of houses proposed and the lack of evidence provided by the Council to support its inclusion we believe its deletion from the plan will have minimal consequences on the overall plan

#### **Definition of the Town Centre**

The Town Council believes the proposed primary shopping front is too narrow given that the Borough Council planning decisions have undermined both the proposed policy SS6 and SS7. In policy SS6 to quote 'The conversion of vacant retail, office or other floor space at upper floor level to residential use will be permitted. Residential development at ground floor level will also be permitted, providing it can be demonstrated that this would not have an adverse impact on the vitality and viability of the town centre. In the case of proposals within defined Primary Shopping Frontages which would result in the loss of an existing retail use at ground floor level, the criteria in policy SS7 will also need to be satisfied' This has already taken place within the proposed primary shopping frontage in two properties with a third proposal for the same being withdrawn.

Therefore, it is difficult to see how the Borough Council will enhance the viability and vitality of the town by a policy already breached, for this reason the narrow focus of the shop frontage plan needs to be extended to include those shops on Ray Street and Godfrey Street to their junction with Mundy Street and the shops on Derby Road. This will then link in with SS5 'c' which states 'positively contribute to the mix and diversity of uses within the town centre, without undermining their primary retail function' and the proposed policy SS7.

The Borough Council, through its current planning process, has already significantly reduced the mix and diversity of the retail element within the town with the increased number of fast-food outlets and male hairdressing establishments, along with allowing an excessive number of bookmakers on the Market Place. None of these decisions made by the Borough Council are in keeping with the policies referred to above and, given the situation, the Town Council need to protect what limited retail outlets the Town has by extending the shop frontage plan area along with a vigorous implementation

of policy SS7. Only then will the Town Council feel that the policies will fit in with the aspirations of the Town Council and local community for Heanor to be a healthy, vibrant Town with a diverse mix of retail.

#### Boundary Commission Changes to Parliamentary Boundaries

The Town Council made the following comments in response to the Boundary Commission proposals to change the boundaries of the parliamentary constituency:

'The Town Council is disappointed that the Boundary Commission's recommendations appear to be based upon a numbers game rather than on a community based solution. MPs are elected to represent a constituency but surely the constituency must also have community focus and some form of association with its constituent parts. The Council believes that this has not been properly reflected in the recommendations for Amber Valley with the inclusion of Allestree and Duffield. It appears that the Commission has ignored the representations by the Labour Party which stated 'Allestree is a discrete community within Derby and has strong ties along the A6 with these towns [Belper and Duffield] in the Mid Derbyshire constituency.', the Liberal Democrat Party which stated ...that the City of Derby ward of Allestree be included in the Derbyshire Dales constituency. They considered that, 'the town of Belper and village of Duffield should be in the same constituency. They are only eight miles apart and are directly linked by the A6 and the railway line. Also the Conservative Party which stated 'Belper is part of the UNESCO Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage site which follows the course of the River Derwent from Derby before finishing in the village of Cromford. At present, a large section of this heritage site already lies within Derbyshire Dales and we believe that the security of the World Heritage status would be greatly enhanced by moving Belper into Derbyshire Dales.'

On the basis of all these representations we cannot understand why Allestree and Duffield is not included within the Derbyshire Dales Constituency with its road, rail and World Heritage Site links and would ask the Commission to re-examine its rationale behind the inclusion of the two communities which have no links with the former mining areas of the eastern side of Amber Valley Parliamentary Constituency.

# Diary Dates - Upcoming Free Events

Event	Venue	Date/Time
May Day Event	Heanor Market Place	7 <sup>th</sup> May 2018 12:00 - 4:00pm
William Gregg VC Commemorative Event	Heanor Memorial Park	13 <sup>th</sup> May 2018 12:00 - 3:00pm
Brass Band Concert by Shirland Brass Band	Heanor Memorial Park	16 <sup>th</sup> September 2018 12:00 - 3:00pm
Pantomime	The Wilmot Street Centre	17 <sup>th</sup> November 2018 1:30pm
Christmas Light Switch On (Loscoe)	St Luke's Church Loscoe	2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2018 4:00pm
Christmas Light Switch On	Heanor Market Place	3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2018 5:00pm

### Heanor & Loscoe Town Councillors

HEANOR WEST WARD	
Coun. C Cox (Mrs),1 Calladine Close, Heanor, DE75 7EW Coun. A Jones (Mrs), 60 Fletcher Street, Heanor, DE75 7PG Coun. P Jones 60 Fletcher Street, Heanor, DE75 7PG Coun. B Gration 10 Lower Dunstead Road, Langley Mill, NG16 4DP Coun. K Hill 2 Gillot Street, Marlpool, Heanor, DE75 7LZ	01773 715759 01773 713514 01773 713514 01773 710659 07709 128054 01773 716896
Coun. J Janes (Mrs), 3 Mansfield Road, Heanor, DE75 7AQ Coun. D Jowett 15 Hardy Crescent, Codnor, DE5 9QH	01773 711420 01773 513852
LOSCOE WARD Coun G Aldwinkle 9 Grange Gardens, Loscoe, DE75 7AE Coun B Flint 61c Brook Street, Loscoe, DE75 7LP Coun R lliffe The Lodge House, Hassock Lane, Shipley, DE75 7JE Coun S lliffe (Mrs), The Lodge House, Hassock Lane, Shipley, DE75 7JE Coun H Longdon (Mrs), 94 Upper Nelson Street, Heanor DE75 7QR Coun A Longdon 94 Upper Nelson Street, Heanor DE75 7QR Coun H Stirland (Miss) 8 Grandfield Street, Loscoe, DE75 7LS	01773 718293 01773 714282 01159 443248 01159 443248 01773 530557 01773 530557 01773 764992
HEANOR EAST WARD Coun M Burrell 61 Hardy Barn Lane, Shipley, DE75 7LY Coun C Gration (Mrs), 10 Lower Dunstead Road, Langley Mill NG16 4DP Coun E Hamilton (Mrs), 30 Gregory Avenue, Langley Mill, NG16 4GD Coun S Oakes (Miss) 3 Gladstone Street, Heanor, DE75 7PW Coun T Lynch 21 Gladstone Street, Langley Mill, NG16 4EN	07969 300269 01773 710659 01773 294970 01773 531018 07977 976752
Town Clerk Mrs Laura West, Town Hall, Market Place, Heanor DE75 7AA E-mail: heanor-loscoetc@tiscali.co.uk www.heanorandloscoetowncouncil.co.uk	01773 533050
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT Nigel J. Mills, Unicorn House, Wellington Street, Ripley DE5 3EH	01773 744341
INFO & HELP	
For information and help on the following Services call the appropriate authority: Benefits, Council Tax, Car Parking, Bus passes etc Bus Shelters Christmas Lights Dog Wardens Education Environmental Health Footpaths Highways Leisure Centres Planning Permission Refuse Collection Refuse Collection Refuse Collection Registration of Births, Deaths & Marriages Street Cleaning/Toilets Street Lighting War Memorials	AVBC Cash Office AVBC H&LTC AVBC DCC AVBC AVBC DCC AVBC AVBC AVBC AVBC AVBC AVBC AVBC AV