

# *The PantLlan Reporter*

## *Bypass*

March 2001 was a momentous month in the campaign led by Cllr Mrs. Dilys Gaskill for a Bypass for the villages of Llanymynech and Pant. In March the Government Office for the West Midlands agreed to include our Bypass in the list of recommended road improvements for the Minister to consider. Maybe all those Christmas Cards residents sent did the trick!

August 17<sup>th</sup> 2001 brought a surprise announcement – **LLANMYNECH AND PANT BYPASS INCLUDED IN THE ROADS PROGRAMME**. We were on our way again. It has been a long hard campaign, but until the road is built we must keep up the pressure. The Parish Council, with the help of the Community Council of Shropshire, organised special Consultation exercises at Pant and Llanymynech to gain local views of how the road should be designed etc. Cllr Mrs. Gaskill continues to keep the Bypass in the forefront – transplanting a sod from the newly started Nesscliffe Bypass to Pant Village Green, an amusing way to remind the Minister of our need and planning a Street Party on the tarmac when our Bypass is eventually built.

## **LLANMYNECH HERITAGE PARTNERSHIP**

The Partnership continues to benefit the village. Bradford Terrace has been rendered with lime mortar in place of concrete, which would have eventually damaged the buildings. New windows and other improvements to properties in keeping with the Village Design Guide, funded by the HERS project have improved the appearance of Llanymynech. The Design Guide was published in June and is available to Contractors at a cost of £5, but residents pay only a small fee if they wish to have a copy.

The Parish Council has also supported a Village Brochure and Map being produced by the Appraisal Group. They initially had the support of a Duke of Edinburgh student and then the services of a Graphic Artist provided by Powys County Council via the Partnership. The Brochure will be published shortly.

## **THE COUNCIL BEING ACTIVE**

The Council continues to give as much support as possible to the organisations providing active enjoyment in the village. Llanymynech Junior Football Club is assisted as well as the Tennis Club; the Llanymynech Bowling Club replacement pavilion has been made possible and a new mower. Llanymynech Village Hall has been given a donation. The annual Parish Council Footpath Walk involves as many people as possible. The 2001 Walk took place around Pant in July when the paths had been re-opened following Foot & Mouth disease restrictions. It was led by Cllr Robin Morris and attended by nearly 30 people. Footpath clearance and maintenance work has been carried out by the Community Service Team under the supervision of Cllr Robin Morris.

## **MILLENNIUM**

The Council published the Millennium Memories Books at a launch in October 2001. Five books circulated the village for residents to write down their anecdotes and tales of the past. Mrs. Jennie Crosier acted as Editor drawing everything together and adding photographs lent for the project. The books are on sale at £5. The beautiful embroidered Parish Map completed by an enthusiastic group was officially handed over at a Church service on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September. The panels are located in St. Agatha's Church and they are available for display elsewhere by arrangement with the Clerk.

## **PANT VILLAGE GREEN**

The Village Green in Pant is a proud achievement of the community. The trees are growing healthily and the bulbs are a splendid display in the spring.

In the past May was the month for dancing around maypoles on village greens, in Pant it was almost the month a 12' mobile phone mast was erected on Pant village green. Once again the community supported the Parish Council in a campaign, this time to oppose the phone mast. A bright red ribbon was tied around the pole with the notice on, to attract people's attention and the company were invited to the May Parish Council meeting to explain their choice of site. Thankfully when the matter was considered by the Planning Committee together with the Parish Council's 18 alternative sites, the application was refused.

## **QUALITY, CODES AND INTERESTS**

During the year lots of changes to the way Parish Councils operate were announced and Councillors and the Clerk attended meetings and seminars to be trained or gain information.

The Council has adopted a new Code of Conduct in April, which all Councillors signed up to. A Register of Councillors Interests in the Parish or in

organisations affecting their Council duties has been drawn up and is held by the Monitoring Officer at Oswestry Borough Council. The Register is open for public inspection, but an appointment has to be made with Oswestry Borough Council and a reason given for the inspection.

A new status of Quality Parish Councils has been announced but in view of so many changes taking place at once, this has been deferred for a few months.

A National Training Strategy has also been announced for Councillors and Clerks. The course is being piloted this year and then will be launched in the autumn of 2002.

## **MONEY, MONEY, MONEY**

Accounts for the year 2000/2001 have been audited. Income amounted to £9283 and expenditure was £8614. Of this £775 was grant funding for specific projects and £391 was recharged, e.g. the Christmas Dinner Councillors fund themselves. Under section 137 of the Local Government Act the Council is able to make donations. Out of a budget of £200 a donation of £150 was given to Llanymynech Village Hall with £50 remaining in the fund to build up balances.

## **WHO ARE WE?**

The Chairperson is Cllr Bob Jones. Other Councillors are Adam Brown, Stan Brown, Mrs. Jennie Crosier, Mrs. Dilys Gaskill, Mark Keaveny, Peter McConville, Terry Mason, Ian Pollitt and Mrs. Janet Smith. It is the first time the Council has had a Father and Son serving at the same time – Stan and Adam Brown. Cllr Mrs. Dilys Gaskill is the Deputy Mayor and the County Councillor for the Ward. Mrs. Vivien Byrne is the Clerk. Cllr Mrs. Crosier was co-opted in November 2001 and Cllr Robin Morris resigned in February 2002.

## **WHAT ELSE DO THEY DO?**

The Councillors are kept busy with the everyday matters of roads, footways, street lighting, name signs and planning. Very many representations have been made on planning issues, particularly about the development at Briggs Lane, where planning agreement has not been adhered to.

Playschemes were organised for the children at Easter and Summer holidays. The play equipment is inspected and maintained and when necessary old equipment removed and replaced.

The problem of dog fouling continues to be an ongoing issue. The nuisance was particularly noticeable when all the rights of way were closed due to the foot & mouth disease. Notices are now in place to remind people of the bylaws – Fines of £1,000 can be imposed if dog owners are prosecuted for not

clearing up after their pets. The Council is particularly concerned about the health threat to village children using the playing fields, where dogs are being taken for exercise. They have displayed further signs, appointed responsible people to gather evidence and the Borough Dog Warden will visit offending dog owners.

The road problems – speed limit extensions, horse rider warning signs and dropped kerbs for wheelchair users have also been addressed this year successfully.

The Council, jointly with Carreghofa Community Council, operates the cemetery. Meetings between the two Councils are held regularly.