



BICKENHILL PARISH COUNCIL

**Clerk** - Carole Picken

Parish Council Office, Recreation Ground, Bickenhill Rd, Marston Green B37 7ER

**E:** bickenhillpc@googlemail.com **W:** www.bickenhillparishcouncil.org.uk **T:** 0121 779 4040

## Parish Councillors

Name	Ward	Telephone Number
<b>Chairman</b> Frank Bunce	Blackfirs	0121 779 2606
<b>Vice-Chair</b> Margret Wilden	Marston Green	0121 779 2196
<b>Councillors</b> Celia Dowell	Marston Green	0121 779 3707
Lucille Green	Bickenhill	0121 779 7179
Tom Hewlett	Merstone	0121 779 2852
Clive Hill	Merstone	0121 779 3885
Velma Jones	Blackfirs	0121 779 3452
Steven Mills	Bickenhill	01675 443 658
Linda Poulson	Marston Green	0121 779 4787
Jim Williams	Marston Green	0121 779 4657

## Local Contacts

### District Councillors:

Alan Martin, 0121 684 3744 Bob Sleigh, 0121 779 4760 Jim Ryan, 07746 785484

### Police:

The local police team, comprising Sgt Rachel Davies, PC Steve Turton & PCSO Andy Burton can be contacted on 0845 113 5000, extn 76016148

# Bickenhill Parish Council Newsletter Nov 2008



# Welcome to our Autumn Newsletter

In every edition we will be spotlighting one of the council members and we start with the longest serving councillor, Lucille Green, who says:



My long term love affair with Marston Green began in January 1968 when I commenced Midwifery training at Marston Green Maternity Hospital and it was at one of the hospital's social events that I met my husband Tom. Following the birth of my first child I became more involved in local activities and when my daughter began her education at the Infants School in 1988, I became a Parent Governor. I subsequently became a Local Authority governor at this wonderful school and, since 2002, have held the position of Chair of Governors. Marston Green has given so much to all my family. My children have been members of the many youth

organisations and enjoyed all village amenities, and, as a practising Christian, I am an active member of St Leonard's Church. I became a Parish Councillor in 1996 serving Bickenhill Ward and I have found the role extremely challenging but very worthwhile. I have always placed a high value on the community spirit of Marston Green and will continue to serve this community to the best of my ability.

At the Parish Council meeting in November we were pleased to welcome as a councillor Clive Hill, a long time resident of Marston Green. If you are interested in becoming a councillor please email us at [bickenhillpc@googlemail.com](mailto:bickenhillpc@googlemail.com)

## News and events around the Parish

**Website** As promised in the previous newsletter, we are pleased to tell you that the website is live and can be viewed at [www.bickenhillparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.bickenhillparishcouncil.org.uk). There are many items on the site which we hope you will find interesting, including the latest village news and useful information.

**Saved for £1** The Parish Council has paid £1 to keep the quintessentially English red phone box in St Peter's Lane, Bickenhill where it has stood for over forty years. British Telecom has announced plans to remove all of these iconic boxes and we were given the opportunity to save the box itself, but without the telephone, by adopting it for just £1. Having canvassed the views of a number of villagers, it was decided that the phone box was important to the character of the village and so the council unanimously decided to adopt and take responsibility for its upkeep.

**Garden of Memory** This summer has seen two important anniversaries in Marston Green. Sixty years ago the Garden of Memory was created with public subscription funding and dedicated in July 1948 to those who lost their lives in both the first and second world wars. It continues to be a place of remembrance for those who give their lives today. Were you there or do you have family members whose lives are remembered in the garden? We would love to hear from you.

**Marston Green Library** The other anniversary celebrated the opening of the Library in the village forty years ago. On 23rd September the Mayor of Solihull, Councillor David Bell, was guest of honour at the opening of an exhibition created by the local librarians, of village life in the sixties. This can be viewed in the Library until the end of the year.

**MP's visit** On 4th September, our MP Caroline Spelman visited the Pavilion in the Recreation Ground to officially open our new and refurbished facilities. In welcoming Mrs Spelman, Frank Bunce said "A year ago in spring of 2007 Council made the decision to look at ways of improving facilities and bringing the Pavilion up to the standard required for a public building." Improvements included the rebuilding of the Children's Playground after it was vandalised, refurbishment of the Pavilion bar and tea room, and the creation of a much needed Parish Office.

The gravel pit was situated in Marston Green village, but where?



For the answer to this question please visit our website

# Stop Press

At the Parish Council meeting in November there was a presentation by MAN PADS Community Engagement Team, a home office funded counter-terrorist group based at Birmingham Airport. Man Pads stress there is no current threat or intelligence to suggest a need for heightened security but would ask the community to report anything they believe to be suspicious or a threat to Birmingham Airport or aircraft transit.

The number to call is 07957 334692  
or Email [mnpt@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk](mailto:mnpt@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk)