

# Who's Who on the Parish Council?

Please direct queries to the Clerk in the first instance

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<b>Shropshire Councillor Ed Potter</b> Email: Edward.potter@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: 07779117802, SC General: 0345 678 9000	<b>Police – SNT Shrewsbury Rural West</b> Email:shrewsburyrw.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk Telephone: 101 Ext: 66645. Emergencies: 999



## NESSES NEWS

*The newsletter of Great Ness & Little Ness Parish Council*

*Issue 3—Summer 2022*

### Welcome...

To Nesses News, covering the parish council area of Great Ness & Little Ness. We hope you enjoy the newsletter and find it a useful source of local information. Following previous feedback, the newsletter will be online with a limited number of paper copies available for collection at Nesscliffe garage/shop.

We are very pleased to share with you our stunning new play area and adult outdoor fitness equipment at Nesscliffe Playing Field. This project cost in excess of £80k and was part-funded by CIL Local money from Shropshire Council, these funds are collected from local development. We hope the new equipment will serve the community for years to come! The next stage is to make further improvements to the access track and to landscape the community land.



### Chairman's Message

We've had a busy few months at the parish council with the new play equipment and outdoor fitness equipment currently being installed at the playing field. It's looking great and we will have a grand opening on Sunday, 25th September at 2pm!! It is going to be lovely and I'm sure that the children will thoroughly enjoy playing on the new park and will be as proud of it as we are. There is something for everyone, young and old, and the area is inclusive of all abilities.

We have also now completed the land transfer, for the new car park on Stonehouse Close and the community land. Landscaping work will be starting on the community land in the near future. We are also campaigning to improve drainage, electricity supply and Nesscliffe Hill.

The parish council meets on the first Tuesday of every month, at either Nesscliffe Village Hall or Little Ness Village Hall, apart from August and January. Details are available on our Facebook page and website. The agendas are also displayed on the village noticeboards. We welcome our community to these meetings and appreciate ideas to keep our parishes a lovely place to live. We also help to sort out any community problems that arise where we can. If you can't attend meetings but would like something discussed, please email our parish clerk or contact one of the parish councillors. Wishing everyone a happy and safe summertime.

**Councillor Alison Mullis, Chairman of Great Ness & Little Ness Parish Council**



Nesscliffe Playing Fields



We will be having an official opening ceremony for the new play area and fitness equipment on Sunday, 25th September at 2pm.

All are welcome to join us!



Defibrillator training

We are fortunate to now have 4 parish defibrillators—at Nesscliffe Garage (village), outside the former entrance to Wilcott Army Camp, Nesscliffe Village Hall and at the phone box at Little Ness.

The parish council is pleased to offer an opportunity for free training in how to use the community defibrillators. This follows on from a successful course ran by local First Aider, Ken Raines.

The course will take place on Saturday 8th October, 9.30am to 1.30pm at Nesscliffe Village Hall.

To register please email parishclerkgnln@gmail.com or call 01743 741611.



Nesscliffe Rounders Team

The team was set up by a group of enthusiastic mums who wanted to start being more active within the local community in April 2008. Nesscliffe Rounders Team is part of the Minsterley and District Rounders League. We play on Tuesday nights at Nesscliffe playing fields and other nights if are playing away. We visit many villages around Shropshire to play our matches. We are a ladies team only and you can join at the age of 13 to 113! Email: nessclifferoundersteam@hotmail.com Tel: 07968173974

Nesscliffe Short Mat Bowls

Meets Thursdays at 7.30pm at Nesscliffe Village Hall with exception of 3rd week of the month when meet on a Friday.

Nesscliffe Young Farmers

Part of one of the largest rural youth organisations in the UK dedicated to young people who have a love for agriculture and rural life. You don't need to be involved in farming to be a Young Farmer – just someone who appreciates the countryside and enjoys rural life. If you are between 10 and 26 and think this sounds appealing, why not contact us. Contact: Chairman Will Lewis: 07983467857 or Secretary Jess Mason: 07508993685 Meets every other Tuesday at 7.30pm at Nesscliffe Village Hall

Community Facebook Groups & websites

“Nesscliffe Community” – Facebook group [Nesscliffe Community | Facebook](#)  
“Wilcott Watch” – Facebook group [Wilcott Watch | Facebook](#)  
“Great Ness & Little Ness Parish Council Facebook [Great Ness and Little Ness Parish Council | Facebook](#)  
Parish Council website— <http://www.greatnessandlittlenessparishcouncil.org/>  
Community website— <http://www.nesscliffe.org.uk/>

Upcoming Events:

Parish Council Meetings.

Meetings start at 7.30pm and the public are welcome to attend and speak in the public session at the start:

- |                    |                          |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| 6th September 2022 | Little Ness Village Hall |
| 4th October 2022   | Little Ness Village Hall |
| 1st November 2022  | Little Ness Village Hall |
| 6th December 2022  | Nesscliffe Village Hall  |

GREAT NESS WI

The Great Ness WI Christmas Fair is on the 19th November 2022 at Nesscliffe Village Hall from 12-4pm. Everyone welcome ! Please bring the children for a chat and a gift from Santa. Tables include: local produce suppliers, afternoon tea, cake stall, silver jewellery, raffle, lovely French soap, Xmas craft goodies, .... £1 entry includes a raffle ticket.

Great Ness WI meetings are at Nesscliffe Village Hall on the third Thursday of the month at 7:30pm. New members welcome. October 20th Talk on Animal Chiropractics by Sophie Anderson. November 17th Wine and Cheese Tasting with Jonathan Hislop



## Community Organisations and Groups

<b>St Andrew's CE School (Primary)</b> , Hopton Lane, Nesscliffe, SY4 1DB Email: <a href="mailto:admin@st-andrews-nesscliffe.shropshire.sch.uk">admin@st-andrews-nesscliffe.shropshire.sch.uk</a> Web: <a href="https://standrews.westcliffefederation.co.uk/">https://standrews.westcliffefederation.co.uk/</a> Tel: 01743 741331
<b>Friends of St Andrew's</b> <i>We are volunteers who help raise money for St Andrew's School in Nesscliffe. The money raised by the Friends is spent on equipment and resources to enhance our children's education experience and the school's facilities. But our Friends are about much more than simply fundraising. The Friends exists to provide closer links between home and school and it is an excellent way to bring staff, parents/carers and friends together socially in support of the school, working towards a common goal. It is fun too – just ask any of the Committee members or helpers.</i> Email: <a href="mailto:friendsofstandrews@hotmail.com">friendsofstandrews@hotmail.com</a> Web: <a href="#">Friends of St. Andrew's School, Nesscliffe   Facebook</a>
<b>The Corbet School (Secondary)</b> , Eyton Lane, Baschurch, SY4 2AX Email: <a href="mailto:admin@corbet.shropshire.sch.uk">admin@corbet.shropshire.sch.uk</a> Web: <a href="https://corbetschool.net/">https://corbetschool.net/</a> Tel: 01939 260296
<b>Nesskids (Baby and Toddler Group)</b> <i>Stay and play sessions for parents/carers and their babies and children under 5 years old. Spend time playing, working and learning with your little ones.</i> Contact: Beth Haycocks Email: <a href="mailto:beth.haycocks@westcliffe.shropshire.sch.uk">beth.haycocks@westcliffe.shropshire.sch.uk</a> Meets: Tuesdays in term time, at St Andrew's School, Nesscliffe, from 9.30 to 11.30am.
<b>Nesscliffe Youth Club (for ages 10 to 16)</b> <i>Meet every Monday night during term time at Nesscliffe Village Hall from 6:30-8:30pm. Entry is £1 and always thrilled to see new members, just drop in or for more information please contact the Shropshire Youth Association</i> Email: <a href="mailto:lee@sya.org.uk">lee@sya.org.uk</a> . Tel: 01743 730005
<b>Prescott Surgery (Doctors)</b> , Prescott Fields, Baschurch, SY4 2DR Web: <a href="https://prescottsurgery.co.uk/">https://prescottsurgery.co.uk/</a> Tel: 01939 260210
<b>Knockin Medical Centre (Doctors)</b> , Knockin, Oswestry, SY10 8HL Web: <a href="https://knockinmedicalcentre.nhs.uk/">https://knockinmedicalcentre.nhs.uk/</a> Tel: 01691 682203
<b>St Andrew's Church, Great Ness &amp; St Martin's Church, Little Ness</b> Contact: Rev Lucinda Burns, The Vicarage, Little Ness Road, Ruyton XI Towns, Shrewsbury, SY4 1LQ Web: <a href="http://www.churcharoundthecliffe.org.uk/st-andrews-great-ness/">http://www.churcharoundthecliffe.org.uk/st-andrews-great-ness/</a> Tel: 01939 261234
<b>Nesscliffe Village Hall</b> , Holyhead Rd, Nesscliffe, SY4 1AX Contact: Joan Evans Web: <a href="http://www.nesscliffe.org.uk/nesscliffe-village-hall/">http://www.nesscliffe.org.uk/nesscliffe-village-hall/</a> Email: <a href="mailto:tom.evans010742@btinternet.com">tom.evans010742@btinternet.com</a> Tel: 01743 741644
<b>Little Ness Village Hall</b> , Little Ness, SY4 2LG Contact: Monica Nunn (Booking Secretary) Web: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/LittleNessVillageHall/">https://www.facebook.com/LittleNessVillageHall/</a> E-mail: <a href="mailto:bookings@littleness.org.uk">bookings@littleness.org.uk</a> Tel: 01939 261374
<b>Great Ness WI</b> <i>Come and join our friendly group to listen to an interesting talk or demonstration, make new friends over a cup of tea and a selection of cakes, go on outings and to meet other WI groups in the area.</i> Meets 3rd week of the month on Thursdays, 7.30pm at Nesscliffe Village Hall Facebook Page: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Greatnesswi">https://www.facebook.com/Greatnesswi</a>

## Shropshire Councillor Report



They say time flies when you are having fun, and it has certainly been a busy 5 and a bit years since I was first elected. A lot has happened during that time, not to mention: major floods, a global pandemic, various elections and of course the perennial problems of potholes, litter and dog muck . It is fair to say that the communities in the parish have grown during this time and I am pleased to see new developments bedding in, making Nesscliffe and the surrounding settlements a vibrant and pleasant place to live and work.

As the elected Shropshire Councillor for the Loton Division covering 12,132.1 hectares, I represent a population of 4,500 people living in 1,650 households. Having such a large geographical area provides its own challenges, but it has been great to meet many residents and attend many of the community events. It was particularly special to see our communities coming together to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee earlier this year.

I see the role of a Shropshire Councillor as to represent the views of my residents when making decisions and formulating policy. I work with the local parish council to solve problems and act as a conduit between local representatives and officers and departments at Shirehall. I report pot holes, sort out fly tipping issues, tackle planning related issues or problems with the bins, to name but a few, but the majority of my work is supporting individuals, families and households with any number of issues and these are often the most rewarding parts of the job. Not all problems can be easily resolved and sometimes not by the council, but there is often a way in which I can find help or support so if anyone locally has an issue I am always happy to take a look and support where ever possible and my contact details are below.

It is becoming apparent that principal councils, such as Shropshire, are very much becoming a care providing council, with approximately 85% of Shropshire Council budget last year being spent on Adult and Children's Social Care; this approximately amounts to 3% of the population. However, I am really proud of the fact that Shropshire Council is nationally recognised for providing excellent Adult Social Care and retained the "Good" Ofsted rating for Children's Services. In my mind it is the most important thing that the council does and that's looking after the most vulnerable in Shropshire.

I am hugely proud to live, work and represent some of the most fantastic areas of our fantastic county.

If there is anything you think I can help with please do not hesitate to contact me.

**Cllr. Ed Potter, [edward.potter@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:edward.potter@shropshire.gov.uk) / 07779117802**

## Nesscliffe Youth Club

Nesscliffe Youth Club meets every Monday during school term-time 6.30pm - 8.30pm at Nesscliffe Village Hall, for children in Year 5 to Year 11. We are very lucky to have a local youth club which is run by local volunteers, and also an employed youth worker from SYA . We have lots of different fun activities going on each week. Your first visit is free and then after that it's £1 a week and there's also drinks / snacks to buy while you're there.

It's a great place to meet children of similar ages in the village. We recently did a sponsored walk up Nesscliffe Hill. The proceeds from the money raised are being used to help cover costs for the transport on a day trip out in Telford, to go to somewhere like Jump Nation.

**Mia Jones (Chair of Nesscliffe Youth Club)**



We have had a very busy year at St Andrew's C.E. Primary School and I would like to thank our amazing community for all their kindness and support. We enjoyed a year of reduced restrictions and things have felt more 'normal' following the nightmare that the pandemic bestowed upon us. The children have been on plenty of trips including Chester Zoo, Love2Stay, Talacre Beach and Secret Hills Discovery Centre and it has been great to welcome visitors back on site.

Nesskids is back up and running and we have enjoyed welcoming some new faces to our popular 'stay and play' session.

Our children completed the year by taking part in a colour run to raise money for Chester Zoo's 'Act for Wildlife' campaign. A huge thank you to all who supported the children during the colour run. We are very pleased to say that we have raised over £250. We hope our contribution will do a little bit to help preserve the beautiful wildlife we all love so much.

Our Friends of St Andrew's have worked tirelessly all year to raise a phenomenal amount of money, which is very much appreciated and enables us to plan super activities and provide extra equipment to help enrich our curriculum.

We were very pleased to be involved with the planning and delivery of the Jubilee celebrations and it was great to open our doors to the community. The Village Hall Committee did a fantastic job of organising an event that was enjoyed by many, despite the rain!



### MUGA—Community bookings

Finally, I would like to thank the Parish Council for their generous donation to help us resurface our MUGA. The MUGA will be open to the public at weekends from 13th August—to book please see our Facebook page [St Andrew's Community MUGA | Facebook](#)

*Steph Burgoyne, Interim Head of School*

### 'Work, rest and play'



We are just approaching holiday season again, perhaps a time to go away to the beach somewhere, or trekking in the Lake District or to simply holiday at home. Just taking time out of what, for many people has returned this year to being the rigours of our usual weekly routine is a good thing every now and again. We all need a break.

Now, I wonder when you last had a Mars bar?

No- I haven't gone 'off piste' this month into advertising! But in thinking about work-life balance – work and rest - I had a sudden flashback to the old television adverts for Mars –' *A Mars a day helps you work, rest and play*'. This was a fabulous slogan first adopted for the chocolate bar in the 1960s, dropped in 1997 but re-introduced briefly ten years later with a video of monks bellringing! I'm sure you must have seen that, but if not, it's available on YouTube!

We all need work, rest and play and getting the balance right is important for our physical and mental health. None of us can go flat out at work without risking 'burn-out' and none of us can just rest without losing the ability to move and be productive, and if life was just play I'm not sure what we might achieve in life. But many of us find it difficult to get the balance right.

And what about our spiritual wellbeing? How often do we wonder if we are achieving the right balance there, or ignoring our spiritual needs completely.

Jesus knew how to withdraw often and find space and time to 'just be', to connect with God and to pray. He knew the importance of getting the balance right and in doing so was better equipped and able to be there for others to help them to achieve inner peace and rest. He said:

*"Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."*

*Matthew 11:28-30*

This July, why not re-evaluate your 'work, rest and pray' balance and see if any adjustments need to be made. Jesus is waiting to hear from you.

As for practical news from St. Andrew's, Great Ness...now all restrictions have been lifted, normal services has resumed. We hold Evensong at 6:30pm during the summer and 4:00pm from November -March on the first Sunday of the month and Holy Communion at 10:30pm on the fourth Sunday. From September, there will also be a more relaxed service every third Sunday afternoon for families and others who want to explore the Christian faith through creation and other means which will alternate between Ruyton and Nesscliffe School.

I would also like to draw your attention to the fact that we now run a babies and toddler group the 2nd and 4th Friday of the month from 10-11:30am in the Victoria Room at Ruyton and all are welcome. We already have a number of Nesscliffe attendees.

Finally, sadly, the church cannot always be open due to our resident bat colony. If anyone knows how we may encourage them to move, please contact me on 01939 261234 or [revlucinda@blaze.org.uk](mailto:revlucinda@blaze.org.uk).

**Blessings, Rev. Lucinda Blaze**



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## Nesscliffe Hills & District Bridleway Association – Parish Path Partnership (P3) Group

Our group covers a large area of northern Shropshire, which includes Great Ness & Little Ness Parishes. We keep routes clear of overgrowth where we can, waymarking etc., and we report problems to, and work with, Shropshire Council's Outdoor Partnership Teams on Public Rights of Way issues and enforcement. This has recently included the ongoing issue of the obstructed Bridleway BW25B at the Nesscliffe Hotel, the broken latch and dropped gate on BW4 Startlewood, and drainage issues on BW21 Lower Hopton. We still await the reinstatement by Shropshire Council of the BW54 bridge, and the adjacent ford BWUN10, at Adcote Mill.

We do regular checks around the Country Park, reporting any problems or obstructions to the Nesscliffe Countryside Heritage Park Manager, and the Country Park Ranger. Recently this has included the need for clearing back of encroaching side growth on some of the routes, damage to picnic tables, and damage to, and moving of fingerposts, which impacts on visitors to the site. We update them on work we have done there, waymarking, clearing back overgrowth, removing rubbish etc., and clearing smaller timber off routes, which has recently included a large branch across the Bridleway alongside the Shrubs Common, Valeswood.

**Zia Robins**

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## Nesscliffe Village Hall

The Village Hall Committee have continued to manage the premises throughout the pandemic and have met whenever possible (even on the car park!) to progress improvements to and general maintenance of the facilities. With the help of grants both from the parish council and Shropshire Council's Covid funds, the floor, which has long been a concern, has been replaced. In addition new chairs have been bought. The Committee has also purchased and installed a defibrillator on the front of the hall.



Local clubs have returned for their regular slots at the hall and it is once again open for bookings. The committee have undertaken a review of charges, taking into account the rise in energy costs, and modest increases have been made. The new charges are available on the website page [www.nesscliffe.org.uk/nesscliffe-village-hall/](http://www.nesscliffe.org.uk/nesscliffe-village-hall/) and concessions are available for local organisations and groups.

The hall has great facilities including a stage, kitchen facilities with crockery etc. available, a bar area and tables/chairs. Hire charges are very reasonable, so if you are considering celebrating an event or just need a room for a meeting then contact Joan Evans on 01743 741644.

A picnic was held on 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2022 to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee. Groups from the village and surrounding areas came together to organise the event and particular thanks go to St Andrew's School who hosted the event. Typical British weather did not dampen spirits and there was a good turn out with much fun had by all that attended.

The committee are now planning events for autumn/winter 2022/23. Look out for further information that will be posted on local Facebook pages and noticeboards.

## Baschurch Station Campaign

A public campaign has been launched to support the re-opening of Baschurch railway station.

The land required for the station car park is currently the subject of a planning application, on the infill land between Boreatton Fields and King's Moat developments.

Shingler Homes have worked with Baschurch Parish Council and will be offering the station car park land as a community benefit.

Great Ness and Little Ness Parish Council will be following progress with keen interest.



To be kept informed about the Baschurch Railway Station Campaign, visit their Facebook page [Baschurch Railway Station Campaign | Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/Baschurch-Railway-Station-Campaign/) or email [baschurchstationcampaign@baschurchpc.org.uk](mailto:baschurchstationcampaign@baschurchpc.org.uk)

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## Little Ness Village Hall



We had a very pleasant time at our Queen's Jubilee day with a tree planted and seat unveiled in the village hall grounds, followed by a free wine and cheese party for all. The two oldest ladies of the parish, Mrs Joy Burnett, who will be 100 in September, and Mrs Hilda Glover who will be 100 in October, helped plant the crab-apple tree and the new seat has a brass plaque on it to commemorate the occasion. Around 100 people attended who were also able to watch film footage of the Queen's record-breaking reign. We would like to thank the parish council for their financial help in funding this event.

With the jubilee behind us we are now planning our winter programme of events and will be publicising these shortly. Our bookings continue to flourish with regular sessions of yoga and pilates held in the hall and the possibility of a table tennis club being formed soon. As ever, we are looking for more use of the hall and if anyone has an idea for a small hall like ours please contact Mrs Monica Nunn on 01939 261374.

**Colin Knox, Chairman Little Ness Village Hall**

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## Nesscliffe Rounders Team

Every March there is a little buzz in the air around Nesscliffe as the start of the rounders season is in sight. The posts and bats are dusted down as players emerge from the winter with a spring in their step to start practising for the season ahead. It's always good to get back together and this year was especially exciting as we returned to a full list of fixtures, the first time since 2019, pre-pandemic.

Nesscliffe Rounders Team was established over 10 years ago with support from the Parish Council, a small grant from Shropshire Council and lots of enthusiasm from a group who didn't know the rules, some who had never played team sport before but who wanted to get active and make friends.



The 2022 Season was looking daunting as we are in Division 1 and the standard is high. However, we are doing well and currently sitting third in the table. We are a mixed bag of shapes, sizes, ages and abilities. Whether we win or lose we have lots of laughs and have made great friendships. At the end of the season we do something completely different like going on the Snowdonia Zip wire, Segway-ing or a Spa Day. Any excuse to have some fun.

We are always pleased to welcome new players and it is testimony to the team and the rounders we play that we still have players from that very first season. Our home matches are played on Wednesday evenings at the playing fields in Nesscliffe, so come along and take a look and maybe we can tempt you to join.

**Shelly Hurdley, Nesscliffe Rounders Team**

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## Nesscliffe Hill Country Park

It was a pleasure to attend the July Council meeting and I am keen to progress the improvements we discussed.



This is a call for volunteers to help with the archaeological dig which started on Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> July. Everyone is looking forward with excitement as to what this year's dig will reveal. There is also a clear desire by the archaeologists to engage with the community more, during the dig and afterwards going into winter, when they would be prepared to visit the schools and other community groups. This wasn't really possible in 2021 due to Covid. We will have virtual walkthroughs taken during the digs, so the community can see what has been discovered close-up.

With regards to the archaeological volunteering, the dig commences on Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> July and lasts 3 weeks. Volunteers are invited to come and help, with a minimum commitment of 1 day, as each volunteer will require a degree of training.

Please see our website and the Nesscliffe Community Facebook page, on which is last year's Virtual Interactive Walkthrough of the dig: [www.shropshiregreatoutdoors.org.uk](http://www.shropshiregreatoutdoors.org.uk)

**Shaun Burkey, Countryside and Heritage Sites Manager (North), Shropshire Council**

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## Great Mess to Little Mess Community Projects

With the weather warming significantly, there has been many a person walking the lanes collecting litter. Thank you! The lanes are looking good but there is always more to do. With the school summer holiday beginning, if anyone wants to borrow litter picking sticks/hoops when they go for a walk, we do have both adult and children-sizes equipment available. Full instructions given... Please text Claire on 07833 209 635 to arrange for equipment collection.

We are planning a number of community group activities in August, September and October. This will include litter picking, erecting bird boxes and tree planting. Please keep an eye on the Great Mess to Little Mess Facebook page for further announcements in due course and give our page a "Like".

Following our success with selling the aluminium can collection, we are wanting to start again in collecting and building up several tonnes of aluminium. Please gather a carrier bag of your aluminium cans: Cola, Red Bull, lager, etc., and then keep passing the bags to Jim Diggory.

Great Mess is a lovely, friendly group that welcomes your ideas and new volunteers. If anyone would like to get involved we are looking for someone with a numerical brain to keep a tally of the amount of litter picked and measure our impact. Please get in touch with us.

**Jim Diggory, Alison Mullis, Claire Dickinson**