

# **LONG ASHTON & LEIGH WOODS NEWSLETTER**



**SUMMER 2005**

# JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2005

Please note that this Newsletter, whilst preserving strictly a non-political nature, provides a forum for the views of the people of Leigh Woods and Long Ashton. The members of the Parish Council do not necessarily share those views.

Un-attributed articles however are meant in general to be for the information and entertainment of the public and are largely authoritative.

The Editorial Group reserve the right to accept, reject or edit any material submitted for publication.

Marilyn Addis

Jean Pullin

Mary Uppington

EDITORIAL GROUP

*By submitting articles for publication  
you are also giving approval that they can also be used  
on the parish council website.*

## DISTRIBUTION

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Tel: 393540

Leigh Woods      Audrey Moser CBE      11 Ardmore  
Vicarage Road, Leigh Woods  
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Future Copy should be clearly labelled 'NEWSLETTER' and sent to

**45 Long Ashton Road, Bristol BS41 9HW.**

The CLOSING DATE for copy for the next edition covering the 4 months  
November / December 2005 & January / February 2006 is

**midday 1st October 2005.**

© Editorial Group

# CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

## **Time Waits for no-one**

Time has seemed to fly over the last 2 years as Sheila Hardingham stands down from an eventful term as Chair Person. We are all thankful for her many hours of dedication, wisdom and tact. The village having gained a Quality Council Award also gained a CPRE Village of the year award in North Somerset.

A hard act to follow.

A vote of thanks also goes to our Clerk Marilyn Addis for her expertise in gaining these awards.

## **Times they are a changing**

Parts of the village are undergoing huge change which is impacting on many people's lives. Lots of buildings and the proposed sport and leisure area on the old Research Station are making residents unhappy. As a Council we try to listen to everyone's concerns, using compromise, to act within the Planning Laws as laid down by Government. Our views and advice are then sent to North Somerset Council who make the final decision.

A new school much needed to replace the old village school is well under way, hopefully to cope with the extra new generation coming to live in the village.

## **Time to make a stand**

Vandalism, rubbish, dog mess, theft and abuse all part it seems of village life.

But it is TIME WE STOOD UP AS VILLAGERS AND SAID ENOUGH, we only get what we are prepared to fight for as the last world war proved.

The Police need our help.

## **A Bright Time**

The Village Festival was an excellent event and thanks to all who took part or helped organise it.

Having been given the honour of Chairman for the ensuing term complete with a new steel helmet, I look forward to meeting many residents at functions in the near future.

**Ivor Scoones, Chairman, L.A.P.C.**

The Council minutes are held in the Library and can be found on our website.

## **Best Kept Road and Cul-De-Sac Competitions**

The Parish Council has for many years run its own Best Kept Road and Cul-De-Sac competitions.

Judging will take place during the summer and results will be announced in the October Newsletter.

Grants have been given to local organisations and those associated with the area. They include:

Youth Provision (LA)	£3,000
Community Transport	550
NS Citizens Advice Bureau	50
St. John's Ambulance, Nailsea	30
NW Central Co-ordinator	150
Drug Misuse	100
LA Cricket Club	200
Village Festival	200
Birdwell School CCTV	200

Mrs. M Addis, Clerk to Long Ashton Parish Council,  
45 Long Ashton Road, Bristol BS41 9HW  
Tel: 393551 E-mail: [clerk@longashtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@longashtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

# Long Ashton Library - North Somerset Council

Lovelinch Gardens, Long Ashton BS41 9AH  
Tel: 01275 392358 • E-mail: [longashton.library@n.somerset.gov.uk](mailto:longashton.library@n.somerset.gov.uk)

## ***Calling all children!***

The summer reading game starts on 11th July! If you are aged 4 - 11 come and register for this year's "The Reading Voyage". This will enable you to collect a sticker on each library visit you make between 11th July and 17th September. Collect 6 stickers to complete the game and you will receive a certificate and medal! It's fun, you'll enjoy reading some great stories and you'll be joining thousands of other children all over the country who will be doing the same thing! Don't miss out!

## ***Looking for a local club, society or group?***

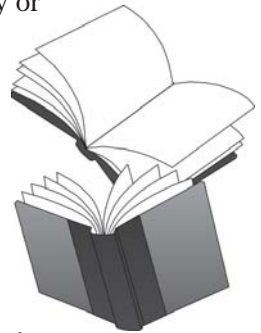
Go to [www.clearasmud.org.uk](http://www.clearasmud.org.uk), a free database giving details of not-for-profit groups and their activities in North Somerset.

## ***Promoting a local club, society or group?***

- Ask for a registration pack at any North Somerset Library or
- Register on-line at [www.clearasmud.org.uk](http://www.clearasmud.org.uk) or
- Contact, with details of your name, address and group

Clearasmud, Weston Library, The Boulevard,  
Weston-super-Mare, BS23 1PL  
[info@clearasmud.org.uk](mailto:info@clearasmud.org.uk)  
01934 636 638

Group details : entries are free, easily updated and secure.



## ***Planning Applications***

It is now possible to view these on-line at [www.n-somerset.gov.uk](http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk)

## ***Holidays***

Don't forget that if you are borrowing books for your holidays the normal loan period can be extended to cover your time away.

## ***Opening Times***

Tues and Thurs	-	10 - 1 and 2.30 - 5.30
Fri	-	10 - 1
Sat	-	9.30 - 12.30

\*\*Please remember to bring your library card with you when you visit the library\*\*

Liz Youngs / Jackie Troth (Library Assistants)

# What Can Tree Wardens Do?

Tree Wardens are volunteers who represent a Parish Council or community group and act as a local contact for matters relating to trees such as encouraging tree planting projects, tree surveys or tree walks.

Tree Wardens are not expected to be experts but should have a genuine care for trees and woodlands.

Their work can comprise as little or as much of the three key areas below:

- Gathering information including observation and recording of trees and woodlands in your area e.g. location, species, age and condition. If any survey has been carried out, see if you can obtain a copy. You may even wish to try doing your own survey.
- Local Liaison: many people would prefer to have a local contact in the community who can give them information rather than having to contact the local authority. Local schools and societies may also welcome a talk on tree planting and after care.
- Practical Projects: you may wish to organise or encourage others to organise practical tree events. Encouraging others is the key because you cannot undertake all the possible projects. Community involvement is a main objective as there are so many ways in which local people and organisations can gain enjoyment from sharing in this work.



## TREE WARDEN WANTED

Mr. Andressen has retired as Tree Warden after 5 years voluntary service to the community and we are looking for his replacement.

If you are interested in this voluntary position, details about what the job entails is given elsewhere, then please contact Marilyn Addis - Tel 393551.

# LONG ASHTON AND LEIGH WOODS DIRECTORY

We plan to publish the 4th Edition of the Village Directory later this year. Sponsored by the Parish Council, the Directory is packed full of useful information, particularly for newcomers to the area. However, it is only of any use if the information is up to date.

We are currently contacting organisations and people who appeared in the previous edition, so that we can up-date their details.

If you are involved with anything NEW that goes on in Long Ashton or Leigh Woods PLEASE help us by telling us about it - who to contact, when, where, etc.

We would also welcome suggestions on ways in which the directory might be improved: for example, are we giving the information people need? Are we giving sufficient detail? Is there anything else we ought to include?

Thank you for your help.

Sara Taylor 392497

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## The Royal British Legion Long Ashton Branch



To commemorate the 60th Anniversaries of VE and VJ Days the Long Ashton Royal British Legion will be having a Service of Dedication on Sunday 10th July, taking place at the RBL Club in Long Ashton at 2.30 pm.

A new Garden of Remembrance and Indoor Memorial will be Dedicated in the presence of Dr. Liam Fox MP, Councillor Bob Cook, Chairman North Somerset Council, Councillor Ivor Scoones, Chairman Long Ashton Parish Council and many others. The Service will be conducted by Rev. Kelvin Williams, County Chaplain of the RBL.

Madame Andree Peel and Veterans of WWII will be presented with Veterans Badges and Certificates following the service.

The Cooperative Funeralcare of Nailsea has donated the Garden of remembrance Headstone and the Parish Council has donated the Indoor Memorial.

This is a Village occasion with Scouts and Guides giving readings during the Service, and a chance for us all to say thank you for the sacrifices the people of this village gave to give us the freedom we enjoy today.

# Long Ashton Community Association News

Improvements to the Village Hall complex are always ongoing, and the recent addition of new doors to the main hall has smartened the outside appearance.

We are aware we have a responsibility under the DDA to make our facilities accessible to all. We are endeavouring to secure grant funding to enable us to put in an Induction Loop system in the Village Hall and improve access. We are also exploring funding to replace the swings in the playground. The old swings had to be removed in the winter because they were unsafe.

An urgent request to all dog owners - when walking your dog please be vigilant to collect all your dog mess and put it in the bins provided, which are situated at various places throughout the village. Don't forget - it is a fineable offence not to do so.



**'The Cafe'** - open Fridays 10.30 - 12 noon in the Club Room at the Community Centre. Why not meet old friends and make new ones over coffee and biscuits? All are welcome.

*Please note 'The Cafe' will be closed for the school summer holidays, from July 29th. Re-opening Friday 2nd September.*



## *Footpath Walks*

Sundays 3rd July, 7th August, 4th September and 2nd October.

Meet at 2.30 pm outside C.J. Holes.

# ST. KATHERINE'S

## CELEBRATES OFSTED SUCCESS

Students, staff and governors at St. Katherine's School in Pill, North Somerset, are celebrating after receiving a very successful OFSTED report. The inspection team's verdict is that the school is 'a good and rapidly improving school', which has made very good progress since the last inspection.

The report praises the quality of teaching and learning throughout the school and the standards achieved by the students. The sixth Form also did particularly well as did the provision the school makes for children with physical difficulties.

The head teacher, Mrs. Andrea Arlidge, was described by the inspectors as 'outstanding', the highest Ofsted accolade. Their verdict is that she 'has achieved a great deal in five years, principally because of outstanding leadership. She has committed herself to accepting only the best for pupils and staff and has been willing to lead by example in pursuit of high standards'.

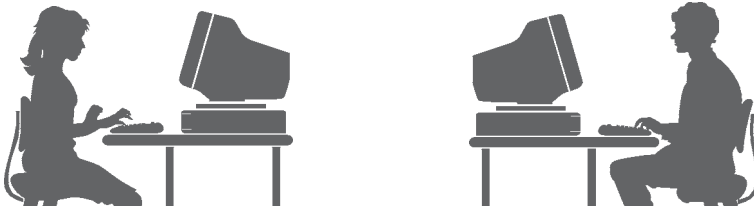
"St. Katherine's is a fantastic school and I am very proud to be able to show our community what we do and how well our students achieve".

If you would like to know more about the report please contact the Headteacher, Andrea Arlidge, who will be delighted to discuss it with you.

To do so please contact the head's PA on 01275 376852

St. Katherine's School, Pill Road, Ham Green, Pill, North Somerset, BS20 0HU  
Tel: 01275 373737

St Katherine's in an 11-18 comprehensive with 1015 students on roll, 117 of which are in the Sixth Form. St. Katherine's is included in Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Schools' recent lists 'the 100 most improved schools'.





## Girlguiding - Long Ashton District

We currently have about 130 Rainbows, Brownies and Guides in Long Ashton District but we need additional leaders in order to maintain the units. The 2nd Long Ashton Brownie Unit in particular urgently needs at least one other adult to help on a Wednesday evening in term time from 5.45 - 7.00 pm. No particular skills are needed - just a willingness to give some time, an ability to tolerate a certain amount of noise, and interests and enthusiasm to share with a group. If you think you may be able to help and would like to find out more, please contact me or any guider to arrange a visit to one of the groups.

Adult volunteers are welcomed either as Unit Helpers, in which case they do not receive any formal training or as Leaders where training is given and guided by a mentor.

All adult volunteers are subject to checks by the Criminal Records Bureau.

### *Waste Paper*

A paper skip is situated at the Guide Headquarters. The recycling credit we receive is used to support the activities of the Rainbows, Brownies and Guides. This collection of waste paper is supported and approved by North Somerset Council as an addition to their recycling efforts via the green boxes. Waste paper can be posted in the skip at any time.



Jane Penrose, District Commissioner. Tel 393727



## Village Pantomime

Would you like to be involved in any way in making a pantomime happen in the village?

We have a potential script and eager scenery painters - **who wants to join in?**

Phone Georgina Stock on 543956 if you're interested.

# LONG ASHTON JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB



The season started with high anticipation for the under 14 team who play in the Woodspring League and happily ended on a high note. The club who play on the excellent facilities at the Old Bristolian Rugby Club, started pre season training many weeks prior to the September start of the league. This was due to the enthusiasm of Steve Parson and John Jones who run the team. For the second year the training took place on the all weather astro turf under floodlights which gave a great opportunity to work on the lad's ball and passing skills as well as their fitness.

The club has been joined this year by a group of dedicated parents and children who trained along side the older boys and played friendly matches all through the season. The age group spread from 6 to 9 year olds and they play on the mini soccer pitch. The teams have played many of the league sides in the local area using a passing game, which is a pleasure to watch and resulted in wins in almost all their games. An under 9 side has now applied to join the league next season with friendly matches and tournaments on the agenda.

The under 14 season started with a winning streak and had the team 3rd in the table at Christmas with the boys being the only ones to take a point off the runaway leaders Axbridge. January started with an away match against 2nd placed Worle who took a 2 goal lead which the boys turned around to a 4 / 2 victory. Axbridge away was the performance of the season with a 2 nil victory which put Long Ashton at the top of the table for the first time. A tight defence has been the team's biggest asset with only 16 goals being conceded all year which is 14 less than their nearest rival and the reason for Long Ashton finishing as league champions this year.

The club went off to the Winter Gardens in Weston to collect the Championship Trophy and winners medals for the boys which gave a great climax to a very successful season.

Contact Steve Parson on 01275 394136 if you would like any more information about training or playing with the club. With a new season ahead we are looking for sponsorship to cover any part or all of the club for fixture and equipment replacement ready for the coming season.



# A Walk to Remember

**Come and support St. Peter's Hospice  
at a very special event in 2005.**

## A Walk to Remember

will be held at Ashton Court Estate  
on Sunday 18th September at 10.00 am

The route is 10 km (6.2 miles) which will take about 2 hours. You will walk by deer grazing in the meadows, through elegant woodlands and eventually past the Mansion House itself.

Registration Fee    Adult £6.00  
                                  Child £3.00  
                                  No charge for your dog!



For a Registration Form please telephone Ann at the Fundraising Office  
- telephone 0117 915 9328

Registered Charity No: 269177

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## The Wildlife Trust - Long Ashton Local Group

Thursday 15th September • Birdwell School • 7.00 pm  
Pauline Kidner of "Secret World"  
with live animals from her Wildlife Rescue Centre

Thursday 20th October • Royal British Legion • 7.30 pm  
Slide/Talk by Mr. A. Town  
"The wonderful world of Plants".

For more details contact Mrs. J. Williams 392690



# NEWS FROM ALL SAINTS

We are pleased to announce that a new Priest in Charge has been appointed for the Parish of Long Ashton. She is Ann Sargent who is presently the house for duty Priest for Flax Bourton and Barrow Gurney. Ann is a person of great energy, vision and faith and we are all looking forward to her becoming part of our community - both within and beyond the church. Ann's licensing service will take place on September 13th.

As many of you will know Peter Newton has been organising the distribution of our Parish Magazine for many years. He is now retiring and George Adams is taking over. We thank Peter for his many years of service and George for volunteering to take over. The Parish Magazine is a wealth of information about village life in general and if anyone would like to receive it please contact George on 392941.

Janet Turp and Ann Clarke, Church Wardens

## Mothers' Union

### **The Programme for the months July - October is:**

- |              |  |
|--------------|--|
| July 12th    | Outing to Forde Abbey via Chard.<br>Leave Long Ashton 9.15 am                        |
| August 9th   | Coffee Morning 10.30 am<br>6 Parsonage Road  |
| Sept 13th    | "Harvest" Visit by Shirley Penn<br>Archdeaconry President<br>2.15 pm Keedwell Church |
| October 14th | We visit Hebron Bright Hour  |

Visitors always welcome to join in.

For more information contact Angela Chorley - Long Ashton 392777



## **LONG ASHTON W.I.**

Meetings are held in the Jubilee Pavilion or Village Hall at 7.15 pm  
on the 3rd Wednesday in the month.

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| July 20th      | MAGISTRATES - Mary Hodges<br>Competition: Judge made using toilet roll tube etc. |
| August 17th    | 75th ANNIVERSARY DINNER  |
| September 21st | USE YOUR LOAF - Tricia Harrison<br>Competition: Decorated wooden spoon.          |
| October 19th   | QUIZ NIGHT - Sarah and Andy Robbins<br>No competition.                           |



## **WESTLEAZE W.I.**

Meetings are held in the Church House at 7.15 pm  
on the 1st Wednesday in the month

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| July 6th      | SCIENCE WORKSHOP IN A BASKET - Joyce Shafer<br>Competition: Handy Household Hint |
| August        | NO MEETING   |
| September 7th | PAST TIMES - Mrs. Clements<br>Competition: Last Rose of Summer                   |
| October 5th   | MEMBERS' NIGHT   |

# PLANNING

An interested audience at the Annual Parish Meeting was able to hear more information about the Vision for 2006. David Turner, Director of Development and Environment for North Somerset, Councillor Mike Roe, Chairman of The West of England Partnership and Councillor Peter Burden, also a representative on the Partnership, talked about many of the details published in the document.

The South West is important in the national picture. The group appreciate that when preparing an Integrated Regional Strategy there will be opportunities for change and development which will need careful handling. They will be responsible for deciding how and where development, in the South West, will take place for a further 5 million residents.

There is no doubt we shall see a large increase in the number of homes built, in our region, and it is estimated that 4,700 new homes a year will be needed to meet the demand. Initial thoughts seem to be that this number would only be sustainable with a considerable input from the Government especially with transport facilities.

A suggestion for an even faster rate of house building after 2011, giving 5,550 homes per year, has not been accepted by the Partnership as being achievable or acceptable but they are carrying out further work into the implications.

Although around half of the homes could be provided on existing sites it will be necessary to look at the Green Belt. There will be significant pressure on green field land - are the current boundaries sustainable for the future or will alternatives be needed, to the Green Belt, to accommodate extra houses, roads, etc?

Three scenarios have been put forward for sites in the Bristol area and these are being tested as directed by the Government and the Regional Assembly. Test areas include Weston-super-Mare, Ashton Vale, Whitchurch and NE Bristol fringe and we are assured flood plain issues will be included in the testing process.

Further details are expected in the Autumn and will be referred to local communities for discussion and comments.

# PLANNING *continued*

## Research Station Site

While building, by George Wimpey Ltd., is continuing on the north side of Weston Road work has also commenced on the southern side.

Plans for the first 43 houses and flats have been submitted. The Parish Council was not happy with the design of the building which will stand at the junction of the new entrance with Weston Road so an amended plan is awaited.

Flowers and Hayes Ltd. of Paulton are undertaking the Commercial Development (Class B1 - Business) and have submitted an application for 3 office blocks together with substantial areas for parking.

Mary Uppington, Chairman, Planning Committee.

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## Long Ashton Parish Council - Village Spring Clean

The good weather on April 16th helped the band of 19 volunteers who worked hard picking up litter, sweeping rubbish and removing weeds from the area around the shops and Community Centre. The Cubs concentrated on the playground and were glad to be doing something about the rubbish there.

There is a simple lesson for us all:

***If you drop litter, someone has to pick it up!***

If the main public areas are kept clean, then everyone feels more inclined to keep the area outside their own home neat and tidy.

Did you see the Keep Britain Tidy campaign about the connection between litter and rats! The punch line was:

***“The more you drop, the more we breed”***

A salutary warning.

For photos of the Villages Spring clean - see parish Council website at:

[www.longashtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.longashtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)



# LEIGH WOODS CORNER

In the Spring Newsletter we gave a helicopter view of Leigh Woods ....., who we are, where it is and what concerns us.

Let's have a closer look at some of those issues.

Probably the biggest case on our books is one that affects our long term environment, namely the sale of Bracken Hill (the site of the Botanic Garden) by the University and plans of Sunrise Homes to develop the site. There has been a public exhibition, individual dialogue with Sunrise and the Leigh Woods Society (LWS) has set up a working party to analyse the points at stake and represent the views of the village to the various public bodies involved in any decision making process.

Some time in the coming months the tolls at the Clifton Suspension Bridge will be increased by 40%. The trustees have explained the necessity for a hike as being caused by increased insurance, investigation of the vaults in the western abutment and the installation of new lighting for a 2006 switch on.

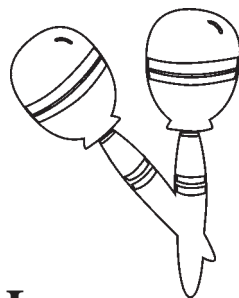
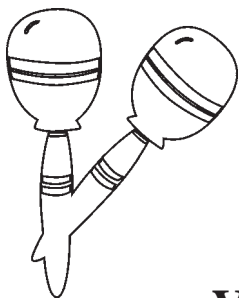
As last year, the Bridge will be closed for brief periods at the Community Festival in July and the Balloon Fiesta in August,. Exact timings were included in the newsletter distributed to residents of Leigh Woods at the end of May.

Of more immediate concern is the ineffectiveness of recently installed 'No Left Turn' traffic signs from the A369 into Leigh Woods to prevent "rat running" in the morning rush hour. The signs turn out to conform neither to the original instructions of the Council nor the Police. The Police Beat Manager and his colleagues have tried valiantly to enforce the law but new signage and positioning will be needed to tackle the problem properly. That said, the rat running does seem to be abating. Gradually.

In a talk to LWS in May, the Beat Manager highlighted the incidence of crime in the area. The Ashton Court events produced the greatest figures.

Otherwise it is theft from car parks, garages and garden sheds. He advised those on foot to keep the absolute minimum of personal effects on their person. His final plea was for us to report all crime and suspicion to help him to establish patterns of activity.

Mike Burmester, Secretary, Leigh Woods Society. Tel: 0117 923 9144



# TAKE ART TAKE PART

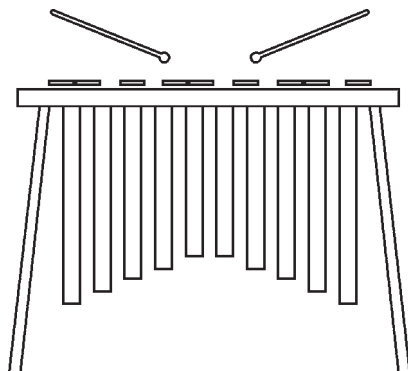
## VILLAGE ARTS FESTIVAL

On 30th April over 250 people took part in a very successful day of activities for all ages, mostly related to the village. We had circus skills, photography, music of various sorts, drawing, morris dancing, a video of village reminiscences, and tea served all day - and all completely free! - thanks to a lottery grant. There was a wonderful atmosphere of enjoying the village together, and the day was rounded off with a barn dance in the evening.

The festival was organised by an informal committee. We plan to put on a similar event at this time next year. We welcome new people, energy and ideas - what would you like to see? new activities? a procession?

If you would like to get involved in any way, phone Val Bond on 392148 or Bill Roberts on 880662. We will be meeting again to begin planning it on Monday 19th September at 7.30 pm in the Club Room.

Come and help make something for us all to take part in!



# CHARITY QUIZ NIGHTS

at Long Ashton Royal British Legion

on the

first Sunday each month

NEXT QUIZ – Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July

8pm for 8.30pm

Proceeds towards seat for the new  
Memorial Garden



# LONG ASHTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs. M L Addis B.A. (Hons)

45 Long Ashton Road  
Long Ashton  
Bristol BS41 9HW

Telephone (01275) 393551

## PARISH COUNCILLORS

Mr D G Aggett	13 Fenswood Mead	BS41 9BL	393876
Mr C Cave	Rudge Farm, Flax Bourton	BS48 3QS	462774
Mr R Cook	5 Warren Lane	BS41 9DA	392518
Mrs J Coulman	contact via office		393540
Mr J Glew	contact via office		392655
Ms S Hardingham	79 Providence Lane	BS41 9DL	393690
Mr M E Harris	Nightingale House, Valley Road, L W	BS8 3PZ	Br. 9735878
Dr P R Jackson	90 Theynes Croft	BS41 9NN	392757
Mrs Sylvia Levy	9 Theynes Croft	BS41 9NA	393868
Mr B May	6 Copford Lane	BS41 9NF	393932
Mr N Moorcroft	Brookside, Yanley Lane		393584
Mrs A Mountjoy	23 Well Close	BS41 9NB	392208
Miss A Moser	11 Ardmore, Vicarage Road	BS8 3PH	Br. 9739876
Mrs A Neale	Eldon, 62 Long Ashton Road	BS41 9LE	392336
Mrs J Pullin	1 Lovelinch Gardens	BS41 9AH	393617
Mr H B Roberts	18 Belmont Drive	BS8 3UU	392395
Mr I Scoones	Failand Lawn, Clevedon Road	BS41 3TN	392676
Mr J D Skeeles	Wellow House, 7 Folleigh Drive	BS8 9JD	392724
Miss M Uppington	35 Ridgeway Road	BS41 9EY	393228
Mr M Wilkinson	Cranbrook, 65 Long AShton Road	BS41 9HW	392381
Mr H C H Williams	35 Fenhurst Gardens	BS41 9AU	392690
Council Chairman	Cllr. Ivor Scoones		
Council Vice Chairman	Cllr. Charles Cave		
District Councillors	Cllrs. Cook and Roberts &		
Leigh Woods	Cllr. Carl Daniel Francis-Pester		
	Coach House, 2 Claremont Hall, 17 Highlands Road, Clevedon BS21 7LW		