PARISH FAIR 27 September 2022 held at Stevensons College

 Object of the fair is for Parish Councillors to network with District Council staff and also meet other related bodies working with the District.

A number of 30 minute seminars were conducted and I chose to attend only one as I was more interested in the ancillary service stands surrounding the main event.

I attended the anti-social behaviour seminar which outlined the process of management of ASB amongst both council tenants and private householder. The incremental step process is the same incremental approach for both groups but handled by different teams. The process is clear, and begins with a written complaint that is not anonymous, this is then investigated and the parties involved visited and advised of their positions. If the ASB continues for a protracted period the complaint moves to Mediation, if that fails there is always recourse to either eviction or implementation of the Police reform and social responsibility act or the Antisocial behaviour act 2003. Legal remedy is rarely satisfactory because the judiciary are invariably reluctant to make families homeless. In short the process is complex and slow, taking up to 5 years on occasion to resolve.

Many complaints arise from changes in lifestyle arising from movement of neighbours and this is always a difficult area.

Whilst the seminar was of interest it was too short to really achieve its aims.

1. Commercial street cleaning Team: Foreman Dean Hughes 01530 454545. Happy to respond to specific requests to clear street debris at a cost of £80 an hour including travelling. He was keen to point out that his trucks could clean roadside drainage gullies to a depth of 1.2 meters and the cost is still £80 an hour (min 1 hour) and a typical street gully drain should take no longer than 10 minutes to clear. Other members of the street cleaning management group were less keen and indeed less confident that the vehicle in question could clear drains to that depth! I complained about litter left as a result of the activity of the weekly refuse removal and was advised that these men were on Job and Finish contracts which made it a difficult issue to manage. I got the impression that no one was really trying to manage the issue. street.cleaning@nwleicestershire.gov.uk will deal with fly tipping and also try to locate the perpetrators.
2. everyoneactive.com: are the team running the new Leisure centre at Coalville and there is a promotional deal on at the moment which gives residents aged 66 or over full access to the facilities for £27;50 a month. The staff are happy to give guided tours of the facility.
3. NWL COMMS communications@nwleicestershire.gov.uk. This is a small team of I. T. competent specialists who can step in a short notice to help us in the event of an emergency communication need. They also perform a range of other services such as communication strategy design, graphic design and social media design to mention but a few.
4. Multiply LCC is a new group run by emma.chouhane@leics.gov.uk She has funding to help people over 19 with numeracy issues and is currently setting up a cookery on a budget course in Coalville. She has a years funding to spend in 6 months and would be pleased to step in with any social training project that we wish to instigate.
5. I had a lengthy discussion with a planning officer called Sarah Booth, she helped me to understand the mechanism associated with the management of listed buildings, a subject very close to Mr James Whites heart!! The team leader for planning is: Dylan.jones@nwleicestershire.gov.uk should anyone need to speak to him.
6. UAVA (united against violence and abuse) are a group that are working closely with the DC to deal with domestic abuse and safeguarding, they have a website;UAVA.ORG.UK . T/no 0808 8020 028. Stall run by Gillian Halluck who is working to produce a County wide safeguarding policy which should be available by mid 2023.
7. I also obtained a hard copy of the North West Leicestershire Local Plan adopted in March 2021 produced by environmental.protection@nwleicestershire.gov.uk Ian Webster. This hard copy will be lodged with Kelly Grove.

There were many other stalls to visit but time ran out, the event was useful but not long enough and all a little crowded and frantic.

Chris Keeley