

Welcome Chairman's Report

Let's have a moan about the weather and give a thought to our farmers!

What a poor Spring we've had! Cold, wet and windy is the best description I can think of. Like a lot of people I don't want a heat wave but warm still days with the odd rainy day to water the garden would suit me fine. On this note we have to remember that our village is semi-rural in nature, surrounded by farmland supporting cereal crops and livestock. Spare a thought for the hardworking farmers then. They're part of our community and do their very best to ensure that their land is kept in good order. How frustrating it must be for them when they can't get on the land because of waterlogged fields and having the frustration of crops that are not growing as they should. It doesn't seem to deter them, though, as I see them out in all weathers going about their business. Theirs is a lifetime of devotion to ensure that the land is properly tended and their livestock is well looked after. Please join me in thanking them for all their efforts to ensure that crops and livestock get to the market to satisfy our demands!!

Freeman of the Parish

The Parish Council is limited as to how it can thank people who have gone out of their way to improve the quality of life of our community. However, we do have the power to bestow one honour - that of the title of Freeman of the Parish. This is a recognised honour which has been seldom used in Pilsley. In fact we have been unable to find any record within recorded memory where it has been bestowed. However, I am pleased to tell you that at its meeting on 3rd June 2024, the Council resolved to bestow this honour on Don Foster. Everyone knows Don from his efforts to help keep the streets of the village tidy by voluntarily taking out his litter picker and bag several times a week, turning out in most weathers. This assists the Parish operatives in making sure litter doesn't rest long on our footpaths, verges and roads. He's been doing it for more than 30 years and is a well-known figure in the community. What is less well known about Don is that he has also been very active in raising money for a number of charities throughout this time. You'll see more of why we felt it appropriate to present this award

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in this newsletter and elsewhere in coming weeks. There is to be a formal presentation of the title in August, so look out for updates – it will be open to the public to come along and offer their own thanks.

Consultation - What do you want us to do?

The Parish Council has held a number of consultation events since the beginning of the year in an effort to find out what your priorities are in relation to what we, as a public body, can provide.

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Basically, the question is – where do you want us to spend the limited funds we have available for the benefit of residents? Whilst the formal events are now completed and have been quite productive, you can still have your say. Simply go to the Parish Council website and look for the Consultation page or contact one of the Parish Councillors with your ideas. The more people we hear from the better will determine the nature of what can be offered. You never know, you may have the bright idea which will make a huge difference to the quality of life for all the community!

The results of the consultation will be published during the summer and will influence how we invest for future generations.

Hardwick 10k Road Race

Just a quick reminder that the annual Hardwick 10k Road Race takes place on 18th July 2024. The start is at 7.30pm from outside Pilsley Primary School on Station Road. It does mean that Staton Road and Hardstoft Road (and all roads leading from them) will be closed (following application to the local authorities and Police) whilst there are runners on the route from 7.00pm through till about 9.30pm. The Organisers apologise

for any inconvenience this causes. Diversions to direct traffic through the village in safety will be in place. It is just a couple of hours once a year and the event itself does bring a lot of prestige to the village. We want all residents, spectators and most of all the runners to continue to enjoy the event, which has been the case over the last 30+ years the race has been held.

On this note, the Organisers are still seeking voluntary marshals from the village. If you want to get involved, please contact me, Mike Shaw, on 07802 368018 and I'll be happy to discuss what this involves. It is, genuinely, just one evening a year without any further commitment. Modest rewards are on offer to volunteers!!

Don't forget your voter ID!

With a General Election on July 4th looming here is a reminder of the new rules regarding voter ID.

In order to vote in elections new rules were introduced which you may have come across if you voted in the local elections in May.

You now need to present a valid form of photo ID in order to cast your vote.

The photo ID you show must be the original version. You cannot use a photograph, image on a phone or a photocopy of your ID.

You'll need one of the following types of photo ID to vote:

- A UK or Northern Ireland photocard driving licence (full or provisional).
- A driving licence issued by an EU country, Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein, the Isle of Man or any of the Channel Islands.
- · A UK passport.
- A passport issued by an EU country, Norway,

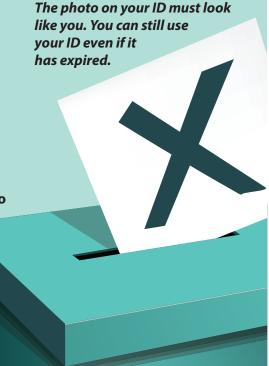
Iceland, Liechtenstein or a Commonwealth country.

- A PASS card (National Proof of Age Standards Scheme).
- A Blue Badge.
- A biometric residence permit (BRP).
- A Defence Identity Card (MOD form 90).
- A national identity card issued by the EU, Norway, Iceland or Liechtenstein.
- A Northern Ireland Electoral Identity Card.
- A Voter Authority Certificate.
- An Anonymous Elector's Document.

You can also use one of the following travel passes as photo ID when you vote:

- An older person's bus pass.
- A disabled person's bus pass.
- An Oyster 60+ card.
- · A Freedom Pass.

- A Scottish National Entitlement Card (NEC).
- A 60 and Over Welsh Concessionary Travel Card.
- A Disabled Person's Welsh Concessionary Travel Card.
- A Northern Ireland concessionary travel pass.



County Councillor's Report

In my last article I reported on the parlous state of Derbyshire **County Council's finances following last September's revelation** that the council was in danger of running out of money because of the way I had been run.

What wasn't fully known at that time was what this sudden need to save £40m over the next 12 months would mean for council services and the people who use them. However, over the last few months things have become clearer and some people in Pilsley and Lower Pilsley are already feeling the consequences.

From this July, the council's new charging policy increases the amount pensioners and other vulnerable adults have to pay for their Home Help Service. That's the service that helps people remain safely in their own home and avoid having to go into a care home or stay longer in hospital than is necessary. I've already heard of people whose bill has gone up to over £1,000 a month and I've seen how worrying this is to them.

The council has also now announced plans to close up to 12 of its residential care homes for older people and ceasing to directly operate all of its day care centre provision, including the one based in Clay Cross. The Council's Cabinet has also agreed to close 10 of the 22 Children's Centres that support vulnerable children and their families. The nearest one, Alice's View in North Wingfield, remains open but

the number of staff is being cut again, this time by more than half, to around 100 staff for the whole of the county. If you want to know more about these or any of the other reductions in council services you can find full details on the County Council's website.

The state of the local roads is a recuring problem and I know that Station Road is in a particularly poor condition. I recently asked for it to be reinspected and although it's acknowledged to be in a bad condition, Highways have told me that there over 300 other roads in as bad or worse condition and so the prospect of getting it resurfaced in the near future looks slim given the current funding.

The village is blessed to be surrounded by some beautiful countryside and many people use the public rights of way to take advantage of it. Each year residents contact me when these paths become overgrown and need the vegetation cutting back. In previous years the County Council's Countryside Service has generally been quick to respond when I refer the problem to them but this year things are taking much longer which I know is a cause of frustration for some people. However, I would still encourage you to use the County

Council's website reporting facility to report any path this is overgrown.

At the beginning of May elections took place for the new East Midlands Mayor which saw Claire Ward elected to fill the role. I've previously written about my concerns about the creation of this post but the majority group that runs the County Council went ahead and supported the proposal. Now that we have a Mayor my view is that we have to make it work and ensure that Derbyshire gets its fair share of any funding. It was, therefore, disappointing to learn that because the current Leader of the County Council wasn't elected as the Chair of one of the new Boards that have been created he has decided to withdraw the Council's funding for the body because he no longer sees any "advantage" for the council. How this impacts on the work of the new Authority is unclear but it certainly doesn't help Derbyshire position when decisions are taken.

May's elections and then the general election stopped my annual door knock of the village but now that they are out of the way I intend to restart. However, you don't have to wait for me to knock on your door if you want to talk to me, you'll find my contact details in this magazine and don't be afraid to get in touch.

Pilsley W.I. meetings

Upcoming WI meetings that are open to women visitors are:

July 9th - The DWFI craft team will be bringing a collection of items with

them to look at.

13th August - the drama group production

8th October - A presentation by two

of our American members

We start at 7.15pm and finish at about 9.15pm. Refreshments provided.

A message from the East Midlands Mayor

It is an enormous honour to be elected as the very first East Midlands Mayor, and I am delighted to have the opportunity to share some first thoughts with Pilsley residents about the future we face together as we work to make our region the best place in the country to live, work and learn.

Villages like Pilsley are the reason I fought so hard to win the mayoral election back in May. People who live around here feel forgotten about. The state of the roads, especially the craters you can't help but fall in to on Station Road and Hardstoft Road, plays into the narrative that our communities are being left to rot by men in grey suits who don't understand or care about our proud villages and towns. As your new East Midlands mayor, I'm determined to put that right.

On May 7th, I walked into a brandnew office that was still being setup. If you've ever moved house, you'll know how stressful and difficult it is to get everything unpacked and working. Now imagine doing that for a brandnew council responsible for £4 billion of public money. However, in my first few weeks, I have led Team East Midlands at the UK's largest investment conference, because if we're going to fix our roads, create jobs, and build the homes people are crying out for, we need cash and expertise. I've set out my plan to regenerate our high streets and boost our visitor economy as part of a wider scheme for Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire, announced plans to appoint someone to oversee better public transport routes, and given the green light to the country's largest local energy plan to make sure we can meet our climate targets and bring down energy bills for everyone in our region. If we can achieve that in

just over a month, I'm excited about what we can deliver over the next four years.

Together, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire are great places to live and work, but we could be better. Better connected, better funded, and better prepared for a future of opportunity and growth. I'm committed to delivering thousands of new jobs and enhancing skills for our future generations. Our young people shouldn't have to move away to find opportunities. Housing is another crucial area where I plan to make a difference. I'll focus on building affordable homes to

ensure everyone has a place to call their own and tackle homelessness with compassionate, effective solutions.

I want to be straight with you from the start. I can't just wave a magic wand and erase the fact that the East Midlands has been so poorly invested in over the years, but by working together with the government and our local councils, we can build a better future for our children, support our businesses to innovate and grow, and ensure everyone has the chance to live a fulfilling life. As mayor, I will be dedicated to making this a reality.

Claire Ward, Mayor



Pictured: Claire Ward

Pilsley Community Speedwatch

You may have noticed over the past few weeks the community speedwatch team on the roads of Pilsley and Lower Pilsley.

Our aim is to make drivers aware of the speed they are travelling through our village and to keep everyone safe and prevent accidents. Especially since we have two primary schools and three play parks locally.

When we are out it does remind drivers to slow down and we hope that they will always remember this when entering our village as you never know when or where we might be monitoring traffic.

We would love to have more volunteers to help us. If you can spare a couple of hours every two weeks please join us. Training is provided - just contact us for more information, email: cllrwhite@pilsleyparishconcil.gov.uk



Help keep Pilsley and Lower Pilsley roads safe for everyone!

Hardwick 10k

Can you beat the hill?

The Hardwick 10k is quickly approaching and takes place on 18th July.

This year the chosen charity is The Children's Hospital Charity, who raise funds for the Sheffield Children's Hospital.

For those of you wishing to enter, entries close on the 1st of July to enable us to order enough commemorative t-shirts.

We are also looking for volunteers to act as marshals on the night.

If you wish volunteer or enter, please contact us through the Hardwick 10k website.

www.hardwickrun.co.uk

Volunteers Needed

All our volunteer advisers are fully trained. You do not need to have any particular qualification or experience, but the following abilities are essential:

A good listener and open minded Able to work with clients to achieve results

Read complex information and explain it Do basic maths

Can work as a team member

Can commit yourself to a certain number Of hours each week

Support equity, diversity and inclusion

Travel expenses will be rembursed





Staffa Health



Hay fever medications

Summer is finally here, although it may not feel like it just yet. Hay fever is a common allergy and is usually worse between late March and September, especially when it's warm, humid and windy. This is when the pollen count is at its highest.

We are unable to issue prescriptions for hay fever medication as this can safely and effectively be purchased over the counter from pharmacies or even supermarkets.

Your local pharmacy can advise you on suitable medications to take.

Symptoms of hay fever include:

- Sneezing and coughing
- A runny or blocked nose itchy, red, or watery eyes
- Itchy throat, mouth, nose, and ears
- Loss of smell
- Pain around your temples and forehead headache
- Earache
- · Feeling tired

For more information and advice please go to www.nhs.uk/conditions/hay-fever.

Health and wellbeing

Mental Health is one of the most important foundations for a healthy and long life. Being physically active is great for our bodies and our minds.

Exercise has been proven to reduce anxiety and depression. It's easy to feel overwhelmed and intimidated by intense physical activity, especially if we aren't used to it, but even small efforts can have large benefits.

- Chair exercises whilst watching the television.
- Gardening
- Stretching
- · Take the stairs instead of the lift.

Small amounts of movement can add up over time. 56% of UK adults said exercising regularly helped them to manage stress.

Local walking groups are available for all abilities in the community, please visit: www.ne-derbyshire.gov.uk/community/walking.

One of these groups meets in Holmewood and there are others nearby in North Wingfield.

If you're struggling with your mental health and wellbeing, there is a simple mental health quiz available on the NHS website. Answer five simple questions and it then generates a personalised plan based on the information you provide, with tips and advice to help you look after your mental health and wellbeing.

https://www.nhs.uk/every-mind-matters/mental-wellbeing-tips/your-mind-plan-quiz/

And if you ever feel in crisis and need someone to talk to the Derbyshire Mental Health Helpline is available to support you at any time of the day or night.

Mental Health Helpline

0800 028 0077

Opening Times - 24hours All Ages

NEW!

Deaf people can call **NHS 111 BSL** via the **SignVideo app** or <u>SignVideo</u>

<u>website</u> for a BSL interpreter to support with the helpline advisor. For more info see

<u>www.derbyshirehelpline.com</u>

Practice Training Dates

Please note our surgeries will be closed for training from 13.30pm, on the following dates:

- Wednesday 12th June
- · Wednesday 10th July
- Wednesday 11th September

We will also be closed all day Monday 26th August for the Bank Holiday.

Missed Appointments

In May, Staffa Health had a total of 254 missed appointments. This is an improvement from April, which was 312.

Missed appointments heavily contribute to reduced appointment availability, so please let us know if you can't attend your appointment.

We do understand our phonelines are very busy, especially at 8.00am. We are looking at ways to improve this and thank you all for your patience.

Please remember you can also contact surgery online by visiting <u>www.staffahealth.co.uk</u>.

Well Pharmacy

Hello, as many of you may have seen in the media there has been a big change in the world of community pharmacy and I would like to take this opportunity to explain a bit more about this brand new service.

Pharmacy First

The Pharmacy First service has been introduced earlier in the year and covers seven conditions that you no longer need to have a GP appointment for.

These include:

- Urinary tract infection (women only)
- · Sore throat
- Sinusitis
- Earache (1-17 years)
- Impetigo
- · Shingles and Infected insect bites.

These conditions can now be seen by a Pharmacist and no appointment is necessary which can save you a trip to your GP surgery.

Contraception Service

Well Pharmacy are now providing the new contraception service where patients can come to the Pharmacy and be prescribed contraception medication without the need for a GP appointment.

This is for patients who wish to just re-new their contraception medication they are taking and/or patients that are new and wish to start the contraception.



FLU Vaccinations

The FLU season is just around the corner and from the end of June we will be taking in bookings as normal for the 24/25 season, this starts in September and the demand for the vaccine has increased significantly over the past few years which is why we start with the bookings early to fulfil the orders. If you would like to book just call the Pharmacy and we can arrange a time and date to suit you.

Other services provided by the Pharmacy include blood pressure checks, Pneumonia/covid vaccines.

If you have any questions, please speak to a member of the pharmacy team on 01773 875550.

Parking around the village

In recent months the Parish council have noted an increase in cars parked on pavements and grass verges.

While not illegal, we would like to remind drivers that pavements are for the use of pedestrians and the grass verges are often used by local dogs. Cars parked

in these areas obstruct their intended use and in the particular case of the grass verges, damage the area.

We appreciate that there is limited parking in the village, particularly around school opening and closing times, so we ask that where possible could drivers please park on the road or in the carpark.

School reports

Park House Primary School

It has been another great year for Park House Primary School. So much learning, events and achievements have happened.

It is the time of year we are preparing to say farewell and wish our Year 6 class all the best as they transition to secondary school but also start to welcome our new Reception class in September. We are so proud of Year 6 and how they have approached the statutory end of key stage assessments (SATs). We don't have the results yet, but we know how hard they have worked and that they will continue to go on and do well. Amongst their transition sessions, they are preparing for our end of year performance with Year 5, with a production of Alice in Wonderland.

This year we have had many sporting achievements with our Year 3/4 football team coming third overall in our interschool cluster finals. At the time of writing this update, our netball team are through to the interschool cluster finals and so are our Year 5/6 football team. Our classes have enjoyed a variety of interschool sporting events from tag rugby, gymnastics, netball to invasion games. We still have a few more events to attend this term, with Year 2 and Year 6 attending the EIS in Sheffield for an Olympic style sports day. All our classes have been learning tennis this term and we are proud to have a pupil representing at a county level.

Pilsley Primary School

As we come to the end of the school year, we are as busy as ever at Pilsley Primary School.

All the children have worked so hard this year but it has been a particularly challenging time for our Year 6's as they tackled their SATs tests. We are so proud of how they settled to the papers and showed us all they had learned in their time with us. They will now be getting ready for transition to secondary school, their school production and of course the residential.

Our other pupils have various trips, Sport's Day and the end of term treat to look forward to.

We have finally seen work completed on the Sensory Pod for our most vulnerable children and they have been enjoying the specialised equipment, especially the water bed! Work is continuing on our new classroom and library which should be completed at the beginning of August ready for the new academic year. The team are enjoying choosing authors and books with the children to help fill the new library.

We also have building work in progress inside school too, with 2 new intervention rooms and a new pastoral room being created from space within school. We are hoping these will be up and running in the next fortnight.

We would like to give a big thanks to the community for their support this year (including filling out Tesco blue tokens pot!) and we hope you all have a lovely Summer break when it comes.

We still have some forthcoming trips, Reception who are exploring transport and how this has changed over the years, will be visiting Crich Tramway Museum, Year 3 have a river studies visit and Year 4 will be exploring about pollution and the impact upon on our oceans at the Deep in Hull.

We have also had a number of visitors to school this year from the Parish Council, where we have been able to discuss different things affecting school and the local community. One aspect discussed has been the issues regarding parking around school at pick up and drop off times. We remind our families about considerate and safe parking regularly. Sadly, the

traffic regulations order outside school hasn't resolved the parking issues and we have spoken with Derbyshire County Council to see if they can try to help the situation. We are grateful to the Parish Council who kindly contribute to us providing a school crossing patrol to help keep our families safe.

We are looking forward to and preparations are under way for our summer fair, which will be held on Saturday 13th July, all are welcome to join us.

We wish everyone in our local community a lovely summer and hope the nicer weather joins us soon.

St Mary's Church

Summer is coming - we hope! It has been so very wet in the past year. Is this just the usual English weather in all its glorious unpredictability or an indicator of climate change due to global warming?

We have a General Election on US Independence Day, Thursday 4th July. I would encourage everyone to go out and vote; even if we don't think there is anyone worth voting for, every vote cast is a thumbs-up for democracy and its associated freedoms, freedoms which most of the world does not have.

As part of my support for democracy, I usually take time off to serve as a Presiding Officer at a polling station in Mansfield. It is great to welcome everyone who comes to vote; sadly, young people are less likely to do so, so please encourage everyone you know who will be over 18 on election day to turn out. If you are away or have a medical procedure scheduled, you can get a postal vote or even get a proxy to vote for you. We have to have voter ID because of past voter fraud but that is straightforward for most people. If you think there are any problems just ring the electoral office at your local council.

4th July is also a good time to remind Americans that we gave the USA away back in the 18th century and have been celebrating every year since then. I speak as one who walked into a camp breakfast on a 4th July in the USA wearing a Union Jack T shirt, whereupon myself and my companion sang "Rule Britannia" to those present. And I am still here to tell the tale!

We have our annual Well Dressing on the second weekend in July and as usual I will be conducting a short dedication as part of the festival. We are reminded that water is so important to humanity, and a potent biblical image. For example, Jesus said: "is anyone thirsty? Let them come to me and drink".

We have had a couple of baptisms recently; it was great to welcome the visiting families and their parties to St Mary's, and the St Mary's Centre is a great venue for a reception afterwards. Children are baptised, or christened, as a choice of a parent or parents to "Christianise" their children, undertaking to bring them up in the Christian faith into which they are baptised. If this seems to much, we will conduct a service of blessing for any child as an alternative. If you might be interested either for your child or yourself, we would love to hear from you.



Pictured: Richard

Finally, I have been on my own as Team Rector since our Team Vicar Lynn Hayler left at the end of April last year. It was announced on Sunday 9th June that James Lee will be joining us as Team Vicar later in the summer. James is married to Beth and they have four boys. They will be living in the New Vicarage on Morton Road. We are so looking forward to welcoming them to the churches of the North Wingfield Team Parish, and especially to this warm and wonderful community of Pilsley.

We look forward to seeing you at an event, or one of our 9.30am Sunday services this summer!



Pilsley and Clay Cross Cricket Club

With the sun finally making an appearance, the cricket season is well and truly underway. Our first X1 have made a solid start to the season and, at almost the halfway mark, are 4th in their division. Captain Tristan Bowers has contributed well with bat and ball – scoring 303 runs so far at an average of 38 and taking 18 wickets bowling.

The second team have also made a strong start to the season and are currently second in their division. Sean Fisher leads the batting with 247 runs, averaging 30, and Dan Haslam leads the bowling with 18 wickets, including a hat trick against a good Sandiacre team. The 2nd team have also progressed into the quarterfinals of their T20 cup competition, with the next round to be played at Pilsey on the 30th June.

It's also great to see our juniors improve. We now have 2 strong Kwik cricket teams (Kwik's is softball cricket for under 9's, or under 11's who have no/little previous experience). We've hosted 2 Kwik festivals this year at the sports ground and both evenings have been very well attended, with teams from Alfreton, Swanwick and Butterley taking part.

Thankfully, the weather has also been kind to us on both evenings! Our U11 and U12 hardball teams are also progressing, with wins against Marehay, Swanwick, Alfreton and Ashover. Both teams are entered in cup competitions, and it'll be great to see how these teams progress this season.

This year, we've launched our Womens Softball Team. They've now played in 2 Womens festivals (at Matlock CC and Swanwick CC). The emphasis is on enjoyment, and with prosecco, music and cake available, all the players have thoroughly enjoyed playing.

The next Festival is at Darley Dale on Sunday 14th July and if anyone would like to join this team, please contact Angela Lowe (07833 718873).



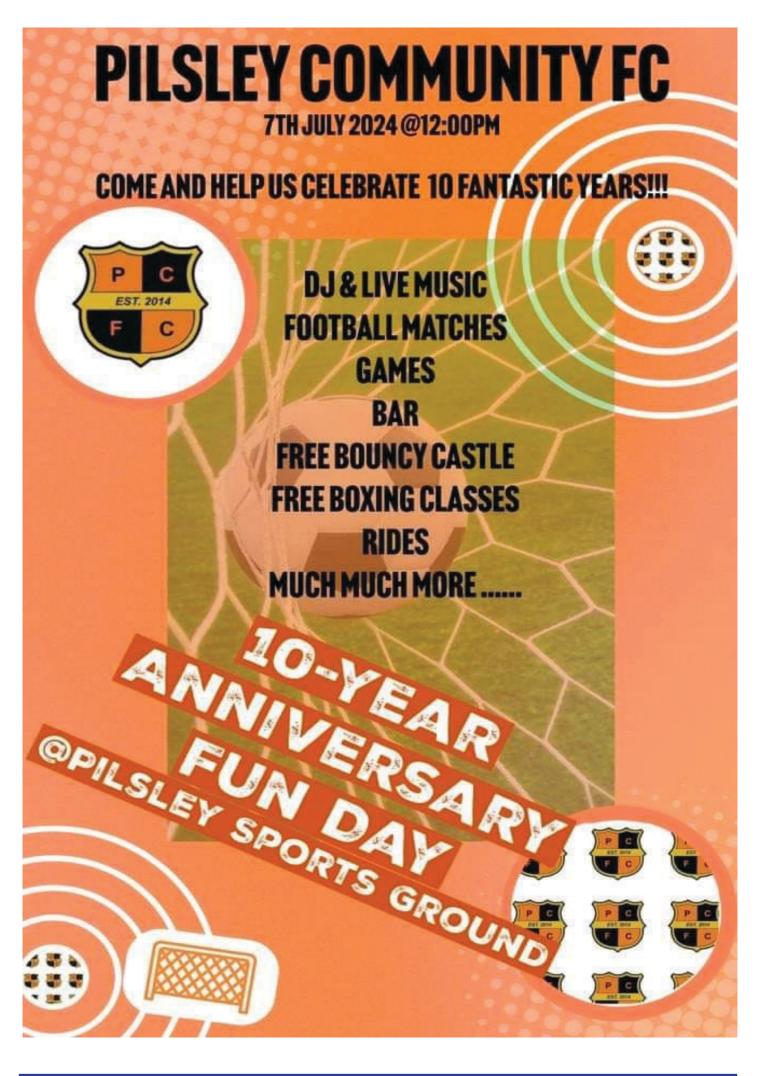
Pilsley and Clay Cross CC is an inclusive club and welcomes new members at all levels and abilities. If you would like to join, or even just come and have a go, please contact;

Seniors - Tristan Bowers 07450 877433.

Womens - Angela Lowe 07833 718873.

Junior cricket - Ian Worthy 07724 986494 or John Worthy 07713 193912.





Your Councillors

Chairman of the Council

Mike Shaw

December Cottage, 54 Morton Road, Pilsley S45 8EF Tel: 01773 590833

Vice Chairman of the Council

Stuart Stone

9 Pear Tree Road, Pilsley, S45 8HU Tel: 07895 151 417

Andrew Cooper

7 Hardstoft Road, Pilsley, S45 8BL Tel: 01773 875053

Daniel Higgon

Tel: 01246 231111 Email: Daniel.Higgon@nederbyshire.gov.uk

Your County Councillor

Kevin Gillott

11, Elton Close, North Wingfield, S42 5HQ

Tel: 07786 702 230

Your Member of Parliament

Mark Fletcher

1 Market Place, Bolsover S44 6PN, Tel: 01246 933048

The House of Commons Answering Service

London SW1A 0AA Tel: 0207 219 3000 Ask for MP by name.

