

Birstall roadworks

THE ROADWORKS currently under way on the A6 near Bentley Road are designed to mitigate the impact of the Hallam Fields development and will cost £695,000.

The costs will be met entirely by the developers Jelsons Limited.

The works are required as a condition of the planning consent for Hallam Fields and must be completed before the occupation of the 151st dwelling.

The roadworks comprise:

- continuation of the southbound bus land from the southern access into the Hallam Fields development past Bentley Road maintaining two lanes for traffic and bus lane.

- new signalised junction at Bentley road to include pedestrian crossing facilities.

- works to provide additional capacity at the junction of Loughborough Road/Sibson Road/Greengate Lane junction. These include modifications to the layout of the junction, installation of new signal equipment and changes to signal timings.

- new pedestrian refuge islands to cross Loughborough Road adjacent to Park Road and Tempest Road

- associated upgrade of existing street lighting network along this route

Fish & chip shop

A FISH and Chip shop restaurant and take-away is planned for the new Sibson Road building opposite Barclays Bank.

A planning application (P/09/0842/2) has been submitted to Charnwood Borough Council by Alliance Planning on behalf of the applicant Development & Estate Limited.

The proposed closing time of the shop, at 121 Sibson Road, is 10pm. There are three units in the development: the fish and chip shop is planned for the unit closest to Barclays Bank.

Birstall Parish Council are objecting to the plans. They say there is inadequate parking which could cause a nuisance to surrounding premises and households and present a hazard to other road users.

Comments about the plan can be submitted to Charnwood Borough Council before June 9.

Emma's interview

A COMPETITION winner from Birstall travelled to London to interview R&B singer Ciara.

Sixteen-year-old Emma Oakes of Wanlip Lane entered a competition organised by the website

www.clubdtv – entrants had to come up with three questions for the American singer.

Emma's were judged to be the best and her prize was a trip to London to interview Ciara, currently promoting her third album 'Fantasy Ride'.

Emma said: "I asked her if she remembered her first kiss, if she could form a girl band who would be in it, and what advice would she have for me, a student at music college and a DJ."

"It was great to meet her, she was very nice, very talkative. How many people get to meet a big R&B singer like her?"

Emma, a student at Longslade College, will be starting a Music and Studio Skills course at Leicester College in September and for the last year has been DJing at Leicester's Zanzibar nightclub's under 18 nights.

To watch a video of Emma's interview with Ciara, go to www.clubdtv and choose Videos, then clubdtvinterviews



Pic: Emma Oakes (right) with Ciara

Parish Council notes

THE ANNUAL meeting of Birstall Parish Council was held on May 13.

Cllr Stuart Jones was elected chairman for the ensuing year and Cllr Tony Fowler vice-chairman.

PC Richard Carruthers attended the meeting and it was reported to him that several lorries exceeding the permitted weight were frequently using Greengate Lane.

PC Carruthers said he was keeping an eye on the new car park and any antisocial behaviour with cars and motorbikes. If anyone is caught, he said, they will be issued with section 59 notice which can lead to the confiscation of their vehicle.

It was reported that there are currently two vacancies on the council.

Comment was made about the continuing graffiti problems and the importance of residents continuing to report it to Charnwood on 01509 634563.

The Council agreed to replace the gates to the Harrowgate Drive playing fields.

Sibson Road assault

POLICE ARE appealing for witnesses following the assault of a 21-year-old man on Sibson Road, Birstall.

The incident happened at around 12.30am on Saturday April 25, as the victim walked home with a friend towards Hannah Parade. A silver car pulled up on the road near the pair and five men got out and chased them. The victim was running away from the group towards Wanlip Avenue when he was grabbed and fell to the floor. He was then kicked a number of times by the group until they asked him to hand over his phone. Once the victim gave them his phone they then ripped his silver chain off from around his neck before leaving.

The phone taken was a black and silver, Sony Ericsson W610i. The victim received injuries to his face and he attended the Leicester Royal Infirmary for treatment to his injuries.

All the men involved are described as being white, aged in their early 20s and had local accents.

Detective Constable Philip Lilley, the officer investigating the incident, said: "The victim has been left extremely shocked by this incident and we would like to appeal to the public for their help in finding these men. We would like anyone who was in the area at the time of the incident and can remember seeing five men similar to those described to contact us. Did you see the men in a silver car on Sibson Road? Did you see where they went to after the incident?"

"Any information you have may help us with our investigation and we would like to ask you to call us."

Anybody with any information is asked to contact PC 1551 Philip Lilley on Leicester 222 2222, follow the instructions to leave message for a police officer and when prompted key in the officer's identification number 1551. Alternatively contact Crimestoppers, which is free and anonymous on 0800 555 111.

House attacked

POLICE WERE called to a property on Bridge Green, Hallam Fields, Birstall at 8.30pm on Tuesday May 12 following reports of anti-social behaviour by a group of young people.

Officers were called to the same property the following day on Wednesday May 13 after an object was thrown through the window. The police are investigating both incidents and are trying to establish if they are linked. A number of young people have been spoken to. No one has been arrested.

The Police are appealing for anyone who saw anything to contact them. If anyone has any information they should call 0116 222 2222.



Wanlip May fayre boosts funds

WANLIP'S MAY Fayre has boosted funds for the redevelopment of the village's Church & Community Centre.

Spokeswoman Pauline Harrison said: "The former coach house buzzed as over 200 people from Birstall, Syston and Wanlip and as far a field as Melton Mowbray, Leicester & Cheltenham, squeezed inside between the rain showers."

"The event was deemed to have been an outstanding success on two counts – firstly, it far outreached our expectations by raising £1,550 towards the £50,000 target and secondly, it involved more households in the village than ever before."

"As ever, the support of local businesses helped enormously, particularly in the running of a very popular raffle but this time the response was excellent with nearly 50 businesses contributing in cash or kind - our sincere thanks to them all."

"Thanks to all the hard work of stall holders and the event delivery team, and all the customers from local villages, this May Fayre has successfully launched a new cycle of fund-raising and community activity – thank-you to all involved."

Pic: Jill Wilson & Tony Marriot on the plant stall

Police arrests

FOUR MEN have been arrested by Police on suspicion of going equipped to commit burglary.

Officers were called to Harrowgate Drive, Birstall at 3am on Wednesday May 13 after a resident heard suspicious noises. Three 19-year-olds and a 20-year-old from Leicester were arrested. They have been released on bail.

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