

## Where has it been?

I know that many of you have been asking for the return of the Doxey Times and I am pleased to say that we once again have an edition going out. You may be aware that The Community Association has had some difficulties through illness etc. but hopefully we are once again more settled. If you could support us in some way then please come to the AGM, there will be no arm twisting, but your presence would be greatly appreciated.

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## Crafty

If you want to learn to knit, sew, make cards, jewellery, etc. or you have those or any other skills and would like to pass them on, then we have just the thing for you. We are starting a group where people can exchange skills, learn together but above all have a good time.

If you are interested, please:

**call Denise 01785 241089**

or

**text her on 0792 356 4094**

giving your **name and contact number**.

She will then arrange for you to all meet up and discuss arrangements.

Incidentally Denise would like to learn to knit!

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## Free advertising

Are you aware that local businesses can put an advert onto the DCA website for free.

If you are interested then please contact Iain via email at:

**webmaster@doxeyca.org.uk**

or telephone him on:

**01785 607771**

## Doxey Community Association

### AGM

**To be held on Wednesday 15th June**

**7:30 for 8:00 pm**

**At St Thomas and St Andrew's Church Hall**

There will be tea and biscuits before the meeting officially starts, so you will have a chance to mingle and chat.

If you are a Doxey resident then please come along and support your committee at this time.

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## Spring Clearout Day

**Sunday the 15th May**

**1.30pm to 3pm**

**St. Thomas and St. Andrew's car park.**

Bring us your unwanted but clean and usable items from 1pm onwards, e.g. toys, games, furniture, clothes, pots & pans, books and tools. If there is anything there that you need then from 1:30pm you can take it away **for free**.

Don't Bin it, recycle it. "You know it makes sense."

We regret we are unable to accept oil, paint, car parts or mains electric powered items for recycling, everything else is welcome.

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## Plants for sale at Aston Bank Farm

No DCA plant sale this year but you can get quality plants from **Aston Bank Farm** from mid May (lookout for advertising boards outside). **You will need to be prompt to avoid disappointment.**

Also for sale **Eggs, potatoes, logs and local honey.**

**Aston Bank Farm** - On the left just before motorway bridge.

# Doxey Fights for Play Space



The last few months have seen the problems of Doxey's recreation spaces come to a head. First the Parish Council were told by Saint-Gobain that the lease of the football pitch would not be renewed as the land was wanted for housing development. This was followed by the erection of fencing and warning notices on the northern boundary of the Saint-Gobain land. This blocked footpaths that, although not public Rights of Way, have been used since the 1950s.

This threat to our open spaces made some residents realise how little Doxey had in the way of recreational facilities and highlighted how vulnerable some of those were.

This led to the founding of 'Play Space 4 Doxey' a group with wide local support including the School, Church, Police, Councillors and our MP. Its aims were 'To Maintain, Improve and Extend the Play and Recreational facilities within the Parish of Doxey for its Present and Future Population'. Its first actions were to support the Parish Council and our Borough Councillors in their attempt to prevent the loss of the football field.

Our Tillington Councillors arranged a meeting for us with Stafford Borough leader, Councillor Mike Heenan and officers. Doxey representatives were told that if there were to be housing development the Borough's policy would be that the football pitch should remain in use. Stafford MP Jeremy Lefroy, who attended the meeting, has written to Saint-Gobain asking them to keep the pitch open to the people of Doxey.

As a result of the meeting, we are hopeful that the football pitch will be saved. However if it is successful, it is only the start. We have not gained any facilities - only saved what we already had.

We need to ensure that there is sufficient play space for all ages and all activities - for toddlers, teenagers, footballers, bowlers, tennis players and for those who just want to walk with or without a dog.

We hope to include a survey in the next issue of Doxey Times so we can get a better feel for what Doxey really wants.

If you have any thoughts on the issue, want to read about the case for Doxey, or would just like to support 'Play Space 4 Doxey' visit our website '[www.doxeyca.org.uk/ps4d/](http://www.doxeyca.org.uk/ps4d/)' or you could: **email [ps4d@doxeyca.co.uk](mailto:ps4d@doxeyca.co.uk), or ring Iain on 607 771 or Neil on 07837 015 096.**

And remember - if you feel strongly about this - tell the candidates in next month's borough council election on May 5th.

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## Reminders

### **Coffee Morning**

Every Monday  
from 10.30am  
at the Sutton Centre

### **Parish Council meeting**

Second Thursday of the month  
7.00 p.m. at The Sutton Centre.  
All welcome.

### **Doxey Community Association**

2nd Wednesday of the month  
At 7.30pm  
at the Sutton Centre  
(except June due to AGM)  
Please come along and tell us how you feel  
about the area and what can be done to  
improve it.