

BEST KEPT VILLAGE

The Parish Council often gets invited to enter the best kept village competition. This isn't like Britain in Bloom which is judged on the number of flower arrangements, it is where judges check community areas and open space for signs of litter, graffiti etc. We are fortunate to have a team of litter pickers who keep the village free from litter and new helpers will always be welcome but it is an ongoing task and if we enter the competition, we will need residents to get involved with their own area. With this in mind **we would like to hear your views** on troublesome areas in the Parish and whether you feel an entry would be worthwhile. You can provide feedback to any of the Parish Councillors whose contact details are on the back page or you can contact the Parish Council Clerk via the website

KEEP BRITAIN TIDY

In addition to the above, we are hoping to take part in the Keep Britain Tidy litter picking event which will now take place between the 17th - 27th September. More details will be in our next Newsletter.

ROAD CLOSURES

The Parish Council is notified of **major** roadworks and we try to include these on our website, however we are not always notified of minor road works in relation to utility works to the new developments but you can check progress on these on the County Council website www.mario.lancashire.gov.uk/roadworks/bulletin.aspx

HEDGE CUTTING, STREET LIGHTS AND POTHoles

Lancashire County Council is responsible for repairing pot holes and ensuring that overgrown hedges are cut back. Residents can easily report these matters directly to LCC, along with street lighting issues, blocked drains and mud on the road using this link

www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/report-it

SPEED INDICATOR DEVICES

Hopefully you will have noticed the 3 solar powered SPID Indicator devices which the Parish Council has purchased from the Community Infrastructure Levy transferred to us by the City Council. In the next Newsletter we will be issuing a survey asking residents for other expenditure ideas.

GOOSNARGH & WHITTINGHAM UNITED CHARITY

We understand the above Charity has a bursary available to support local residents struggling with higher education costs. Further details are available from Mr Bretherton on **01995 640224**

PLANNING UPDATE

Under the Adopted Core Strategy, Preston is required to allocate enough land to build **507 new homes** every year for 5 years - but developers have either not started building or are building at a slow rate which resulted in the City Council conceding that it did not have a 5 year housing supply. When this happens, the Development Plan Policies - which are used to determine local applications - are given very little weight and there is a presumption **in favour of development**

In our opinion developers took advantage of this and submitted a number of housing applications in and around Whittingham Parish. Instead of refusing the applications because they do not comply with the Development Plan Policies, **the applications were recommended for approval by the Planning Committee.**

Following intervention by Ben Wallace MP, the Secretary of State was asked to investigate the impact of so much development in one area - and the applications were put 'on hold' and the decision notices were not issued.

CHANGE TO THE 5 YEAR SUPPLY

Whilst the applications were 'on hold', the Government issued a Standardised Formula for calculating housing need. If the new formula is used, Preston's Housing Need figure could drop significantly to **241 homes** as going forward, the City Council would not need to take into account the historic shortfall of homes not built.

During a recent appeal in South Ribble, a Planning Inspector determined that the 3 authorities could use the Standardised Formula - which led to the City Council REFUSING the 'on hold' applications in accordance with the Development Plan Policies as it now has a 5 year supply.

Wainhomes have lodged a High Court Challenge against the South Ribble appeal decision. There are FIVE grounds on which the developer is contesting the decision and it is understood that the Secretary of State has conceded on ONE of those grounds.

Currently, Preston City Council and South Ribble Council are standing by the Planning Inspectors decision - until or unless it is set aside by the High Court. **IF** the legal challenge is successful and **IF** the decision has a bearing on the 5 year supply, it is likely that the refused applications will either go to appeal, or will be resubmitted. We will continue to update residents via the GWAOD Facebook page and our website whittinghamparishcouncil.org.uk

LOWER WARD

Cllr. Barbara Clarke
Clybane
802 Whittingham Lane
Whittingham
Preston
PR3 2AY

Tel: 01772 304133

Cllr Bernard Huggon
502 Whittingham Lane
Goosnargh
Preston
PR3 2JJ

Tel: 01772 865690

Cllr Michelle Woodburn
Avenue Cottage
875 Whittingham lane
Whittingham
Preston
PR3 2AU

Tel: 01772 861789

1 Vacancy



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Printed on Carbon-Captured paper

HIGHER WARD

Cllr Dave Hall
1 Brooklands
Whittingham Road
Whittingham
PR3 2AB

Tel: 01772 783538

Cllr Margaret Rigby
Moss Deeping
Whittingham Road
Whittingham
PR3 2AB

Tel: 01772 784573

Cllr A Meades
Thorndale,
Cumeragh Lane
Whittingham
PR3 2AJ

Tel: 07929 825277

FOR ANY PROBLEMS, CONCERNS OR COMPLAINTS WITHIN THE PARISH CONTACT

Mrs Julie Buttle
Parish Clerk
16 Minster Park
Cottam Hall
PR4 0BY

Tel: 01772 761637

wparishclerk@gmail.com



WHITTINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER SPRING 2020

NEW COUNCILLORS

Parish Councils are being encouraged to deliver more services such as grounds maintenance, provide support to local community groups and assist with community activities. They also ensure that Local Authorities are aware of concerns regarding planning applications and traffic issues and they ensure that residents have the knowledge to report problems with potholes, road safety, litter and dog fouling.

The Parish Council needs to be at full strength to deliver the above and we are pleased to welcome **Michelle Woodburn** and **Barbara Clarke** to the Parish Council. Both have worked tirelessly to campaign against the housing proposals in Goosnargh Village and we hope that they will continue to do this whilst bringing new energy and enthusiasm to the Parish Council. Following the resignation of Cllr John Worrall McBride in February, there is still **one vacancy** on Lower Ward. If you wish to apply, please contact the Clerk using the details on the back page.

CORONAVIRUS

Following the Government's advice to avoid "non-essential" travel and contact with others to curb coronavirus, the Parish Council is monitoring the situation, but is likely to cancel the April meeting.

Future meetings will take place in accordance with Government advice as and when it is received. In the meantime, residents may still contact the Parish Clerk who will continue to work from home responding to emails, planning issues and other Parish Council business as normal.

We are aware that residents, particularly the elderly, may need help with shopping and dog walking or they may simply want to chat to someone on the phone. If this applies to you please ring the **Parish Clerk** on **01772 761637** or Kez at the Post Office on **01772 865231** and **your contact details will be passed to local residents** who are volunteering to assist with this service whilst it is safe to do so.

The Parish Council is happy to pass contact details to the volunteers but stresses **this is a community driven initiative** based on the need to work together and support each other at this difficult time. Further details on the precautions required will be explained by the volunteers.