

BEST KEPT VILLAGE

The Parish Council is hoping to build on the community spirit that has come out of the Coronavirus situation and we are making plans to enter next year's best kept village competition. This isn't like Britain in Bloom, which is judged on the number of flower arrangements, it's where judges check community areas and open spaces for signs of litter, graffiti etc. We are fortunate to have a team of litter pickers who keep the village tidy and new helpers will always be welcome but it is an ongoing task! If we enter the competition, we will need residents to get involved and improve their own areas.

Whilst we understand that it is currently difficult for groups to gather and work together on any improvements, **we would like to hear your views** on troublesome areas 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 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 is planned to take place between the 17th - 27th Sept. If the event does go ahead, we will provide more details 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 by using the link on our website to www.mario.lancashire.gov.uk/roadworks/bulletin

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 by using the link on our website to www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/report-it

GOOSNARGH & WHITTINGHAM UNITED CHARITY

The above Charity has a small bursary available which can be applied for by students residing in the parish who are entering higher education. Details are available from Mr Bretherton on **01995 640224**

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 1st APRIL 2019 TO 31st MARCH 2020

The year started with a carried forward balance of **£142,932** of which **CIL monies totalled £124,026** and **Council reserves totalled £18,906**.

Itemised Income and Expenditure for **2019/20** is recorded below leaving a year-end balance of **£172,873**.

During **2019/20** the Council received **£24,347** in CIL monies and spent **£17,482** on 3 solar powered speed signs, an inspection in to the Public Rights Of Way, a new bench and 2 waste bins leaving the **2019/20** CIL balance as **£6,865** - which when added to the 2018/19 CIL carried forward total, leaves a total CIL balance of **£130,891**

The **2019/20** year-end balance of **£172,873**, less the CIL balance of **£130,891** leaves the Council with reserves of **£41,982**, however **£20,530** relates to the **2020/21 Precept** leaving an actual reserve balance of **£21,452**.

Income	£	Expenditure	£
Balance Fwd	142,931.55	Salary, Tax, NI	8042.88
Precept	41,060.00	Admin Costs & Purchases	347.43
Bank Interest	53.95	Website & Newsletter	949.10
CIL	24,347.28	Training	40.00
CIL Interest	507.69	Ins, Fees & Subs	2,054.79
VAT Refund	3,485.82	Judicial Review	2,557.00
Training W/P	20.00		
		Parks & opens spaces	
		Electric & Xmas tree	416.33
		Hedge Cut & Tree Inspect	515.00
		Cumeragh Play Inspections	,410.94
		Grass contracts	3,215.00
		Grants & Donations	
		Whitsuntide Festival	500.00
		Goosnargh Show	250.00
		Litter Picking equipment	79.76
		Section 137	234.00
		(Trinity Church & British Legion)	
		Assets & CIL	
		Solar Speed Devices	1,413.74
		Bench and bins	841.89
		Rights of Way inspection	375.00
		VAT	4,290.38
		Expenditure TOTAL	39,533.24
		Carried f/wd TOTAL	172,873.05
		£212,406.29	£212,406.29

Reconciliation

Bank Balance = **£57,924.41** CIL Fund = **£114,948.64** Total = **£172,873.05**

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

Tel: 07929 825277

1 Vacancy



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: 07920 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 SUMMER 2020

CORONAVIRUS

First and foremost, the Parish Council hopes this Newsletter finds you and your families safe and well during the Coronavirus Pandemic. Unfortunately, we had to postpone the Spring edition of the Newsletter due to delivery concerns but hopefully the following information will still be beneficial to residents.

One of the few positives coming out of the current situation, is the strong sense of community spirit and support for those who need it most. From the outset, members of the community were aware that local residents may need help with shopping and dog walking and a team of **local volunteers** was set up to help with this. **If you still need local support, please ring the Parish Clerk on 01772 761637** and your contact details will be forwarded to the volunteers however, we must stress that this is a community driven initiative, based on the need to work together and support each other at this difficult time.

Alternatively, our website whittinghamparishcouncil.org.uk provides links to various websites so that the most vulnerable (or their carers) can register for help getting deliveries of essential food supplies. You can also access links to financial and medical advice.

If you are feeling isolated and need help, you can speak to someone at **Preston Together** on **01772 906777** Mon - Fri, 9am - 5pm or you can email them on support@preston.gov.uk

PARISH COUNCIL BUSINESS

The Parish Council is holding remote meetings using Zoom to process urgent and statutory business, so please continue to contact the Parish Clerk who is responding to emails, phone calls, planning issues and other Parish Council business.

On the 9th March, the Parish Council was delighted 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. There is still **one vacancy** on Lower Ward. If you wish to apply, please contact the Clerk using the details on the back page.

	PARISH CIL SUGGESTIONS / ACTIONS	QUALIFYING REASONS
A	We have requested a meeting with LCC's Travel Plan co-ordinator to discuss bus service improvements	Planning permission for new developments was granted on the understanding that bus services would be increased
B	We are considering a suggestion to add CCTV following an increase in thefts	Improved infrastructure resulting in improved security for all
C	We are planning to issue leaflets promoting walks around the Parish	As the Parish population grows, more people will want access to local outdoor activities
D	We are considering adding cycle racks near to the parade of shops	Improvements to the local infrastructure reducing the need for car travel
E	Allotments and wheelchair friendly paths were planned as part of the staged development at Whittingham Hospital but are not on the latest plans. If necessary, we may be able to use CIL monies to provide these facilities.	
Please use the space below to provide feedback on any article in the Newsletter or comment on the above. The form opposite can be used to list your CIL suggestions.		
<p>Please continue on a separate sheet or email the Clerk with comments or suggestions via our website www.whittinghamparishcouncil.org.uk</p>		

	RESIDENTS IDEAS INCLUDING ANY SUGGESTED LOCATIONS
A	
B	
C	
D	
E	
F	
G	
H	
NAME	
ADDRESS	
EMAIL	
These contact details will only be used in relation to CIL suggestions	

PLANNING SITUATION UPDATE

Under the 2012 Core Strategy, Preston was required to allocate enough land to build **507 new homes** every year for 5 years but due to developers not starting projects or building homes at a slower rate than expected, the City Council conceded that it did not have a 5yr housing supply. This meant that the Development Plan Policies - used to determine local planning applications - were given very little weight and there was a **presumption in favour of development being approved**.

In the Parish Council's opinion, developers took advantage of the above and submitted a number of housing applications in and around the Whittingham area which were all recommended for approval by the Planning Committee. As this would substantially change the rural nature of Whittingham, Ben Wallace MP, asked the Secretary of State to investigate the impact of so much housing in one area, and the applications were put 'on hold' which meant the decision notices could not be issued.

CHANGE TO THE 5 YEAR SUPPLY

Whilst the applications were 'on hold', the Government issued a Standardised Formula for calculating housing need which meant Council's would not be required to take into account the historic shortfall of homes not built. Using the Government's Formula, Preston's housing need would be reduced to **241 homes pa**.

Following a period of uncertainty regarding whether the Government's lower figure could be applied, when considering an appeal at South Ribble, a Planning Inspector determined that Preston, Chorley and South Ribble could use the lower figure - which meant the on hold applications could be **refused** in accordance with the Development Plan Policies.

That still remains the case now, however Wainhomes have lodged a High Court Challenge against the decision. If this is successful, developers may also appeal against the refused Whittingham applications. Consequently we are waiting for the decision with interest and will update residents via our website and the GAWAOD Facebook page.

In a final twist, the City Council has entered in to a Memorandum of Understanding with Chorley and South Ribble to allow Preston to deliver **410 homes** pa. This is much closer to the **507** homes specified in the Core Strategy and it is hoped it will allow Preston to continue to grow, whilst maintaining a 5 year housing supply.

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY

Community Infrastructure Levy - often abbreviated to CIL - is a planning fee that applicants pay to Preston City Council for most new dwellings and developments which create additional floor space of 100 square metres or more. The City Council is required to pass a proportion of the planning fee to the Parish Council on the understanding the fee will be used to improve local services or infrastructure **as a direct result of the new development or increased population**.

- Since the funding started in 2015, the Parish Council has improved communication with residents by setting up the website and issuing quarterly newsletters,
- Created a new footpath between Goosnargh Play area and the Village Hall
- Provided CCTV and a defibrillator to the Village Hall
- Added a War Memorial on Beacon Drive
- Provided 'Welcome to Whittingham' boundary signs
- Added a new bench and bin to Halfpenny Lane
- Erected 3 solar powered speed indicator devices

We have also commenced an inspection of the public rights of way with a view to publishing some leaflets detailing walks around Whittingham. The next stage of this project is to engage a contractor to repair and replace some of the stiles and bridges to ensure the walks are safe for all.

Other suggested ideas include more CCTV and the provision of cycle stands.

As can be seen on the 2019/20 Financial Report on page 7, the Parish Council currently has approx **£115,000** in CIL monies and we are eager for residents to provide ideas on how this can be spent. Ideas **must** relate to an increase in traffic or the additional demand on services caused by an increase in residents and new housing developments.

Please complete the centre form inside this newsletter to let us know your views both on the suggestions currently being considered by the Parish Council and add any additional ideas you may have. Forms can be returned to any of the Councillors listed on the back page, alternatively, you may post or email the form back to the Parish Clerk whose details are also on the back page.