

Inglewhite Road Sports Village

An outline planning application has been submitted for **220 affordable homes** and a sports village on the parish boundary with Longridge, north of Inglewhite Road and west of Chipping Lane.

Members **resolved to object** to the application because the site is in the open countryside and will increase traffic in the area. 30% of the homes built on new estates must be affordable - more than enough to meet any local need - and the addition of a further 220 - enough to provide over 55% of the total need for the entire City of Preston - is considered excessive. Concerns were also expressed that if the housing is approved, the sports facilities may not materialise due to viability issues. Comments on the proposal can be submitted to [Preston City Council](#) quoting **06/2026/0140**.

Whittingham Primary School

Lancashire County Council have amended the parking arrangements for the **proposed primary school off Henry Littler Way**. The 'pull-in layby' to drop children off has been removed and a larger carpark will be provided. The Parish Council has expressed concerns that the car park is still inadequate - especially as the catchment area includes Grimsargh and Longridge - and Members have suggested that a dedicated school bus service is provided.

As the provision of the school is well behind schedule, the Parish Council is trying to establish how the shortfall in school places will be managed whilst the new school is built.

Whittingham Hospital site

Barratts will soon be starting construction work on the 477 homes approved at the former Whittingham hospital site. Parish Council representatives have met with Barratts to discuss the management of the open space which will inevitably see areas cordoned off for safety reasons once construction work begins.

Please remind children of the dangers of playing near building sites and ensure that they do not trespass into fenced off areas.

There is an agreed route for construction traffic and any problems with excessive amounts of **mud on the roads** should be raised with the site staff who are based at the end of Tansy Road. If the problem is not resolved, please email a photograph of the problem to the Parish Clerk so it can be raised further.

The Parish Council understands that some of the trees are in a poor condition and Members are working closely with Homes England and Barratts to ensure they will be preserved.

Grounds maintenance

As we enter the summer months, the Parish Council has confirmed the renewal of its grounds maintenance contracts for another year. **Millars** will continue to maintain the grassed areas at **Cumeragh Village** and **Beacon Drive** and will also be mowing the Parish Council maintained **football pitch** on Goosnargh Village Green.

Any problems should be reported to a Parish Councillor or the Parish Clerk. **Please may we remind youngsters not to swing on the goal posts!** The City Council is responsible for the remainder of Goosnargh Village Green including the play area. Maintenance concerns in these areas should be reported to the City Council [parks department](#).



As reported previously, the Parish Council has agreed to fund a **teens play area** on the green. Members are currently waiting for the City Council to provide quotes so that the Parish Council can make a decision on whether to finance the **multi purpose equipment** which the City Council had to remove from the play area.

Parish Lengthsman



Following a Parish Council decision in Nov 2024, interest from the Community Infrastructure Levy is being used to fund the role of a Parish Lengthsman. **Mark Cornforth** was appointed to the role in April 2025. He has replaced and repaired several of the Council's assets and keeps the parish clean and tidy by litter picking and assisting **Goosnargh**

& Whittingham in Bloom.

Mark also helps to maintain the stiles and vegetation on the [Parish Council Walks](#) which the Parish Council is planning to expand in 2026. **If you are aware of any maintenance tasks needing attention in the Parish please contact Cllr Eccles or the Parish Clerk.**

Cumeragh Play area

Following a routine inspection, repairs have been carried out to the play equipment at Cumeragh Village. Investigations are continuing to resolve the flooding issues in the hope that the Council can consider replacing the bark chippings with a rubberised safety surface.

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WHITTINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER SPRING 2026

Welcome to the Spring edition of Whittingham Parish Council's quarterly Newsletter. The Newsletter is also available on our website <https://www.whittinghamparishcouncil.org.uk> so the weblinks can easily be accessed.

WELCOME TO MIKE THORPE - NEW PARISH CLERK

Following the retirement of Mrs Buttle, the Parish Council is pleased to extend a warm welcome to **Mike Thorpe** who started his new role in April. Mike was employed by Preston City Council between 1978 - 2021. He is experienced in providing admin support to committee meetings and was the City Council's Licensing and Electoral Services Manager, later becoming the City Council's Licensing Manager before retiring. His experience working in the public sector will be extremely beneficial to the Parish Council - especially as the sector negotiates the transition from district to unitary councils in 2028.

Mike joins the Parish Council at an exciting time as Members will shortly be considering the Feasibility Study detailing the options for the redevelopment of **St John's Church** and should also receive City Council approval to commence work on the **teens play area** to be provided on Goosnargh Village Green. Updates on these and other ongoing projects will be provided at the Annual Parish meeting.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Annual Parish meeting will be held on **Thursday 14th May at 6.30pm** in Goosnargh Village Hall. The purpose of the Annual Parish meeting is to recap on the Parish Council's activities throughout the previous year, receive reports from the police, elected County and City Councillors and hear from local community groups who have benefitted from the Council's support.

Following the Annual Parish Meeting, the **Annual Council Meeting** will be held where the Parish Council Chairman will be elected and the Council will confirm the administrative policies and procedures for the forthcoming year.

The Parish Council's current **Chairman, Cllr Dave Hall** has indicated that he will be standing down from the Council following the Annual Parish Meeting leaving a **vacancy on higher ward** which will be advertised on the notice boards and Parish Council website.