

PLUMPTON WARD

Cllr Matthew Greaves

Chairman

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Cllr Barrie Dalglish

2 Plumpton Field
Woodplumpton
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Cllr Gary Walker

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Cllr Barry Probin

The Croft
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Cllr Martin Stewart

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CATFORTH WARD

Cllr Maureen Entwistle

Wharf House
Blackleach Lane
Catforth
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Cllr Paul Entwistle

Vice-Chairman

Wharf House
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Cllr Sue Yates

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FOR ANY PROBLEMS, CONCERNS OR COMPLAINTS WITHIN THE PARISH CONTACT

Mrs Julie Buttle

Parish Clerk

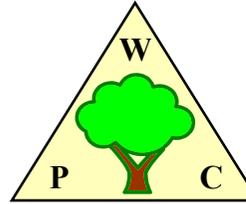
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or visit our website

www.woodplumptonparish.org



Woodplumpton Parish Council's Newsletter and Annual Report Summer 2019

A warm welcome to this **bumper edition** of the Parish Council Newsletter which updates new and existing residents on Parish Council matters.

Firstly, you will have noticed all the new development in the Parish and **Pages 4 & 5** contain important information on how you can help us to shape and influence any further development by commenting on the proposed **Neighbourhood Plan**.

Page 2 contains an article on setting up a **Neighbourhood Watch** area which could help to reduce crime, particularly on the new estates and also includes information on a volunteering role as a **Community Champion**.

Pages 6 & 7 include the Finance and Chairman's Report for 2018/19 which summarises the progress made on the **Traffic Calming Schemes** proposed for both Catforth and Woodplumpton.

Woodplumpton Village Fete will take place on Woodplumpton Playing Fields on **Sat 7th Sept** from **12.00**. Attractions include children's rides and entertainment, climbing wall, highland pipe band and various craft stalls. Entertainment continues in The Wheatsheaf Public House with **free** Pie & Peas and **Fireworks on the field at 9pm**. If you are interested in helping on the day or wish to run one of the stalls, please contact Matthew Greaves on **07727 989236**.

Parish Council Meetings

Meetings take place on the 3rd Monday in the month and alternate between **Catforth Primary School** and **Woodplumpton Parish Rooms** at the rear of St Anne's Church. Meetings start at **7.00pm** and there is usually a **time limited** session for public participation. Matters requiring a Council decision must be included on the Agenda at least 4 days prior to the Meeting. Further information is available from the Clerk. The Agenda, Minutes and local news affecting the Parish can be downloaded from our website www.woodplumptonparish.org

Future meeting dates are

WOODPLUMPTON

15th July 2019

21st October 2019

20th January 2020

16th March 2020

CATFORTH

16th September 2019

18th November 2019

17th February 2020

20th April 2020

18th May 2020 (Annual Meeting)

Uniformed Community Champion

The Parish Council are pleased to support a new initiative with the Lancashire Volunteer Partnership which seeks to put **volunteers in to public services**. Many communities have voluntary groups and part of the Champion's role will be **to work at the heart of the community** to help groups improve their networking connections and increase the awareness of the activities of others.

The Champion will be visible to the public, ready to answer enquiries and assist people in a professional and respectful way, **empowering local residents to help each other to resolve local issues of concern**. The post holder will be under the direction of the Parish Council and will be expected to liaise with local public services and assist in the planning of local events.

Access to your own transport and the ability to travel within the Parish area would be an advantage. Out of pocket expenses will be paid and you will be required to go through **an induction and training programme**. To find out more and apply for the voluntary role visit www.lancsvp.org.uk

Police Incidents

Woodplumpton has always been a rural area which benefits from very little crime, however, with the new building work we are seeing an increasing number of 'visitors' to the area. Initially this related to **thefts from the building sites**, but as the homes become occupied, we are getting several reports of opportunist thefts through **insecure sheds, car doors and windows especially during the warm weather**. As police resources are deployed to areas with the most incidents / crimes, we urge residents to **report any local incidents** as this will help the Parish retain a local police presence. For emergency assistance call **999**.

In addition you can report crimes to the **101** service. Or to Preston Police station on **01772 614444**. Alternatively, you can report them on-line at www.reportitonline.lancashire.police.uk

Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

In March, the Parish Council received a presentation on the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. To set up a scheme, **a resident needs to be appointed for each road or small area of an estate**. The resident, supported by an experienced NHW co-ordinator, hosts a meeting in the specified area and people are encouraged to attend and pledge support for the scheme. The resident co-ordinator will be issued with **signs and stickers** which residents are encouraged to display. Participation in the scheme can lead to **a reduction in household insurance**. The co-ordinator becomes a single point of contact between residents, the Police, Parish Council and the Community Champion. If you are interested in setting up a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme **please contact the Clerk** so we can work in partnership to log and monitor the areas covered.

Parish Councillors continue to represent the Parish on local committees and at stakeholder meetings to ensure **the Council is fully aware of local activities, events and concerns**. We have improved and updated our Policy documents in line with legislative changes and the Clerk and Councillors undergo regular training. We are also working with neighbouring Parish Councils to support each other and provide a louder voice to be heard in local government.

As Chairman of the Parish Council I would like to thank all of the Councillors for their hard work and commitment to the Parish and a very special thank you to our Clerk who continues to work over and above the hours she is paid for, whose knowledge, hard work and research we could not live without. *Cllr Matthew Greaves - Chairman*

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 1st APRIL 2018 TO 31st MARCH 2019

Income	£	Expenditure	£
Balance Fwd	280,435.72	Salary, Tax, NI, Pension	21,420.80
Precept	26,375.00	(includes £5,175 job evaluation)	
Stationery Refund	99.80	Admin & Office Purchases	331.95
Bank Interest	116.09	Newsletter	1,953.91
Lengthsman Grant	250.00	Website	240.00
N.Plan Grant	7,880.00	Fees, Subs, Insurance	1,676.45
VAT Refund	9,659.81	Community Donations & Fete	2,220.00
Bank Compensation	75.00	Garden & PCC Maintenance	2,187.92
CIL Interest	1,665.17	Lengthsman Contract (inc CIL)	9,416.25
CIL Receipts	107,047.00	Lengthsman materials	542.09
		Lights, mower, N Board, WW1	3,328.98
		N Hood Grant return	500.00
		S137	898.00
		VAT	1,029.70
		Expenditure TOTAL	45,746.05
		Carried Forward TOTAL	387,857.54
	£433,603.59		£433,603.59

2018/19 started with a carried forward balance of £280,436 of which CIL monies totalled £250,884 leaving Council reserves of £29,552.

Itemised Income and Expenditure for 2018/19 is recorded above leaving a final year-end balance of **£387,858**.

During 2018/19 the Council received £107,047 in CIL monies and spent £4,500 contributing towards the Parish Lengthsman's work on the Public Rights of Way leaving the 2018/19 CIL balance as **£353,431**

The year-end balance of **£387,858** less the CIL balance of **£353,431** leaves the Council with reserves of **£34,427**.

PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2018/19

Woodplumpton Parish Council met on 10 occasions to consider issues and events affecting the Parish and also attended additional working group meetings to discuss Traffic Calming and the Neighbourhood Plan.

The Parish Council has long recognised residents' concerns around the traffic issues that affect us all. The Woodplumpton Community Action Group and individuals across the Parish, keep us up to date with the concerns and issues that are most important to the community. Complaints are raised with us on a daily basis, whether it's the volume of traffic, the size of the vehicles, the speed or just inconsiderate driving, it is clear that safety and the damage caused to rural roads is at the heart of people's concerns.

We have worked very closely with the Highway Authority and Lancashire County Council Engineers who have drawn up a set of improvements to the roads in our rural areas. **We believe these measures will reduce the negative impacts of speeding and reduce the levels of poor and inconsiderate driving which threatens our safety and pollutes and damages the environment.**

It has taken a lot of hard work and commitment from the Councillors to get to the point where we can announce these schemes of work and implement what we believe to be the best, and possibly the only, option, to make a real difference to the safety of our community. You can view all the plans on our website www.woodplumptonparish.org

Our Neighbourhood Policing Team has been reduced yet again, due to Central Government cuts and I am sad to say Broughton police station no longer houses volunteers, however recent figures show that crime has decreased in the Parish over the previous 12 months. We are in constant dialogue with the Police looking at different ways we can support them such as **Neighbourhood Watch and a Community Champion role (see page 2)** and how they can work better with the Parish Council,

Our Parish Lengthsman, Barry Hill has done a sterling job around the Parish, monitoring and maintaining the stiles, grass verges, hedgerows, litter picking and fly tipping to name but a few of his many tasks. The Parish Council would like to thank him for his continued hard work and would add that we are continually looking to identify and improve areas around the Parish, including the frontage of The Orchard playing field.

We are still busy opposing planning applications that are outside the Local Plan development areas. We are also progressing a Neighbourhood Plan which will give the Parish Council access to additional benefits and support that is required to ensure the protection of the Parish. Once adopted the **Neighbourhood Plan (see pages 4 & 5)** will not only add weight to our objections but will support developments which uphold the village ethos.

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's where judges check community areas and open space for signs of litter, graffiti etc. As mentioned in the Chairman's report on page 6, we have a Lengthsman who completes these tasks, but with the new estates and new areas of open space, it has become a vast area to cover. Consequently **we would like to hear your views** on the Parish and whether you feel an entry would be worthwhile. You can provide feedback to any of the Parish Councillors or contact the Clerk via the Parish Council website www.woodplumptonparish.org

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

Fireworks and Burning waste

Woodplumpton is a rural area and we respectfully ask that residents **consider the welfare of animals** before setting off fireworks. The Parish Council does support events with firework displays but where possible, these will be advertised in the Newsletter or on our website. We would also like to remind residents that it is **an offence to burn household waste which creates dark smoke**, this includes rubber, painted / treated wood, furniture, tyres and plastic. Preston City Council's website has information on how to get rid of such waste and how to report any concerns. www.preston.gov.uk/yourservices/environmental-health/pollution--noise-and-other-nuisances

Environment Agency

The Environment Agency are continuing to monitor odour complaints at Ambrose Hall Farm following a change in farming practices. A Complaints Procedure and example Odour Complaint Form are included in the **Odour Management Plan** which can be viewed on the Parish Council website. In addition, concerns can still be reported to the Environment Agency on **0800 807060**

A copy of this Newsletter is added to the Parish Council website - so please use the electronic version to access any of the weblinks.

NW PRESTON UPDATE

Development in NW Preston is progressing at an alarming rate and the Parish Council has several concerns that conditions attached to the planning consents are not being followed up. 2 prime examples are the construction of a **footpath outside Ashbridge Nursery** on Sandy Lane Nursery and the **realignment of the road outside the Post Office** on Hoyles Lane. Despite the obvious safety concerns, Lancashire County and Preston City Council are not actively seeking to enforce the works and we urge residents to email devcon@preston.gov.uk or write to the **Director of Planning, Preston City Council, Town Hall, Lancaster Road, Preston, PR1 2RL** to support us in our concerns.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

A Neighbourhood Plan is a planning document which provides **Planning Policies for the Parish Council area** in addition to the Planning Policies that cover Preston as a whole. This means the Parish Council can **influence and shape the growth** of development outside the NW Preston area to **ensure the rural character of the Parish is retained**.

As part of the Neighbourhood Plan process, the Parish Council can **protect and enhance the green, open spaces** and can **identify the local heritage and contribution to the economy**. The Parish Council is also keen to ensure that all residents have an **easy access to footpaths and cycleways** to the facilities and amenities in the NW Preston area to encourage a united community and **reduce traffic congestion**. Further information is detailed in the Vision and Objectives on the adjoining page.

Developers must pay a **Community Infrastructure Levy** to the City Council to improve the roads and community facilities in the area affected by development. Currently the Parish Council receives 15% of this - capped at £100 per property on the electoral register. The remainder of the fee is passed directly to Lancashire County Council. If the Parish Council adopts a Neighbourhood Plan, the Parish Council receives 25% of the fee - uncapped - which means **a substantial amount of funds can be spent entirely in the Parish Council area**, allowing the Parish Council to improve, provide and support initiatives which will help us to deliver the Policies in the Neighbourhood Plan.

The Neighbourhood Plan can only be adopted if it is supported by the majority of Parish Council residents and we invite you attend to our first consultation event on the **6th July** at **Catforth Village Hall 9.00 - 12.00** and **Woodplumpton Parish rooms**, rear of St Anne's Church, **13.00 - 16.00**. Tea, coffee and refreshments will be served.

This is probably **the biggest opportunity** the Parish Council has had to **influence and provide new facilities and infrastructure** in the area and we hope everyone will engage as fully as possible.

Neighbourhood plan - Vision, Objectives and Policies

Our Vision is for a Parish that better meets the needs of existing and new residents while maintaining and enhancing its distinctive character and appearance. We want to maintain and develop a strong and inclusive community spirit and greater cohesion. We believe safety and security are key elements for the wellbeing of the Parish as a whole and we are committed to protecting, maintaining and improving our green, open spaces for the benefit of all the community, now and in the future.

Our Objectives *(derived from the vision)*

- Develop and enhance the Parish by actively supporting and promoting a diverse range of housing in sustainable areas, developing local amenities and facilities and supporting new and existing businesses.
- Promote, maintain and improve policing and security in the Parish including the provision of appropriate resources / facilities
- Actively seek and support improvements to highways and pavements to promote safe and efficient movement through and around the Parish
- Identify and improve appropriate methods of communication and inclusion for the benefit of the community (e.g. broadband access, literature, notice boards, community & social events)
- Actively maintain and improve public rights of way, bridleways and green / open spaces and publicise and promote their use.

The above objectives will be achieved through the following Policies, the detail of which is included in the Neighbourhood Plan document.

Policy Number	Policy Name
COM 1	New and Improved Community Facilities
COM 2	Protecting Existing Community Facilities
HOU 1	Layout and Design of New Housing
HOU 2:	Conversion of Agricultural Buildings (falling out of use) within Woodplumpton parish to residential use
ECON 1	Protection of Rural Economy
ECON 2	Support for Rural Economy
MOV 1	Improvements to Footpaths, Cycle-paths and Bridleways
MOV 2	Promoting Walking and Cycling in New Development
ENV 1	Land Use in Rural Woodplumpton
ENV 2	Open Landscape Views
ENV 3	Nature Conservation And Biodiversity

In addition to the consultation event, a full copy of the proposed Neighbourhood Plan is on our website www.woodplumptonparish.org and you can comment using the on-line contact form.