

PLUMPTON WARD

Cllr Matthew Greaves **Chairman**

117 Woodplumpton Road
Woodplumpton
PR4 0LJ

Tel: **07727 989236**

Cllr Barrie Dalglish

2 Plumpton Field
Woodplumpton
PR4 0LN

Tel: **01772 690594**

Cllr Pauline Bamber

Saville Dean
10 Woodplumpton Road
Woodplumpton
PR4 0NE

Tel: **07980 580597**

Cllr Barry Probin

The Croft
119 Woodplumpton Road
Woodplumpton Village
PR4 0LJ

Tel: **01772 690554**

Cllr Martin Stewart

14 Whittle Green
Woodplumpton
PR4 0WG

Tel: **07970 433565**



CATFORTH WARD

Cllr Paul Entwistle **Vice-Chairman**

Wharf House
Blackleach Lane
Catforth
PR4 0JA

Tel: **01772 691107**

Cllr Maureen Entwistle

Wharf House
Blackleach Lane
Catforth
PR4 0JA

Tel: **01772 691107**

Cllr Sue Yates

Raikes Farm
Catforth Road
Catforth
PR4 0HH

Tel: **01772 690342**

FOR ANY PROBLEMS, CONCERNS OR COMPLAINTS WITHIN THE PARISH CONTACT

Mrs Julie Buttle
Parish Clerk

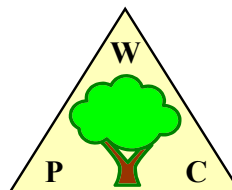
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www.woodplumptonparish.org



Woodplumpton Parish Council's Newsletter Summer 2021

A warm welcome to the Summer edition of the Parish Council Newsletter updating new and existing residents on matters concerning the Woodplumpton Parish area - which includes **Bartle, Catforth** and the new estates off **Sandy Lane, Tabley Lane** and **Lightforth Lane**.

PARISH COUNCIL UPDATES

This edition includes a summary of the Parish Council's Accounts for 2020/21 and a copy of the **Chairman's Annual Report**.

2 residents put themselves forward for election in May and **Councillor Pauline Bamber** was welcomed to the Council in June. Contact details for all the Councillors are included on the back page of the Newsletter.

It has been a frustrating period for the Parish Council. Previously meetings have been held in different venues to make it easier for residents to attend but this has been temporarily suspended due to Covid capacity concerns. In addition, whilst we were pleased to revert back to face to face meetings in June, capacity was restricted due to Covid procedures. Hopefully we will be able to revert back to normal in the near future. In the meantime, you can find out about our meeting dates on our website www.woodplumptonparish.org

Matters requiring a Council decision must be included on the Agenda which is published at least 3 days prior to the meeting taking place. Consequently residents are requested to contact the Clerk **well in advance** if they would like to place a matter on the Council Agenda.

SUMMER FETE

The Parish Council is pleased to announce that the Summer Fete will take place on **Woodplumpton Playing Fields** on **Saturday 4th September**. This is a **free community event** which starts at **12.00** with the Rose Queen being crowned at 12.30.

Attractions include a fun dog show, cow pat bingo, welly-wanging, jazz band, Morris dancers, Scottish pipe band, climbing wall, free children's rides, face painter, beer tent, gin & prosecco horse box, tea, coffee & cakes, 50 stall holders and a hog roast! St Anne's Church (where a witch is buried!) is open along with the village pub (The Wheatsheaf) which will be serving food and drinks. **In the evening** there will be a band in the Wheatsheaf, a firework display and free pie & peas.



This is a great day out, well worth a visit.

Anyone interested in a stall or an activity please contact matthew.greaves@lancashire.gov.uk



ONGOING ROAD WORKS / DIVERSIONS

All of the Parish Councillors live in the Parish and share the local concerns and frustrations regarding the constant roadworks and diversions. Whilst some of this is inevitable as services are connected to the new estates, it is totally unacceptable that neither the Parish Council or local residents are kept informed of any problems or delays.

One such example is the **realignment of Hoyles Lane** outside Cottam Post Office. The planning officer's committee report confirms that Woodplumpton Parish Council requested that the junction be improved **before** the Taylor Wimpey site was occupied - but the City Council did not enforce the planning condition! Work has finally started but as residents will be aware, this has been suspended and 'temporary' traffic lights are still in place. We contacted Taylor Wimpey who replied

The designs for the junction were technically approved by LCC and we have begun implementing that design. LCC have since requested some amendments and this matter is being discussed further.

We will continue to request updates and if amended plans are received, we will add them to our website www.woodplumptonparish.org

ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

The Parish Council works closely with the elected representatives for the area. They often have an 'open door' to more senior officers and seem to be exempt from the standard '*we will reply to your query within 10 working days*' which the Parish Council receives - so we encourage residents to contact them with any local issues.

Member of Parliament

Ben Wallace MP

Constituency Office Address - Top Floor, The Village Centre,
Great Eccleston, Lancashire PR3 0YB

Tel : 01995 672 976

Email : wallaceb@parliament.uk

Lancashire County and Preston City Councillor

Cllr Sue Whittam

3 Hazelmere Road, Fulwood, Preston, PR2 9UN

Bus. mobile: 07890 025767

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Preston City Councillor

Cllr Keith Middlebrough

3 The Hills, Grimsargh, Preston, PR2 5BF

Phone: 01772 705383

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PARISH HERITAGE

As explained in the Neighbourhood Plan article, Members wish to ensure that the distinctive character and appearance of the Parish is enhanced and maintained so Members have been investigating the history behind the **Village Stocks and Mounting Block** outside St Anne's Church and plans are being formed to renovate and make a feature of these important historical assets.

LOCAL FARMING

The Parish is rural in nature and Members are proud of its farming heritage, but as the Parish expands, there are increasing challenges to ensure everyone can live and work together harmoniously.



Strong **farming odours** can be sickly and unpleasant, particularly in hot weather, so when the Council receives repeated complaints, we have a responsibility to ensure the appropriate agencies are notified. Success in dealing with such matters often depends on the number of complaints recorded, so if you have any concerns regarding continued odour please report them to the Environment Agency on **0800 807060**.

The Parish Council was extremely concerned to hear reports that a large **slaughter house** was being considered for an area in Catforth. To date, the Parish Council has not been formally consulted on any proposals and whilst **a planning application has still not been submitted**, Members continue to monitor the situation with interest.

Members were pleased to support 2 separate planning applications for **new farming enterprises** in the Parish. The first, a new agricultural research laboratory at Newsham Hall Lane, was approved in July and the second, relocation of an existing farming business to Hollowforth Lane, is yet to be determined.

TRAFFIC CALMING SCHEMES

As mentioned in the Chairman's report, Members appreciate that residents are eager to see traffic calming measures in the local villages and surrounding areas. All proposals have to be approved by the County Council and progress has been severely hampered as LCC staff have worked on other projects during Covid. However, the Parish Council has asked a firm of Solicitors to progress the necessary legal agreements and we remain optimistic that work will commence on the schemes this financial year.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 1st APRIL 2020 TO 31st MARCH 2021

The year started with a carried forward balance of **£527,006** of which CIL monies totalled **£469,083** leaving a balance of **£57,923** (less the 2020/21 precept of £33,300) leaving actual reserves of **£24,623**

Itemised Income and Expenditure for **2020/21** is recorded below leaving a year-end balance of **£579,926**

During **2020/21** the Council received **£85,367** in CIL monies and spent **£1,428** gross on a new defibrillator outside Cottam Post Office leaving the **2020/21** CIL balance as **£553,022**. This money will be used for traffic calming improvements in the Parish.

The 2021 year-end balance of **£579,926** less the CIL balance of **£553,022** leaves the Council with reserves of **£26,904**

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2020 / 21

Income		Expenditure	
2019/20 Bal Fwd	527,005.58	Salary, Tax, NI, Pension	16,698.65
Precept**	0.00	Admin & office expenses	486.36
Bank Interest	61.23	Fees, Subs, Ins, Audit	1,695.14
Lengthsman Grant	500.00	Website	576.00
NH Plan Grant	3,370.00	Newsletter	836.97
VAT Refund	2,879.48	Community Donations	1,093.00
CIL Receipts	85,367.34	Garden & PCC Maintenance	3,632.43
CIL Interest	826.86	Lengthsman Contract	9,750.00
Shared admin	263.35	Lengthsman materials	211.84
Water bill refund	574.60	N Hood Grant	3,604.23
		Assets	519.41
		Defibrillator	1,190.00
		S137 expenses	44.00
		Reclaimable VAT	584.08
		2020/21 Expenditure	40,922.11
		2020/21 Year-end balance	579,926.33
	£620,848.44		£620,848.44

CCLA Acc = **£502,742.38**
 Bank Acc = **£ 77,183.95**
 Carried f/wd **£579,926.33**

2020/21 Precept** - The 2020/21 Precept was set at **£33,300** but due to Covid 19 it was received in the 2019/20 financial year.

The 2021/22 Precept has been set at **£37,445**. The **budget** can be viewed on our website www.woodplumptonparish.org

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Parish Council carefully considers all planning proposals for the area and Members spent a lot of time and energy contributing to the NW Preston Masterplan which was intended to outline how Woodplumpton Parish would be expanded, however, not long after the Plan was launched, it became apparent that it was no more than a 'wish list' of the facilities and services necessary to support such a large housing project.

For each housing proposal, developers are required to pay a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) to the City Council and the intention is, that once enough homes are built, the accumulated money will be used to provide new roads, schools and services across Preston - but as residents know only too well, there are no timescales for their delivery!

To ensure that some of the CIL funding is used to benefit the areas most affected by the development, 15% of the CIL money is passed to the Parish Council - this increases to 25% if the Parish Council adopts a Neighbourhood Plan (NHP) and finally, after 3 years of hard work, we are pleased to announce that our NHP has been lodged with the City Council and will be forwarded to a Planning Inspector.

If the NHP is adopted, the Policies should ensure that new housing developments contribute to the Parish Council's vision for the future - which is to ensure that all new developments meet the needs of existing and new residents, whilst maintaining and enhancing the distinctive character and appearance of the Parish.

Although the NHP has not been adopted yet, Members have already started work on projects which will help achieve the aims of the NHP which can be viewed on our website. Members aim to maintain and develop a strong and inclusive community spirit and have recently **increased funding for the Summer Fete** - detailed on page 1.

A **new information sign** has been erected at Catforth and another has been commissioned for Woodplumpton. It is hoped that these will increase awareness of the Parish and will encourage residents to explore the local area.

Members are committed to protecting, maintaining and improving our green, open spaces for the benefit of all the community, now and in the future.



As explained in the Chairman's report overleaf, the Parish Council has a Lengthsman who maintains some of the open space and rights of way and with more funding, local walks can be created with planted areas, seating and points of interest.

CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21

Woodplumpton Parish Council continued to operate throughout 2020/21 by holding Zoom remote meetings, which proved to be very successful. Unfortunately, many of the additional working groups we would normally attend did not continue remotely which restricted information and delayed various projects. We did manage to have remote meetings to discuss the traffic calming scheme and the Neighbourhood Plan and these are progressing well - as explained in this edition of the newsletter.

We remain strongly opposed to planning applications which are outside the Local Development Plan and are unacceptable within the Parish. In the future, the completion of our Neighbourhood Plan will add weight to our objections and will support developments which uphold the village ethos. We also continue to challenge the lack of infrastructure where large amounts of houses are built with no consideration given to the need for new Schools and Doctors surgeries etc.

The Parish Council acknowledges that traffic calming has become the main focus for many residents given the amount of complaints we continue to receive on a daily / weekly basis. We have had a snapshot of how the situation improved during lockdown, due to the reduced amount of traffic driving at excessive speed through both villages. Lancashire County Council Engineers have finalised the traffic schemes and once the Traffic Regulation Order is confirmed, works will be imminent. We will publish the final detail of the schemes on the Parish Council website as soon as it is released by LCC.

We continue to work with the Parish Lengthsman supporting his role and increasing funding to help keep our hedgerows and public rights of way clean and litter free. I would like to thank Barry Hill for all his continued hard work over the past 12 months, repairing styles, litter picking, grass cutting and monitoring any fly tipping taking place within the Parish. This became a significant problem when the waste recycling plants were closed but the problem has eased slightly.

The Woodplumpton Community Action Group has also supported the efforts of the Parish Council, in particular assisting with litter picking and assisting in Woodplumpton Community Garden. Catforth also have a team of volunteers who work hard to keep the Parish looking tidy, especially the members of Catforth in Bloom. So, a big **'Thank You'** for your support.

We are continuing to look at various improvements around the Parish, including the area at the front of Woodplumpton's playing field at The Orchard and will continue to improve other areas in the Parish as and when they are identified.

Continued

Our neighbourhood policing team continues to struggle with the increase of criminal activity and anti-social behaviour within the Parish and surrounding area. We have asked for more support and information in relation to deterring and stopping crime and as soon as face to face meetings resume, the Police have offered to attend meetings. Continued government cuts contribute to the increase in crime and we have to rely more and more on Neighbourhood Watch schemes and wish to support a Community Champion role.

Residents continue to report complaints of varying degrees from speeding traffic to suspicious activities and this is greatly appreciated. If the Parish Council can not deal with the issues ourselves, we ensure they are passed on to the relevant authorities. We continue to provide training for the Clerk and Councillors to ensure we remain up to date with changes in policy and legislation governing the work of the Parish Council.

The Parish Councillors continue to represent the Parish on various local committees - ensuring that the Council is fully aware of activities, events and concerns within the parish. We are also working with neighbouring Parish Councils to support each other and provide a louder voice to be heard in local government.

It is unfortunate that over the past 12 months, many events and establishments such as the Woodplumpton and Catforth Fete, Catforth Village Hall, local businesses and public houses were unable to operate. Now that we are nearing the end of this difficult time, we hope that residents will support them as we return to some sort of normality.

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 Parish Clerk Mrs Julie Buttle for her continued hard work and the professional manner she deals with all aspects of her role, from every day enquiries to supporting Members and dealing with the legal aspects of the Parish Council.

Cllr Matthew Greaves
Parish Council Chairman

GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

As explained in the Chairman's report, the Parish Council has a Lengthsman who maintains the verges and keeps the Parish tidy. Unfortunately this does not extend to the open space on the new estates as the planning consent requires the developer to maintain these areas through a Land Management Agency - which residents pay towards. We are aware that some residents do not feel they are getting 'value for money' but unfortunately, whilst we can report concerns to the Agencies, we are unable to challenge their service delivery or the amount charged.