

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY UPDATE

Residents will be aware that the Parish Council receives a payment from some planning applications, to help finance local infrastructure improvements, which are required to meet the demands of new housing developments. Several suggestions were put forward by residents and progress is itemised below.

Improved Bus Services - Developers are required to submit a Travel Plan to the County Council which details commitments to bus services and alternative travel measures. The Parish Council, supported by Ben Wallace MP, is putting pressure on the County Council to ensure the measures are implemented.

Solar powered Speed Indicator Devices - a design has been approved by the Parish Council and we are waiting for LCC to approve the purchase and confirm the suitability of locations.

Improved footpath at Goosnargh Village Green - construction works have commenced and will be completed shortly.

Additional dog / Litter bins - A new bin has been installed at Green Nook Lane about 50 metres from its junction with Whittingham Road. Discussions are taking place for an additional bin to be erected on Halfpenny Lane, near the junction with Inglewhite Road.

Improve circular walks - Maintenance work is taking place on some public rights of way and it is hoped new leaflets will be launched early next year. If you volunteered to inspect the walks, please let the Clerk have any feedback as soon as possible.

Allotments - The Homes and Communities Agency are aware of the need for allotments and we understand they are being planned for phase 2 of the former hospital development, however this may be another 2-3 years as development work is behind schedule.

Improve cycle routes - The Parish Council has requested that cycle routes through the former hospital site are reopened with the addition of wheelchair friendly paths but due to health and safety concerns, this can not be actioned until construction works are complete.

ROAD CLOSURES

Whittingham Road (near Longridge) will remain closed to through traffic until the 18th December for utility works. The A6 Garstang Road will also be closed until the 10th November for drainage works. Details of road closures and temporary road works can be viewed at <http://mario.lancashire.gov.uk/roadworks/bulletin.aspx>.

If you experience problems with roadworks, potholes or flooding you can report them to Lancashire County Council on **0300 123 6780** or email highways@lancashire.gov.uk.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Last year, an inaugural service was held at the Beacon Drive War Memorial. This year, as Armistice Day falls on a Saturday, immediately before the Sunday Church Service, it has been agreed that the Parish Council Chairman will lay a wreath at the Beacon Drive Memorial at **11.00 on Saturday 11th November**, however, there will not be a formal service. Residents are invited to attend to lay a wreath or pay their respects at their convenience.

CITY COUNCIL BOUNDARY REVIEW

The Boundary Commission is recommending changes to Preston's electoral arrangements which will see the number of City Councillors reduce from 57 to 48. As part of the changes, Goosnargh will remain in Preston Rural North but Whittingham will come under **Preston Rural East**. The Parish Council believes that as the Parishes have a shared identity and community facilities, they should not be placed in different electoral wards. Residents have until the **6th November** to comment on the proposals by writing to The Review Officer, LGBCE, 14th Floor, Millbank Tower, London, SW1P 4QP or go to www.preston.gov.uk/the-council/consultations/council-ward-boundaries-preston-consultation/

LOCAL HERITAGE LIST

There are many places and buildings in Whittingham which form part of our local heritage and the Parish Council has been working in partnership with the Heritage Group and City Council to compile a local list of heritage assets which, if approved, may be protected from future development. Comments on the suggested list need to be submitted to the City Council by the **17th November**. Further details are on the City Council website www.preston.gov.uk/yourservices/planning/conservation-and-heritage/heritage/

CRIME

Following an increase in daytime burglaries, the police have requested that residents do not leave keys in the rear patio door and ensure that all windows, doors, sheds and garages are secured firmly. If you see anyone acting suspiciously, you can report it by calling 101. For emergencies dial 999.

LOCAL COMMUNITY GRANTS

At the November meeting, the Parish Council will consider grant nominations from local organisations, to assist them in providing ventures which will bring direct benefit to the area or its inhabitants. Further details are on the Parish Council website. If you represent a local organisation and wish to apply, please email the Parish Clerk.

LOWER WARD

Cllr Bernard Huggon
Arran House
500 Whittingham Lane
Goosnargh
Preston
PR3 2JJ

Tel: **01772 865690**

Cllr. Stan Hunter
2 Green Acre
Goosnargh
Preston
PR3 2BQ

Tel: **01772 865713**

Cllr A Lewis
Chairman
7 Green Acre
Goosnargh
Preston
PR3 2BQ

Tel: **01772 863719**

Cllr A Meades
Thorndale,
Cumeragh Lane
Whittingham
PR32AJ

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 M Landless
1 The Croft
Goosnargh
Preston
PR3 2BT

Tel: **07733528991**

FOR ANY PROBLEMS, CONCERNS OR COMPLAINTS WITHIN THE PARISH CONTACT

Mrs Julie Buttle
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16 Minster Park
Cottam Hall
PR4 0BY

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WHITTINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2017

HOLME FELL HOUSING APPLICATION

Despite strong local opposition, Preston City Council Planning Committee decided to recommend the 93 homes at Holme Fell, Goosnargh Lane for approval - subject to a Section 106 Agreement. As well as other financial matters, this Legal Agreement confirms the tenures and tenancy arrangements for the affordable homes.

The Parish Council has submitted a formal complaint regarding the legality of the recommendation, the departure from Local Plan policies and the administration and procedures surrounding the decision - including residents being denied access to the meeting due to an inappropriate venue.

Further action will depend on the S106 decision and the reply to the formal complaint, however options being considered include a Judicial Review, referral of the application to the Secretary of State and a complaint to the Local Government Ombudsman.

Both Goosnargh and Whittingham Parish Councils will continue to monitor the development and regular updates will be included on our website www.whittinghamparishcouncil.org.uk

MAINTENANCE OF GOOSNARGH VILLAGE GREEN

Goosnargh Village Green is currently maintained by Preston City Council, however due to a reduction in funding from Central Government, City Councillors have declared they will reduce the level of maintenance, unless the Parish Council agrees to pay nearly 20% of the cost. This decision only affects rural areas and residents benefitting from parks and open spaces in other areas of Preston are not being asked to pay any extra.

The Parish Council believes this is an extremely unfair tax on rural residents, however as the Village Green is an important village asset, Members have resolved to pay the increase during 2018/19 on condition that the City Council agrees to discuss the longer term maintenance of the land, including the possible transfer of ownership to the Parish Council.