

ANDERTON PARISH COUNCIL



Newsletter

Spring/Summer 2025

Parish Councillors

Mr I. Horsfield
Mr D Hesketh

Ms N. Smith
Mr N Baglow

Dr. P.W. Pilling
Mr T.M. Blackburn

Parish Clerk: Ms Janet Clarke-Withington

Chairman's Report 2024-2025

Welcome to the latest annual report and newsletter from Anderton Parish Council. As was the case last year concerns still remain in connection with matters around planning and over development. The proposed development of the land off Babylon Lane known as Washacre is yet to be resolved following the submission of an amended application.

Further on in this newsletter you will find information about projects or activities carried out over the last 12 months. Repair and replacement has continued to maintain and improve our local amenities.

This year we have increased our precept by just 1.1% which is the lowest increase of all the elements making up your council tax bill. Whilst we as a parish council have seen some of our costs rise significantly we are still committed to continue our discretionary financial support for local organisations, community initiatives and infrastructure projects. However residents should be pleased to know that Anderton still has one of the lowest precepts in Chorley Borough and that the yearly cost for a typical band D householder is just over £11 per annum.

The parish newsletter will continue to be available on our parish council website as normal but will not be distributed to every household in an attempt to become more environmentally sustainable and reduce paper waste. Anyone who particularly wishes to have a hard copy however should be able to obtain one from Adlington library or can request one from our parish clerk.

The 'Councillor Barbara Shaw' Bench

Residents will be aware that we as a parish council are responsible for the upkeep of the roadside benches in our parish. From time to time we carry out refurbishment and/or replacement as required.

Last year we undertook the refurbishment of the roadside bench adjacent to the entrance to Rivington Water Treatment Works just off Bolton Road on the approach to Horwich. This is a special bench to us being the one regularly maintained by our late councillor Barbara Shaw.

As a mark of recognition for all the work Barbara did for the parish we decided that this bench should carry a dedication to commemorate her long service. At a short ceremony one Saturday in November last year we unveiled the refurbished bench and commemorative plaque in the presence of a number of members of Barbara's family.



Following the ceremony there was also the dedication of a new planter adjacent to the Coop car park which had been organised by the Adlington in Bloom group in recognition for all the work that Barbara had done in support of the Bloom group in helping to enhance the visual appearance of the area.

Adlington Youth Group

An ongoing initiative by the local police and Inspire Youth Zone in Chorley has resulted in the setting up of a dedicated Adlington Youth Group activity operating from Fairview Youth and Community Centre on Friday evenings. This initiative aims to engage our local young people in worthwhile activities with the ultimate objective of reducing anti-social behaviour and local vandalism.

The Youth Group is open for anyone within the appropriate age range to take part free of charge and refreshments will be provided. Consideration is currently being given to providing activities to suit particular age ranges.

The running of the Youth Group is overseen by a steering committee of representatives from various stakeholder organizations including local councils, police, Inspire and other interested parties. Anderton Parish Council actively supports and contributes to this. The group is always on the look out for any parents or other volunteers who may have a skill to offer that could contribute to the positive development of the young people.

Anderton Mill Historic Listing Project

Few people are probably aware that within an area of Anderton just off Squirrel Lane and adjacent to the Horwich boundary there are the remains of what once stood as Anderton Mill. The mill was constructed and in operation during the 18th and 19th centuries, initially supporting the cotton trade but later diversifying into other activities. However by the start of the 20th century the mill was redundant and was demolished.

Like many other mills at that time the mill was water powered, using water diverted from a tributary to the River Douglas to drive a water wheel. Although nothing remains of the mill itself the course of the millrace can still be seen and the weir constructed at the time is still in existence.



One surviving feature is an old stone packhorse bridge that was constructed by the mill owners in order to transport goods to the Crown Lane area of Horwich and avoid the toll on the main road entry into Horwich. The bridge is interesting in having no constructed side walls which could cause an impediment to the passage of loaded horses.

Horwich Heritage have done extensive research about the existence of this mill and its local significance. Together we felt that in order to preserve some part of this local history we could best do this by applying to list this remaining bridge structure. A listing as an item of historical importance would go some way to ensure its future protection. Anderton Parish Council is currently actively pursuing the process of obtaining an historic listing and we hope to report more on this in the future.

Around Our Area

The parish council has been busy around our parish area carrying out improvement activities in response to resident's concerns and also representing the parish at events in the wider Adlington area.

Residents may have noticed that the Anderton boundary signs at each end of the parish on Bolton Road have received a good clean to enhance their visibility. In addition the stone gateway planter at the Horwich boundary has had the overgrowth cut back and been tidied up. We have also continued to support the provision of the hanging basket next to our sign adjacent to the Coop car park.

The passage of traffic and pedestrians along Horrobin Lane has caused many problems over the past few years mainly due to traffic parking and passing issues. We have continued to raise these issues with the appropriate authorities and we are pleased that LCC Highways has introduced further yellow lining to try to alleviate the problems. We know that the volume of traffic visiting the Rivington area has increased over the years but we ask that people take note of these new restrictions and perhaps exercise a little patience for the benefit of everyone.

2025 has been a special year in respect of supporting the 80th anniversaries of both VE (Victory in Europe) and VJ (Victory over Japan) days. Locally the events were marked by wreath laying ceremonies at the Adlington cenotaph on both occasions. Our parish was represented on each occasion by members of the parish council.

Adlington & District in Bloom (AiB)

The Adlington & District in Bloom group are a group of volunteers who perform much of the environmental enhancement work that makes our area more environmentally pleasant and improves the residential amenity. This includes planting and maintaining the wooden planters that you will see scattered around our own parish. The group also does gardening and improvement works on our local railway station in conjunction with Northern Trains.

The group is always eager to welcome new volunteers who are interested in undertaking gardening type work around the district including the station. As well as improving the greenness of the area participation as part of the group can also help benefit community cohesion and counter social isolation.



Adlington & District Food Club

The Adlington & District Food Club continues to go from strength to strength and is proving a valuable service to the community, not only in providing a cost effective source of food but also as a means of social interaction. The club operates each Monday morning from St. Paul's Church and for a small membership fee members can obtain a range of foodstuffs at much discounted prices.

Although much of the food is donated and the club is largely manned by volunteers there is a small running cost mainly covering transport and delivery and other purchases. Anderton Parish Council is pleased to contribute to funding these costs with a small donation which we feel serves to enable a valuable service within our community and should be beneficial to our local residents.

Becoming a Parish Councillor

The Parish Council is keen to encourage any residents who feel that they could make a difference to the amenity of our local area of Anderton to consider becoming a parish councillor. Although there are parish elections every four years there is always a need to consider the long term future of the parish and the continuing need for fresh blood. If you think you could fulfil such a role and are interested to find out more we encourage you to contact the parish council and we would be happy to give you a fuller insight into the role.

Friends of Adlington Library

The library on Railway Road is more than just a source of reading material, a number of activities take place during the course of a typical week. The Friends of Adlington Library would like to welcome any residents to attend their regular Saturday coffee mornings.

Feedback

The parish council is always willing to hear the view of residents about issues that are of concern to them within the parish. In particular we would be interested to know how residents think that the district of Anderton should develop over the next few years and what improvements they would like to see. We cannot promise to solve every issue but it will help to shape our strategic thinking.

In the meantime should you wish to raise any issues of concern regarding Anderton you can contact the parish clerk, Ms Janet Clarke-Withington, by letter at 89 Bolton Road, Anderton, or electronically by email at clerk@andertonpc-lancs.uk or via the parish council website www.andertonpc-lancs.uk where you can also find additional information about the council itself together with news about local facilities and events.



Friends of Adlington Library

SATURDAY COFFEE MORNING



Every Saturday Morning in Adlington Library

10-00_{am} 'till 12_{pm}

Your support helps us to fund all our many children's and adults' events

