



ANDERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Newsletter

Spring/Summer 2024

Parish Councillors

Mr I. Horsfield	Ms N. Smith	Dr. P.W. Pilling
Mr D Hesketh	Mr N Baglow	Mr T.M. Blackburn

Report 2023-2024

Welcome to the latest annual report and newsletter from Anderton Parish Council. Concerns still remain regarding over-development of rural areas we still think that Anderton remains a pleasant place to live and we will still endeavour to bring about local environmental improvements. The refusal of planning permission for the land off Babylon Lane known as "Washacre" was good news but should be tempered by the fact that a fresh application has been submitted.

We continue to maintain and improve our local amenities and can report that a new planter has been placed outside the Co-oP and repairs effected on a bench seat on Bolton Road.

This year we decided to increase our precept by just over 6.5% in order to reflect both a general increase in costs but also the increasing demands made upon us to support local organisations and community initiatives. This however will only result in an increase of approximately 68p per year for a typical resident.

We would like to hear from anyone in Anderton who would consider volunteering to assist with projects locally. This may take the form of using or sharing a skill, assisting with footpath clearance or being available as an extra pair of hands when a specific task requires help. We would also like to hear from anyone who would consider becoming a parish councillor in the future. Anyone who would consider volunteering should email the parish clerk in the first instance.

Headless Cross Project

Last year we reported on the completion of our Headless Cross project to provide an information board and adjacent seating for our historically significant local monument Headless Cross. We hope these will prove of value to local residents, visitors and tourists alike.

However we are also aware of the vulnerability of the site given its proximity to the nearby road junction. To that end we have procured and placed a number of reflective marker posts along the road edges to better warn motorists of the proximity of the grass verge. We have also carried out some cutting back of the vegetation in this area.

The parish council would also like to acknowledge the work and thank the local residents who keep this area tidy.



Bolton Road Benches

As a parish council we have responsibility for the various roadside seats and benches to be found around the parish. Some time ago we noticed that the bench on Bolton Road adjacent to the boundary marker had deteriorated significantly as to be potentially unsafe.

During the last year we have carried out a refurbishment of this bench by replacing all the wooden slats with new treated and varnished items. This was done in preference to purchasing a completely new bench. We hope that residents appreciate the result.

We plan in the near future to carry out a similar refurbishment of the bench which is positioned outside the entrance to Rivington Water Treatment Works.



2024 Parish Elections

Every four years all parish councils are required to hold elections in accordance with local government regulations whereby nominations for candidates to stand as potential parish councillors are requested. This year it was the turn of Anderton to undergo the process at the local government elections held in May.

Residents may like to know that as no new candidates came forward to stand at the election the existing council members were duly returned unopposed for a further, nominally four year term of office.

Anderton St. Joseph's Scouts

Anderton is fortunate to have a thriving Scouts' group which has grown over the past few years to include Squirrels, Cubs, Beavers and Scouts accommodating the various age ranges. This group provides young people with a range of activities for developing skills which will aid their learning and development as they progress.

The group is organized and run by a small team of dedicated leaders. However there is always a need for volunteers who could offer help in teaching specific subjects relevant to the needs of the young people. If you think you may be able to help out in this way the group would be pleased to hear from you.

Equally there is also an ongoing need for various forms of fundraising in order to support the purchase of equipment used by the group and enable the undertaking of group activities. Again if you can help please get in touch.

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.

Co-op Planter

Residents may have noticed that a new planter has been installed under our main noticeboard near the entrance to the local Co-op store. The noticeboard was positioned there a number of years ago with the permission of the Co-op and was surrounded by a small garden area. Over time this garden area had become somewhat unkempt and difficult to maintain.

At the suggestion of Adlington in Bloom the garden area has been cleared and we have purchased and installed a new wooden planter which with the help of Adlington in Bloom we hope will enhance the visual amenity of the area and prove easier to keep tidy.



Adlington & District Food Club

Many residents will know of the existence of Adlington and District Food Club which was set up some time ago to try to address in part the issue of local food poverty. The club operates each Monday morning from St. Paul's Church. 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. The 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.

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 maintains a watching brief in this.

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 draw residents attention to activities taking place on Saturdays.



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**



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.