

This newsletter has been delivered to every household in the Parish and is also on our website (<http://www.willington.org.uk>) Contributions to future newsletters are welcome from all individuals and organisations in the Parish. The next issue will be available during November 2017. All contributions should reach the Clerk (contact details overleaf) by 31st October 2017.

THANK YOU

Thank you to the sixteen residents who attended the Annual Parish Meeting in May. Your attendance and contribution to the meeting were much appreciated.

PARISH QUESTIONNAIRE

What follows is hardly representative of the whole Parish as only six households returned the questionnaire - thank you to those who did. We can therefore only assume that everyone is happy with the Council's performance, or just not interested. We hope it is the former!

You may recall that the questions requested a score ranging from 1 to 6 (very satisfied). The average return gave a score of 5.5. Open questions were generally positive i.e. Notice Board, Defibrillator Training, Website, Newsletter, Work Parties (although only two people attended the last one!)

Of general concern was speeding traffic, dog fouling, and incomplete private development projects. The Council has taken steps to make motorists better informed, and continually campaigns against dog fouling.

VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT

Parishioners are currently working on a draft "village design statement" and will be inviting everyone to a workshop in a few months to comment on the document and discuss ideas for improving the draft. All households will receive a draft for comment before the document is finalised and sent to the Borough Planning Department who are supporting us through this process. Our aim is for the document to be adopted as a supplementary planning document.

QUALITY AWARD

Your council are currently working towards
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the foundation stage of the national scheme that awards councils demonstrating best practice. Some of the benefits are:-

- Confidence that the council are delivering to a national professional standard
- Improved performance and confidence with policies in place for continuous development and assessment
- Increased communication and greater access to information for electors and partners

FINGER POST

Some months ago, the wooden finger post on Gooseberry Lane giving directions to Boothsdale and Little Switzerland had rotted at the base and was replaced by Cheshire West and Chester Public Rights of Way Department, with a metal galvanised pole. Council think you will agree this is not befitting a rural environment.

Regardless of our best efforts to have this replaced with a wooden sign provided by the Borough Council, they refused 'as the metal signs are cheaper'. We have therefore resorted to funding one ourselves.

The Borough Council have magnanimously agreed to install it though, free of charge!

WALKING THE PARISH BOUNDARY'S SUNDAY 27TH AUGUST.

Leader John Grimshaw

The Parish now includes Boothsdale, Birch Hill, Tirley Lane, Tirley Garth, Willington Mill and Common Lane.

Meet at the Boot Inn 10.00am for up to a 6 mile walk or peel off when you like.

COUNCIL TAX DISCOUNTS AND PREMIUMS CONSULTATION

This Borough Council consultation is open to all to respond and seeks views on the proposal to remove the discount given to empty and unfurnished properties with effect from 1st April 2018. The consultation closes on 16th October 2017. The survey can be completed and submitted online and there is also a version that can be printed and returned via post or email.

Go to:-

www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/counciltaxconsultation

NEIGHBOURS OF WILLINGTON (NoW)

On 9th July the sun well and truly shone for the most recent NoW gathering. The day began with a mystery to solve. The trestle tables, kindly offered to us by Willington Hall, had been decorated with vases full of beautiful, fresh garden flowers by a very kind but unknown neighbour. It transpired that the generous and creative flower arranger was Lynne! It was fabulous to see over forty neighbours bring their picnics and wine glasses as well as their children and pets. Thanks go to Dawn McIntyre who had decorated our Green and organised a treasure hunt for the children, who all loved it! It is great to catch up with so many neighbours and it was lovely to hear everyone's news. Our next event is on Sunday 3rd September. There is an invitation to the NoW Barbeque which will take place at Willington Hall. If you would like to join us please return your slip with your cheque by 18th August. It should be great fun and at least we have the Orangery if the weather isn't good! We hope to see you there. If you have any questions or suggestions for the NoW group please contact Donna Okell at dokell@btinternet.com T: 07739 799 722

FACEBOOK

A reminder for those who use social media or maybe are happy to use it occasionally, the Parish Council has a facebook page. It can be found by searching for **Willington Parish Cheshire** whilst on facebook. The purpose of the page is to keep parishioners updated on anything going on in the parish and for anyone to leave comments. If you go onto the page and like it you should receive any posts on the site automatically onto your facebook page.

OVERGROWN HEDGES

Overhanging hedges and trees on private property that have been allowed to overhang pavements are a problem. They make life difficult for pedestrians, particularly those walking with children/with a pushchair, and wheelchair users. They often are forced to walk on the verge or in the road to get past. Please check the hedges and trees on your property to see that they have not encroached onto the footway. If they have please have them cut back, it is your

responsibility. Thank you.

PARISH CLERK

The Council is still seeking someone who lives in Willington to take on the role of Parish Clerk. This role is a paid position covering four hours per week. The position of the Clerk is home based providing legal (statutory requirement for parish councils), administrative, financial and managerial support to the Parish Council. The Clerk is required to attend council meetings, take minutes and also be the Responsible Financial Officer for the Council and deal with daily communications from members of the public. If you are interested in this role please either e-mail or phone our present Clerk or one of our Councillors.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

All Council meetings are open meetings and members of the public are most welcome to attend and listen to the debates. If you want to come along but don't want to stay until the end that is not a problem. Come and join us and then leave when you wish to do so. All we ask is that you come and go quietly. The next meetings are at Willington Hall at 7.30pm on 26th September, 24th October, and 28th November. The first 15 minutes of each meeting is allocated to the public forum where anyone can have his or her say on any local matter. An agenda for each meeting is placed on the noticeboard by Willington Green and also on our website.

ABOUT YOUR COUNCIL

Willington Parish Council is comprised of the following 5 Councillors – their contact telephone numbers, all dial code 01829, are in brackets: Cllr John Grimshaw (752177), Cllr Jane Lowthion (751454), Cllr Andrew Nicholas (752029), Cllr Roy Penk (751866), Cllr Pat Tyson-Jones (751757)

To Contact Us in Writing:

Write to: Mike Hassall, Clerk to Willington Parish Council, Roy Cottage, Townfield Lane, Tarvin CH3 8EG. Tel 01829 741075 e-mail ClerkWillington@aol.com

Your Cheshire West and Chester Borough Councillors:

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