



This newsletter has been delivered to every household in the Parish and is on our website (<http://www.willington.org.uk>).

Contributions to future newsletters are very welcome and for the next issue should reach the Clerk by 1st May 2020.

We are considering 'delivering' the newsletter via e-mail in the future to those who would like it. If this would be your preferred delivery method, please let the Clerk know via e-mail ClerkWillington@gmail.com

Village Events

On the first day of Christmas my true love gave to me....

...the inaugural Christmas Carols on the Green! It was lovely to see so many people on 1st December on a beautiful, dry, crisp evening to begin our Christmas celebrations. Thanks to Jane and James for letting us plug in to their electricity supply for the splendid lights, to Jane, Pat, Gwyn, Rob and Wendy for the excellent refreshments, and to Penny Woodside from Weetwood who expertly led the singing. The highlight of the evening was the surprise visit from Father Christmas. Despite his very busy schedule, having heard the beautiful voices of the children of Willington, he stopped by to hand out presents.

75th Anniversary of VE day. Friday May 8th 2020.

Many people fondly recall the 50th anniversary VE day celebrations on the Green back in 1995 when over 100 parishioners took part. So, we have decided to organise a 75th anniversary celebration on the Bank Holiday on 8th May on the Green. We plan to organise games and activities for both young and old with celebrity visits from

hopefully, Winston Churchill and the Queen. If you would like to be part of the fun of organising the event and can spare even just a small amount of time, please contact Jane Lowthion.

Parish Council Budget and Precept 2020-21

Your Council has set the precept for the coming financial year for the parish at £4690. This represents an increase for a Band D property of £1.24 to £31.80 per annum. Our overall projected spend for 2020/21 is £7466 which includes significant funding for the speed reduction projects discussed below. The difference between the projected spend and the precept will be met from Parish Council reserves and from grants that may be available to us to part-fund the speed reduction works. After funding the speed reduction projects, our reserves will still meet prudent and legal levels.

Speeding Through the Village

We are pursuing several actions to tackle the speeding problems on Chapel Lane and Willington Road.

You will have noticed the deployment of the vehicle activated speed sign (smiley face) last year, however you probably didn't notice the small lamp-post mounted boxes that recorded traffic flow and speeds for a one-week period. The data collected showed that on both Willington Road and Chapel Lane, 85% of traffic significantly exceeded the speed limit, and that unsurprisingly most speeding occurs during morning and evening rush hours. Using this evidence and recent changes along Willington Road, we have requested a re-assessment of the 40mph speed limit on Willington Road by the CWaC Road Safety Team with a view to lowering the limit to 30 mph. In Chapel Lane we have asked CWaC Highways to investigate the installation of a permanent vehicle activated speed (VAS) sign. Finally, all our speed limit signs need to be visible; next time you drive along Willington Road and Chapel Lane note the number of signs that you can't see clearly! Please help by cutting back your hedges that obscure signs.

Cheshire Police Alerts

Did you know that you can receive regular local alerts posted by Cheshire Police? To register, go to. <https://www.neighbourhoodalert.co.uk/>

Following the recent example of an unauthorised door to door seller in the village, it is worth remembering that we should report any

suspicious activity via 101, or 999 in an emergency. Or alternatively report via the Cheshire Police website

<https://www.cheshire.police.uk/>.

Report it to CWaC

If you need to report any issues with roads/pavements, rubbish collections, fly-tipping or anti-social behaviour go to: <https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/contact-us/report-it/report-it.aspx>

Opal Club

Kelsall Opal club for older people meets every Monday at the Methodist church in Kelsall. It provides a varied programme of activities with a two-course hot lunch cooked on the premises. Volunteer drivers (many from Willington) provide transport for anyone who needs it. Contact Zoe on 07531 563 107.

Willington - Spick & Span Task Force

To keep our village as we would wish to see it, a task force (numbering five residents) has been established. The first few tasks will include making the 'old' Notice Board on the Green available to residents for general use, cutting back the hedge at the southern end of Willington Road, and cutting the verge along Willington Rd to achieve maximum footpath width. If you would like to sign-up for the Task Force, please contact John Grimshaw at: grimmers3@grimmers3.plus.com

Help with the Parish Website and Newsletter

We are looking for volunteers to help us to:

- maintain (and hopefully improve) the Parish Website. The site is straightforward to manage and doesn't require any in-depth web skills.
- edit this quarterly newsletter

Is there anyone out there who can help? Please contact the Parish Clerk if you think you could assist with either. Thank you.

Village Notice Boards

We currently have two notice boards on the Green; one in current use (for Parish Council notices and everything else), and an old one that at the moment just holds a map of the parish. Once the task force completes its renovations of the old board, it will be kept unlocked to enable all of us to post notices of interest. Keep an eye out for the 'opening' of the new board.

Neighbourhood Watch Scheme – volunteer coordinator please

The call for a volunteer for a local coordinator for Willington in November's newsletter sadly received no responses. If anyone is interested in the role, please talk to one of the councillors or email jane.lowthion@btinternet.com. Further information on the scheme can be found at www.ourwatch.org.uk.

Facebook

The Parish Council has a Facebook page; search for Willington Parish Cheshire.

Could you become a Parish Councillor?

Have you ever thought about becoming a parish councillor? If you feel that you could contribute to our community by serving on the parish council and would like to better understand what is involved, please contact the Parish Clerk or Councillor Lowthion.

About Your Council

Willington Parish Council is comprised of the following five Councillors. Their contact telephone numbers are below; the landline numbers all have dial code 01829.

Cllr John Grimshaw (752177)
Cllr Jane Lowthion (751454)
Cllr Rob Merrick (458387)
Cllr Andrew Nicholas (752029)
Cllr Donna Okell (07739 799722)

Next Council Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish council will be held on Tuesday 14th May at Willington Hall Hotel at 7.30pm. Council meetings are open meetings; you are welcome to attend and listen to the discussions. The first 15 mins of the meeting is a public forum where you can have your say on any local matter.

To Contact Us:

Write to: Rob Winterbourne, 1 Lilac Close, Willington, CW6 0PL, Tel 01829 751266, e-mail ClerkWillington@gmail.com

Your Cheshire West and Chester Borough Councillors are:

Cllr John Leather (01829 752558)
john.leather@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk
Cllr Harry Tonge
Harry.Tonge@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk