



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 May 2017. All contributions should reach the Clerk (contact details overleaf) by 30th April 2017.

FACEBOOK

For those who use social media or maybe are happy to use it occasionally, we now have 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.

DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING

The next training session teaching CPR and Defibrillator use will be held at Willington Hall in the Hamilton Suite commencing at 7.00pm on Tuesday 4th April 2017. The session will last for about 2 hours, there is no charge and every will be welcome even if you only wish to watch rather than to participate. Please contact Andrew Nicholas (752029) to reserve a place.

VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT

This is a term of English rural planning practice. A VDS is a document that describes the distinctive characteristics of the locality, and provides design guidance to influence future development and improve the physical qualities of the area.

Many people feel that they have no say over what development takes place in their community; but Village Design Statements (VDSs) offer a constructive solution to this

dilemma.

The Parish Council is keen to develop a Village Design Statement, as although part of Willington is included in the Kelsall Neighbourhood Plan the whole of Willington Parish is not covered.

To ensure this document is developed and written by the community it is essential that local people other than council members take a lead on this.

Have you an interest in architecture or buildings and landscape or just interested in joining a small group to take this forward? If so please let one of your council members know or alternatively send an e-mail to the Clerk.

BOOK ON THE HISTORY AND TOPOGRAPHY OF WILLINGTON

The Parish Council have agreed to support the writing of a book on Willington. Sue Masterman, retired journalist, and I are collaborating on this venture. Willington has a long history, dating back to the Iron age, and it was mentioned in the Domesday Book. Sue and I will research the history and also include a section on the topography of the village and the public footpaths. We are appealing to any residents who have information about Willington's past, photographs, memories or any documentation to contact us. All material will be carefully looked after, copied with the owner's permission, and returned in good condition. We are sure that some of you have invaluable information, which will be lost if it isn't documented. All contributions will be acknowledged in the book.

Please contact Pat Tyson-Jones, Tel. No 01829 751757, email patandgwyn@talktalk.net

CAR PARKING AT THE GREEN

We are fortunate to live in a very beautiful part of Cheshire which attracts many visitors. Unfortunately, many bring their cars, and 4x4's. Some recently have taken to parking on the grass via the sandstone kerbs which are very soft. Parking at the Green is limited, but we are reluctant to reduce the grassed area further. We have therefore decided to discretely mark five bays per parking area, giving a total of ten. Currently, because of the way some vehicles are parked only four per bay are

accommodated. It would also help further if residents who park here could, where possible at weekends, keep their cars at home please.

WINTER ROAD GRITTING

The Parish Council has been in discussion with CWaC Highways Department with regard to the apparent lack of road gritting on Chapel Lane and Rough Low in particular. We also wished to explore the provision of a salt/grit bin to be located on Rough Low above Honeypot Cottage.

The response from Highways was rather lengthy, but the outcome was 'NO' on both counts as follows: "Unfortunately we would not be able to provide a Grit Bin at this location. Rough Low and Chapel Lane are already on our secondary route 4 gritting list and our policy does not allow for both.

However the Parish Council could provide their own Grit Bin at this location".

For clarity only A and B roads and others, which comply with certain criteria are pre gritted. Secondary routes are only gritted after the event i.e. snow or ice, and only then "if funds allow". Have you ever seen a gritting vehicle?

The cost of a filled Grit Bin would be £375.60, with each subsequent refill £100.

Should the Parish Council take this step, and who would spread the grit? Please contact our Clerk if you have any views on this subject.

MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICES

The Mobile Library Service stops at the layby at Willington Corner every 3rd Friday from 12.20 to 12.50. The dates for the first 6 months are as follows:- February 10th, March 3rd & 24th, April – no service due to Bank Holiday, May 5th & 26th, June 16th.

This is a free service and the Mobile has a good range of fiction, non-fiction, large print and children's books. They will also obtain any book for you for a small fee. The Librarian and driver are very friendly and helpful. At present only 2 people use this service and it's a case of **use it or lose it!** I do urge you to try it, in the past it was well used and was a pleasant meeting place.

NEIGHBOURS OF WILLINGTON (NoW)

This group was formed in November 2016 by

a small number of local residents with the aim of bringing our local community together. The group aims to offer a number of events throughout the year, providing opportunities for meeting and catching up with neighbours.

NoW News!

The Great and the Good of Willington (well 60 of us anyway!) gathered together on 8th January for the inaugural NoW event in the stunningly beautiful Orangery at Willington Hall. The following day I received this lovely comment from Brian and Nicky Simmons, which they are happy to share:

"Just a note to thank you for organising yesterday's very successful family afternoon tea. It was lovely to see so many neighbours attended and lots of new faces for us and we still didn't manage to speak everyone! Please also thank Willington Hall for their lovely food"

There was a great atmosphere and a good turnout. It would be great to keep the momentum going and with this in mind I am pleased to say we have organised another two opportunities to get together. The Begbie family of Willington Hall is very supportive of our group and have helped greatly with the organisation and costings of two more NoW events:

Thursday 6th April 2017 7pm, Willington Hall Wine tasting and general knowledge quiz...with nibbles!

This is designed to be a fun evening to test both your wine and general knowledge in the company of friends. There will be a selection of wine and food platters/tapas/ to share with friends at your table. There will of course be a prize for the winner/winners!

Cost per person will be £15 (including food and wine!).

Sunday 9th July 11am – Family treasure hunt and picnic on the green

Before the summer holidays begin let's get together for a family treasure hunt and picnic. We will meet on the green at 11am and aim to have our picnics from about midday. Please bring your own picnic, picnic blankets, chairs and tables.

Sunday 3rd September 1pm, Willington Hall Family Barbecue and garden games

An opportunity to bring everybody together before the autumn leaves begin to fall. We're hoping for the last of the summer rays so that we can enjoy our barbecue outside at Willington Hall but have also reserved the Orangery just in case! Cost for this event will be announced

soon. The whole family is welcome and there will be a few games in the garden for everybody (coconut shy and apple bobbing have been mentioned!)

We will post invitations for both of these events. In the meantime, please save the dates in your diaries.

In other news

○ **Crown Green Bowling** – Andrew Nicholas has kindly offered to arrange Crown Green Bowling afternoon on Saturday 20th May at Kelsall Bowling Green (Behind the Community Centre). All the equipment and tuition will be provided (you just need to wear flat soled shoes or trainers). Tea, coffee, soft drinks and cakes will be served. This is a game that can be played on equal terms by all of the family regardless of age or gender. Cost per adult £3.00 Children free. No previous experience required, so come along for a couple of fun hours with all of your family and friends. If you're interested please contact Andrew Phone: 751923 or email: andrew.nicholas.john@icloud.com

○ **Beginners Walking Group** – Jen Francis is organising a beginners walking group. The group will meet at 10.00am in the Boot Inn car park on the last Sunday of each month. All are welcome to be part of the group.

○ **In touch** – We're keen to keep in touch with everybody as effectively as possible. Please keep an eye on the website www.willington.org.uk and on Facebook @willingtonparishcheshire

○ **Email** – It would really help us to update you with any changes if we have everybody's email addresses. If you're happy for us to have your email please send your details to me at dokell@btinternet.com. Thank you to everybody who attended the Afternoon Tea who gave their details. We look forward to seeing you at the wine tasting and quiz night if not sooner! Any questions please contact me at dokell@btinternet.com or on my mobile 07739 799 722

Best wishes,
Donna

WILLINGTON HALL

Willington Hall are holding a free valuation day on Thursday 9th March. If you have any antiques, collectables, or jewellery that you

aren't sure of the value of, or would like to know more about, do go along. Further details including timings can be found on the Willington Hall website or by phoning or visiting them.

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 28th February, 28th March, and 25th April.

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.

Telephone Numbers for contacting the Police

Emergency 999 - Non Emergency 101

To report a crime anonymously - Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111

A reminder that the "101" Police non-emergency number should be used to report crime and other concerns that do not require an emergency response.

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:

Cllr Hugo Deynem (01829 751830)
hugo.deynem@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk
Cllr John Leather (01829 752558)
john.leather@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk