



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 2nd February 2020.

Village Events

Ding-Dong Merrily - Carols on the Green - Sunday 1st December at 4pm

Please join us for our first carols on the Green event. Mince pies, mulled wine and non-alcoholic drinks will be served, and Santa will be making a special stop for the children! So wrap up warm and bring your best singing voice for a splendid festive evening.

History of Willington Evening

It was wonderful to see over 100 people at The History of Willington evening on 24th October. Sue Masterman gave a fabulous presentation and shared lots of fascinating information she has gathered for the History of Willington book project. Many interesting, great stories, photographs and facts were exchanged! Thank you very much to all who supported the evening and a huge thanks to Willington Hall Hotel for their generous support.

Walking the Bounds

John Grimshaw will lead a short, dog friendly walk of about 4.5 miles (2.5 hrs) around our south eastern boundary, starting from the Green at 10.30 on Sunday 24th November. The route follows the Sandstone Trail from Rock Farm, John St down to Wood Lane, then westerly to Priors Hayes, returning via Willington Mill and Common Lane. If you plan to come along, contact John via email at grimmers3@grimmers3.plus.com.

Keep Willington Spick & Span - Task Force

To keep our village as we and visitors would wish to see it, we hope to create a Task Force of parishioners who can be called on to undertake activities such as verge tidying and leaf picking on the Green. As most residents are on email, this would be the simplest way to arrange the Task Force activities without having to wait for this quarterly newsletter. If you would like to sign-up for the Task Force, please contact John Grimshaw via email at: grimmers3@grimmers3.plus.com

August Questionnaire – the results

Thank you to all those who responded to our questionnaire. Here is a short summary of the findings. If anyone would like the complete set of responses, please email jane.lowthion@btinternet.com or phone Jane (see overleaf for the number) for a hard copy.

1. Village Green

The majority of respondents had no wish to see any changes to the village green. The exception to this was Christmas lights – we look forward to the Green looking suitably festive. You were ambivalent over the electric car charging point; we will monitor developments in charging technology and may revisit the idea.

2. Traffic Control

Most people were in favour of VAS (vehicle activated speed signs) on Chapel Lane and Willington Road. The Parish Council are pursuing this with the Highways department. There were numerous comments about reducing the 40mph limit on Willington Road. The Parish Council have been pursuing this for several years but so far without success, but we will revisit this with Highways.

3. Village Signs

There was a resounding ‘no’ to more village signs being erected.

4. Noticeboard

Most people would welcome an ‘open’ noticeboard for everyone to use to publicise local events. The preferred location was near to or on the back of the existing board. The feasibility of this is being investigated.

5. Communications

Newsletters were the preferred communication method followed by the website and email.

6. Your Comments

Thank you very much for your numerous comments on a variety of topics, the most common being the state of the hedges and verges on pavements and public footpaths. The Parish Council are reviewing the comments and will take action where possible.

Best Kept Village 2019

The judges' scores are in... Willington came third out of six in our category (villages with a population of under 400). We also received a 'Little Gem Award' in recognition of our tidy, relevant and water-tight notice board. We await formal feedback but were told that coming third in our first year was a very good achievement. Unfortunately, this is the last year that the competition will run in its present form.

Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

There is a nationwide relaunch of the neighbourhood watch scheme. Our current local coordinator is unable to take this forward, so are looking for a local volunteer to take up the reins. 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.

Speeding Through the Village

Two speed monitoring activities have taken place recently. Firstly, a Speed Indicator Device – SID (smiley face), was deployed at various times during August, September and October. The SID was set up by our volunteer speed coordinators (thank you to John Jeffries and David Hooley) on Chapel Lane, Willington Road and Willington Lane. The SID does have an impact... most drivers slow down once their speed is displayed. But unfortunately, approximately 50% of traffic coming down Chapel Lane was travelling over 36 mph in the 30mph limit, confirming what residents have been saying. Traffic along Willington Road and Willington Lane generally kept within the 40mph speed.

Secondly speed monitors were deployed on Chapel Lane and Willington Road for a one-week period during September. Data was captured for 24 hours a day on traffic

travelling in both directions. 85% of vehicles on Chapel Lane were below 36mph in the 30mph limit. But this means that a significant number of vehicles were travelling above 36mph. On Willington Road, 85% of vehicles were below 46mph in the 40mph limit. We are progressing two further speed reduction initiatives.... a permanent speed indicator on Chapel Lane and regular deployment of a speed gun.

Theft from Vehicles

Tools worth £1000 were taken from the back of a JCB on Tirley Lane sometime between 4th and 7th October. A timely reminder to keep your cars locked and any valuables out of sight.

Facebook

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

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 26th November 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