

# The Newsletter of Willington Parish Council



*February 2023 Newsletter No. 31*

## Welcome

### **Welcome to the first newsletter of 2023!**

In this edition, you will find information on up-coming events (including the next Village Quiz in March, the Village Picnic/Coronation Party in May and the Gardens Open Day in June). In addition, there is a fascinating article from one of our residents about airline safety (it's his job to help keep us safe in the air). There's also a reminder about the Parish Council elections in May and a plea to consider joining the Parish Council.

### **New Year Message from the Parish Council Chairman**

On behalf of the Parish Council may I wish you all a very Happy New Year, I hope that you enjoy the first edition of our newsletter for 2023.

Firstly I want to say what a joyful and well-supported event the 'Carols on the Green' was. The music provided by Mark Janes certainly helped improve our singing and I hope you all enjoyed the mince pies and mulled wine. We are grateful to all who worked hard to make the event happen, especially Santa and Bernard for taking time out of their busy schedule to visit Willington.

At the election in May, we need to elect a brand new Council. A number of the current Councillors will not be putting themselves forward for re-election; there will therefore be opportunities for a number of new Councillors. I want to encourage you all to think about becoming a Councillor so that Willington can continue to have voices representing our community and have control over its own destiny. How much time do you have to give? That is entirely up to you. As a minimum, you will need to prepare for and attend six meetings a year. However, if you wish to assist or take the lead on one of our projects then even better. We would also like to maintain a gender balance, so my appeal goes out to especially (but not exclusively) the ladies of the village. Previous female Councillors have brought a different and welcome perspective to the Council.

Progress has been made with the speed limit reduction on Willington Road and potentially Chapel Lane. Also, an onsite meeting has been arranged with the Highways Engineer to look at possible improvements to road markings and signage on Willington Lane between Willington Corner and Willington Hall.

The investigation into the feasibility of taking ownership of the Green is now with CWaC legal team (on their to-do list); we will chase up their response. Also, the project to bring full-fibre broadband to Willington has scheduled their first meeting.

## **New Year Message from the Parish Council Chairman continued**

We have been successful in obtaining grants from CWaC and our Borough Councillors Members Budget (our grateful thanks go to John Leather and Harry Tong), enabling us to start three additional projects; a Willington Information board, a new movable bench to be sited on the Green and an external cabinet to enable 24/7 access to the defibrillator at Willington Hall.

You will no doubt be pleased to read about our budget for 2023/24 and how low the increase in the precept is (just over 1%) The Infrastructure Levy from the development at Manor Farm has boosted our reserves and will help to fund our projects.

Your council is working hard to deliver for Willington. However we couldn't achieve one-half of what we do without the support of the members of our community who are prepared to give their time to edit this newsletter, organise events, monitor and report speeding vehicles, and give their time to the task force and projects. We are very grateful for your support and contributions.

Andrew Nicholas – Chairman

*Andrew Nicholas*



Carols on the Green - Christmas 2022

# Becoming a Willington Parish Councillor

## Why not join your Parish Council - become a Councillor?

Elections for Parish Council are scheduled every five years (although an election can be called at any time if the right criteria are met such as Councillor standing down mid-term). **So... on Thursday 4th May 2023, all five seats on Willington Parish Council will be up for grabs.**

Several of the current Councillors will not be putting themselves forward for re-election; there will therefore be opportunities for a number of new Councillors.

**Interested in becoming a Parish Councillor?** Are you passionate about your community? Do you want to help make a long-lasting change? Do you have innovative ideas for the council? Do you have concerns about a specific issue and want to do something about it? If this is you, then the PC needs you. We need people from all backgrounds and experiences who reflect our community to put themselves forward for election. Make a change and become a councillor.

You will find everything you need to know here..... <https://www.nalc.gov.uk/elections>

The link explains what local councils and councillors do, how you can become a councillor, details of the role and what to expect. Or of course, you should also have a chat to the Clerk or one of the current Councillors to find out what really goes on. We would all be very happy to talk to you. And, the Cheshire Association of Local Councillors have arranged a short and informal webinar at 13:00 on Tuesday 14th March (hosted by A list celebrity Jackie Weaver) for folks thinking about becoming Parish Councillors. You will find out about...Who is eligible? How do you register your interest? What happens next? How much time does it take? What are the rules and regulations? What support is offered to new councillors?

To register your place please email [sharonangus-crawshaw@chalc.org.uk](mailto:sharonangus-crawshaw@chalc.org.uk) or [nikkiroberts@chalc.org.uk](mailto:nikkiroberts@chalc.org.uk)





## Voter ID

### Don't forget your Voter-ID

You may have seen one of the Electoral Commission's 'adverts' or posters designed to raise awareness of the change in the law to implement Voter-ID in the UK. In summary....

...from 4 May 2023, voters in England will need to show a photo ID to vote at polling stations in most elections. This will apply to our Parish Council election to be held on Thursday 4th May 2023. It also applies to Police and Crime Commissioner elections, UK parliamentary by-elections and recall petitions. And from October 2023, it will apply to UK general elections. Suitable photo ID includes:

- Passport issued by the UK, any of the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man, a British Overseas Territory, an EEA state or a Commonwealth country
- Driving licence issued by the UK, any of the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man, or an EEA state (this includes a provisional driving licence)
- A Blue Badge
- Older Person's Bus Pass
- Disabled Person's Bus Pass
- Oyster 60+ Card
- Freedom Pass

You can still use your photo ID if it's out of date, as long as it looks like you. But the name on your ID must be the same name you used to register to vote. Anyone who does not have an accepted form of photo ID will be able to apply for a free voter ID document, known as a Voter Authority Certificate. If you need further clarification, the relevant web page of Electoral Commission's

<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/voter>

## Defib Training

### Defibrillator Training in March 2023 – please come along

Could you save a life? If you are between 10 and 80 years old....then.... YES you could!

We have arranged a free training session with Tattenhall First Responders to be held at Willington Hall on Monday 27th March from 7.00pm till 9.00pm.

So please, if you haven't been trained on how to use a defibrillator, or just need to refresh your memory, please sign up for the training. The training will be fun as well as informative. We now have three AED's in the village. Two are available 24x7 (at The Boot and the Willington Corner phone box) and also at Willington Hall which will soon be 24x7. You will also have seen AEDs in many other locations in the UK. We should all know how to use them to save lives!

You will be shown a short video followed by a hands-on training session using a demo defibrillator and delivering CPR on a mannequin. You will learn how to assess a patient, how to deliver effective CPR and how to use the defibrillator.

Why is this training really important? Because knowing what to do quickly in the correct order will save precious time. Saving just a couple of minutes by applying your training can improve a patient's chance of survival by 20%. Bring your family along, it's a great skill for them to add to their C.V. and I promise you will all enjoy the evening. **Please contact Andrew Nicholas via text, WhatsApp or call 07999 426269 or Email [andrew.nicholas@willington.org.uk](mailto:andrew.nicholas@willington.org.uk)**

## Notes from your Parish Council Clerk

**Our new Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)** – we are pleased to announce that we have a new PCSO; James Hannath. He can be contacted on 07989 674201 (on duty only) or e-mail at [james.hannath@cheshire.police.uk](mailto:james.hannath@cheshire.police.uk).

**Reduction in the speed limit on Willington Road – progress!** The statement of works for the new 30 mph signs and road markings has been issued, and the signs have been ordered. CWaC has recently appointed a new contractor for their road works who begin work in April. Our speed reduction work will hopefully be near the top of their list of jobs.

**20 mph on Chapel Lane – more progress!** The CWaC Road Safety Team have agreed that speed data captured in September last year supports a reduction in the speed limit to 20 mph. The next step is for CWaC Highways to undertake a Speed Limit Assessment. This will confirm whether a 20 mph limit is reasonable and if so propose appropriate signage. The Parish Council will be required to fund 50% of the implementation costs (circa £2400).

**Willington Red Phone Box** – with the financial and other support from Willington residents, we are investigating the replacement of the steel and glass phone box on Willington Corner with a refurbished, traditional red one. We believe that a red box will better suit our rural environment. CWaC own the triangle of land that the box is on, so are working with them to agree the change.

**2023-2024 Parish Council Budget and Precept.** The budget for April 2023 to March 2024 was approved at the meeting of the Parish Council on 31st January 2023. Our overall projected spend for 2023/24 is £24,115 which includes:

- funding for the speed reduction work on Willington Road
- the cost of the new Willington Information Board and bench for the Green
- tree maintenance on the Green

Your Council has set the precept (the money we ask Cheshire West and Chester Council for to enable us to run the Parish Council) for the coming financial year at £6335, an increase of £100 over the 22/23 precept. In 2022/23 the Band D households charge was £41.21 per annum. **The 2023-24 charge for Band D households will be £41.71 per annum; a very small 1.2% increase of £0.50 per annum or £0.04 per month.** After funding the speed reduction project and other projects, our reserves will still meet prudent and legal levels. The 2023-24 budget details are published in the minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on 31st January 2023 (available on the Parish Council website or the Notice Board).

**Funding from the Neighbourhood Pride Scheme** – we are pleased to announce that our applications to the CWaC Neighbourhood Pride Scheme for funds for: a Willington information board on the Green, a movable bench seat to be located on the Green have both been successful. A big thanks to our Borough Councillors (Harry Tonge and John Leather) for supporting our applications.

**Parish Council Meetings - please come along** – your Parish Council meets at least six times a year at Willington Hall. The meetings are usually on the last or penultimate Tuesday of the month **starting at 19:30**. Please consider popping along for all or part of the meeting to see what we talk about and (during the public session) raise any issues or make any comments you have. You are most welcome.

The next meeting is on Tuesday 28th March. The other dates for the meetings in 2023 (including the Annual Village Meeting) are: Tuesday 23rd May, Tuesday 25th July, Tuesday 26th September and Tuesday 21st November. The Annual Village meeting will be on Tuesday 23rd May 2023 prior to the meeting of the Parish Council.

# Parish Council and Quiz!



## LCAS Success for your Parish Council

Your Parish Council has recently been re-accredited to the **Local Council Accreditation Scheme** at Foundation Level.

We achieved Foundation Level (which demonstrates that a council meets the requirements for operating lawfully and according to standard practice) back in 2017 just after the Parish Council was formed but we need to be re-accredited every five years. The scheme offers councils the opportunity to show that they meet the standards set by the sector, assessed by their peers, and to put in place the conditions for continued improvement.

The accreditation involved us completing and submitting a detailed questionnaire covering all aspects of the PC's work such as its documented processes (and evidence that it adheres to those processes), community engagement, financial management and action planning. In their summary of our submission, the assessment panel stated that... 'The panel were very pleased with the overall quality of the application....and thought that overall, the Clerk and Council were doing a good job and functioning to a high standard.' It is really good to have an outside body take a good look at what we are doing and confirm that we meet the required standards.

## Willington Spring Quiz 2023 - evening of Thursday 2nd March 2023 @ Willington Hall

Following the success of the Great Willington Trivia Quiz last November (10 teams, nearly 50 contestants, a closely fought contest that went down to the final round and over £250 raised for St Luke's Hospice in Winsford), the victorious November team (The Brilliant Virginians) have accepted the challenge of arranging the Great Willington Spring Quiz 2023.

The quiz will take place at Willington Hall on **Thursday 2nd March at 19:00 for a 19:30 start**. It will consist of eight rounds of slightly off-the-wall general knowledge questions (including a music round). The quizmaster will be Richard Bailey who will use all his experience in the classroom to maintain some semblance of order (no sniggering at the back 😊). The winning team will receive a splendid trophy and of course the admiration and plaudits from all the other teams.

We expect the quiz to last around two hours; of course, there will be ample opportunities to visit the bar.....quizzing is thirsty work. If you haven't already entered there's still time to select your team of (up to) five and choose a suitably witty name (or just reuse the name you used during lockdown or at the previous quiz).

There is an entry fee of five pounds per team payable on the night. There will also be a raffle. All entry fees and raffle proceeds will be donated to The Wingate Special Children's Trust near Nantwich which is devoted to enriching the lives of children and young people with all levels of physical and learning disability or who are disadvantaged; see <https://www.thewingatecentre.co.uk> for more information.

**To enter your team please let Rob Winterbourne know at [clerkwillington@gmail.com](mailto:clerkwillington@gmail.com), WhatsApp him or call on 01829 751266. If you would like to donate a prize for the raffle, please let Rob know.**

# Willington Open Gardens



**Willington Open Gardens 2023 – Sunday 11th June 2023**

**With Spring fast approaching we would like to remind you that we are holding an Open Gardens event for everyone in the village on Sunday 11 June from 14:00-17:00.**

**If you would like to open your garden, please contact Jane Platt - [j.p.platt@btinternet.com](mailto:j.p.platt@btinternet.com) or 07472 130485. We will provide anyone opening their garden with a guide of what to consider, including a risk assessment.**

We would love you to consider opening up your garden. No special effort is required, just your enthusiasm for the space you have or hope to create. There is no competitive element, just a great chance to share ideas.

We will also have a plant and produce stall on the village green. This a great opportunity to share your excess plants or garden produce. Whilst this will be free, we would like people to make a donation to the [Wingate Centre in Wrenbury](#). Options for cashless donations will be available.

Many of you will know Heather and Richard Bailey in the village. The Wingate Centre has, for many years, helped their daughter Lizzie who has profound learning disabilities and epilepsy. It has been pivotal in offering her meaningful and engaging activities within her capabilities. She has very little to choose from in the mainstream world.

The centre also offers short break residentials and a wide range of educational and recreational visits with many therapies included. To maintain the centre they have to raise £300,000 each year. Please support them where you can.

There will also be a treasure hunt in the open gardens for children to find the special creatures hidden there. And of course, they will get something for their endeavors!

Maps and information on the open gardens will be provided to all villagers who wish to visit the gardens on the Sunday. If you want any more information, please contact Helen Gill - [helen.gill13@btinternet.com](mailto:helen.gill13@btinternet.com) or 01829 751266.



# Remembrance Day and Annual Picnic



## **Get Knitting!**

During November, as part of the annual Remembrance commemorations, we are planning to display homemade poppies on Willington Village Green. We are asking villagers to get creative over the coming months to make as many poppies as we can.

Willington Parish Council has agreed to fund the materials. We have balls of red wool for you to knit or crochet poppies. If you want to use the wool, please contact: Helen Gill - helen.gill13@btinternet.com 01829 751266 or Jane Lowthion - jane.lowthion@willington.org.uk

If you wish to make a voluntary donation to the Royal British Legion please use this link: <https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/ways-to-give/donate>.

We also have an instruction leaflet for making poppies (knitted or crochet), including craft ideas for children to get involved. A copy of these instructions is attached to your newsletter e-mail. If you need a printed copy, please get in touch with Jane or Helen (above).

In October 2023, all poppies will be collected and turned into creative designs for display on the village green. Thank you in advance.

## **Willington Annual Village Picnic**

**Willington Annual Village Picnic - Sunday, 7 May 2023 2.00pm – 4.00pm at Willington Village Green**

Everyone is invited to come together for our annual village picnic on the Green which provides an opportunity for us all to meet and to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III. Bring your own food, drink and chairs plus any outdoor games you may have. Wet weather contingency will be provided – we have plenty of gazebos available. We look forward to seeing you there.





# Tarporley U3A



## **Tarporley U3A Programme - March to May 2023**

Tarporley and District u3a will hold their next general monthly meeting on Thursday 23rd March 2023 at Tarporley Community Centre. Doors open at 9.45am for coffee and tea and biscuits. The meeting begins about 10.15 am with a few announcements. Our speaker starts about 10.30am and this month the talk will be - 'Scams'.

Andrew Kevan, a Detective Constable from the Cheshire Police Cyber Crime Team speaks about the importance of on-line security, how to spot fraudsters and what to do if you think that you have been 'scammed'. This is a timely reminder because so many of our services and financial interactions now take place 'on-line' – or are being moved 'on-line' even if we don't want them to be – and we all need to know how to protect ourselves from this brand of modern fraud – or as it used to be called 'daylight robbery'.

On Thursday 27 April 2023 we have a hilarious account of a publican grappling with tight fisted farmers, eccentric characters, bizarre local customs, naturalist weekends, 'lates and lock-ins', police raids, rats and planners. These are Neil Hanson's memories of his years spent as landlord of Britain's highest inn back in the 1970s and 1980s – 'Inn and Out at the Top'.

Then in May, on Thursday 25th, Grant Ford, a leading specialist in the international auction world who is also an advisor, curator and representative in the world of the arts, especially pictures, will demonstrate that 'Every Picture Tells a Story', when he discussed some of the great pictures – from the Pre-Raphaelites to Lord Leighton and British Post-War painters he has handled during his extensive career. Grant will discuss the changes in the market place and his experiences with sellers and buyers and look at the international art market and specifically at some of the great British artists.

You can find out more from the u3a website at: <https://u3asites.org.uk/tarporley/home> where the monthly newsletter is available, as is information on how to join the u3a.

## Safety in the Air

The days are getting longer, and life is slowly creeping out from under the cold winter blanket. Here at South View in Willington, I have missed much of this UK Winter because I have recently spent a lot of time overseas providing guidance, training, and advice on aviation safety, and carbon offsetting, and reductions in international aviation.

I know we have pilots and their colleagues in the village who regularly fly to destinations worldwide. And I am sure many of us will have booked overseas holidays or are planning them in the near future, so what's that got to do with me? I work for the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) whose job is to protect all who fly and also those who don't. A tall order perhaps, but we achieve this through a set of processes, procedures, standards and regulations known as the Aviation Safety System.

## Safety in the Air continued

The “system” is based on International Standards that we (UK CAA) impose through laws and regulations. The CAA ensures everyone working in the aviation system is competent, approved, licensed or certified; they must demonstrate compliance with regulations. Once approved, certified or licensed, the CAA must then ensure the standards are maintained by carrying out oversight audits of airlines, airports, air traffic controllers, aircraft manufacturers, manufacturers of aircraft parts, unmanned aircraft, and even the police that fly helicopters. We intervene when standards are not being maintained or if a safety concern is identified. We put a huge amount of time and effort into maintaining and improving the safety of all aspects of UK aviation.

Out of interest I recently looked up on the internet “what is the safest form of transport?”. Though fear of flying is common, it is almost completely logically unfounded (but I acknowledge very real to many people). Accidents inevitably attract media attention, and often involve large numbers of fatalities but it is worth keeping things in proportion; recent statistics show that air travel resulted in 0.07 deaths for every 1 billion miles travelled compared to 212.57 for motorcycles and 7.28 for cars.

Air travel is very safe but we are not complacent, accidents do happen and we in the CAA, do everything we can to minimise the chances of such accidents. The UK has an excellent safety record. The UK CAA only has responsibility for the UK and all those operators who we approve, certify, license etc, but there are 193 states worldwide each of whom has a similar aviation system.

I spend a lot of my time improving aviation safety beyond the reach of UK regulation by providing guidance, advice and training to countries who may be struggling to maintain the safety of their aviation system or need support in improving it. So in effect, I represent the globally respected UK Aviation Safety System and use this reputation to help other states improve the safety of their aviation authorities, operators, airlines and other relevant organisations.

As with all areas in our lives the environment is a big issue, so recently I have been providing support to the African region supporting countries such as Uganda, Rwanda, Ethiopia, South Sudan, Seychelles and Tanzania in the monitoring of international flights and promoting carbon offsetting. This is a scheme designed to maintain carbon emission at or below the levels recorded in 2019. In doing this international airline operators purchase credits from organisations who are working to reduce emissions through the planting of trees, developing solar energy or wind farms.

I hope this provides a taste of what I do, if you are an early riser, you may well see me walking the roads and lanes around Willington and Utkinton; feel free to say hello. **Graham Wheeler**



# Tarporley War Memorial Hospital



**TARPORLEY**  
WAR MEMORIAL HOSPITAL TRUST  
Registered Charity Number: 700336

## Tarporley War Memorial Hospital – update

At the November 2022 meeting of the Parish Council, one of the trustees of Tarporley War Memorial Hospital Trust (TWMHT) provided us with a view of the future for the hospital. Since the meeting there have been further developments at the Trust; we have been asked to share them with you. Slides from the TWMHT AGM and some Q&A's are on the TWMHT website and Facebook page, the links are: <https://www.tarporleyhospital.co.uk/latest-news/update-on-current-and-future-services/> and <https://www.facebook.com/TWMHospital>

To summarise the changes to date and future plans:

### **Current Services at Tarporley**

- Dr Campbells Practice run 2 morning sessions at Tarporley Hospital.
- Countess of Chester Ultrasound Department run weekly clinics from Tarporley.
- Community Midwives run weekly clinics from Tarporley.
- Hospital at Home IV (Intravenous Therapy) Clinics began at Tarporley in November 2022.
- Cheshire & Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (CWP) Physiotherapy
- We have successfully rehoused clinics previously held in Tarporley practice for CWP, which include Health visiting and baby clinics, Community & District Nurse Clinics.

### **Creation of clinical outpatient space on ground floor and Future Use**

- The two ward areas will be converted into large multi-function clinic rooms, one specifically for Children's Therapy services and the other for Adult Therapy clinics.
- The two ensuite bedrooms will be converted into consultation rooms and these will be utilised for planned care appointments to give extra capacity in a rural setting outside of the Countess and therefore reduce patient waiting times.
- Large day space area to be multi-purpose to allow for patient education i.e. weight management, fatigue management, diabetes education, also strength and balance classes.
- Community groups will be able to hire the space.
- Extra Waiting Area to be created.
- Additional Carpark spaces at the rear of the building.

### **Partner Plans for Future Use**

- GP routine appointment extended hours
- Various primary care clinics
- Social prescribing
- Children's speech and language therapy
- Identifying groups that would want to utilise the Day Room space in and out of hours.

# About your Parish Council



## About Your Parish Council

You can contact Willington Parish Council by e-mail, phone, post or by coming along to a council meeting. To contact us by post, please write to the Clerk, Rob Winterbourne, at 1, Lilac Close, Willington, CW6 0PL, Tel: 01829 751266

## To contact the Parish Council via e-mail or phone please use the details below:

Cllr John Grimshaw (01829 752177) - email:

[john.grimshaw@willington.org.uk](mailto:john.grimshaw@willington.org.uk)

Cllr John Lindsay (01829 751057) - email: [john.lindsay@willington.org.uk](mailto:john.lindsay@willington.org.uk)

Cllr Jane Lowthion (01829 751454) - email: [jane.lowthion@willington.org.uk](mailto:jane.lowthion@willington.org.uk)

Cllr Rob Merrick (01829 458387) - Vice Chairman - email:

[rob.merrick@willington.org.uk](mailto:rob.merrick@willington.org.uk)

Cllr Andrew Nicholas (01829 752029) – Chairman - email:

[andrew.nicholas@willington.org.uk](mailto:andrew.nicholas@willington.org.uk)

Rob Winterbourne (01829 751266) - Clerk - email:

[clerk.willington@willington.org.uk](mailto:clerk.willington@willington.org.uk)

## Your Cheshire West and Chester Borough Councillors

Cllr John Leather (01829 752558) or email at:

[john.leather@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:john.leather@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

Cllr Harry Tonge email at: [harry.tonge@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:harry.tonge@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

## Next Parish Council Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on **Tuesday 28th March 2023** at Willington Hall. All meetings start at 7.30 pm. The meetings are open meetings; you are welcome to attend and listen to the discussions or contribute to the Open Forum.