

TARPORLEY PARISH COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER JULY 2004

Chairman's Message

Hello again! At the Annual Parish Council meeting I was re-elected to serve as Chairman for another year. I hope you found our last newsletter interesting and informative and have visited our web site at www.tarporley.org.uk.

The Parish Councillors are working well together as a team with each member having a part to play in the working groups that are considering such topics as affordable housing, churchyard extension, quality status, Community Pride, police liaison etc. A full list of working groups is on the notice board. If you feel you would like to contribute to one please talk to us. We hope many of these projects will come to fruition next year.

More people are visiting our surgeries held monthly in the Community Centre from 6-7pm on the first Tuesday of each month, except August. If you have a problem or suggestion please come and talk to us. I hope you have an enjoyable summer.

Helen Watson Chairman, Tarporley Parish Council

Affordable Housing

There was a good response to the affordable housing survey delivered to every household in November 2003.

Of those who responded 85% were in favour of affordable housing provision with 80% feeling any provision should be for local people only.

77 respondents expressed a need with most wishing to purchase or part own.

The findings of the survey along with the key objectives were adopted at the April 2004 meeting of the Parish Council.

Though at present there is no obvious solution the Parish Council will continue to monitor the situation and address the need when appropriate.

Community Mini-bus Service

This service, which is subsidised by the Parish Council, is available to any older or less mobile resident of Tarporley who would like transport to the village for shopping. It runs every Thursday morning at about 10.30. It is a door-to-door service and costs 40p return. If you would like to be included, please phone Aries Private Hire on **732557**.

The minibus also takes members to the Autumn Club monthly meetings. Do you already use it? If not please call the above number.

Would anyone be interested in re-starting the Library trip? No steps are involved in gaining access. Contact Helen Watson on **732542**

Staff and Contractors

T.P.C. employs the Parish Clerk John MacDonald whose tasks are to advise the council on legal matters, is responsible for the finances and ensures that decisions taken by the council are carried out. John Phillips and Geoff Fowles maintain the footpaths, the street furniture and collect the litter dropped by thoughtless people. During May they were joined by Gary Steele who will ensure the tidiness of our public areas



www.tarporley.org.uk
parishclerk@tarporley.org.uk

Dog Fouling

Dogs make excellent companions but the thoughtlessness of some owners can result in distress, disgust and disease. There have been many complaints about dog fouling throughout the village. Not only is treading in dog excrement unpleasant but can result in the transfer of *toxocara canis*, which affects about 100 people per year. Most of these are young children, who suffer severe eye damage as a result. The solution is for all dog owners to clear up after their pets. Bags and scoops are readily available from shops or Vale Royal Borough Council (you could even use the plastic envelopes from junk mail!). Allowing a dog to foul a public place is illegal and the Parish and Borough councils will take action against offenders, who may be fined up to £1000. Many hundreds are fined each year throughout the UK for this offence. If you wish to report an incident, contact the Vale Royal Dog Warden on 01606 867847.

St. Helen's Churchyard

As was reported in our Spring newsletter the cemetery is running out of space. The Parish Council is in the process of purchasing an adjacent piece of land to provide additional space. Negotiations are taking place with the Diocese to obtain access to the new burial ground. At present it seems likely the administration of the cemetery will be carried out by the Parish Council.

IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW WOULD BENEFIT FROM A LARGE PRINT OR TALKING BOOK VERSION PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH CLERK

Tarporley Parish Council are grateful for the help provided by Tarporley Community High School in producing this newsletter.
Picture of the High Street by kind permission of Peter Willis

Production of this newsletter is funded out of the annual precept. Sponsorship to provide a larger newsletter would be very welcome and will be gratefully acknowledged.

TARPORLEY

A Quality Parish Council

It is the government's intention that local government should be closer to the community it serves and to do this has introduced the concept of a Quality Parish Council. These councils will be given greater authority to manage some of the services that affect the quality of life of those living in the parish.

In partnership with the next higher tier of local government they will assume direct responsibility for some aspects of the maintenance of footpaths and pavements, street lighting, parks, gardens and verges, cemeteries, litter, crime prevention and much more. With the agreement of the next tier of government, finance will be allocated from the Borough's portion of the Council Tax and should not result in any addition to the precept.

To become a Quality Parish Council we have to demonstrate to the government that we have met the standards expected of an effective, representative and active parish council.

Your Parish Council is determined to achieve these objectives because we believe Tarporley deserves the best.

STOP PRESS. Wednesdays at 2.30 pm Meet the Community Support Officer in the Community Centre Club Room.

TRANSPORT FOR TARPORLEY

Cheshire County Council is currently assessing its provision of public transport. There is the possibility that some services will be reduced or even discontinued. Your Parish Council is considering what effect cuts are likely to have on the residents of Tarporley and whether the Parish Council should consider some alternative provision. Why? Access to jobs, services and leisure opportunities is important for all people, but such access is often difficult for those living in rural areas. The first step for the council is to find out exactly what is needed for Tarporley. For any new provision to be effective it needs to be supported by local people - **use it or lose it.** Only by finding out what people need and what they will use can solutions be found which will really serve the community. The community can then initiate its own action or join with others to ensure that satisfactory facilities are provided.

Village Security

Our Community Support Officer has been patrolling in the village for several months now and we have to judge whether or not her presence is good value for **your** money. The cost to the village will be £20,000 a year if we wish to keep her services. Let us know your opinion.

VILLAGE PRIDE AWARD

Last year we came fifth—this year we want to be in our rightful place— **FIRST!!!** The Parish Council will have three staff working around the village keeping everything in good order. But we need your help. **Please take your litter home.** Let us have colourful gardens. Business premises, please keep the area around your shops or offices neat and tidy.. How about some flower displays in hanging baskets or boxes? Let us all try to **“Make Tarporley Beautiful”**

TALK TO US

As a Parish Council we try and do our best for the community but we desperately need to know what you believe the community needs. Visit our web site www.tarporley.org.uk. E-mail parishclerk@tarporley.org.uk

TALK TO US

CONTACT YOUR PARISH COUNCILLOR

PARISH COUNCILLOR	TELEPHONE NUMBER	PARISH COUNCILLOR	TELEPHONE NUMBER
Mr. Ernest Boynes	733127	Mr. Hugh Melliush	722252
Dr. Richard Brierly	732539	Mr. Ken Parker	732188
Mr. Roy Craven	732869	Mr. Tom Spark	732763
Mrs Joan Foden	732681	Mrs. Caroline Topping	732960
Mrs Janet Greenwood	730032	Mrs Jean Wall	733155
Mr. Tim Hill (VRBC)	732804	Mrs. Helen Watson	732542

**Clerk to the Parish Council Mr. J. Macdonald Tel. 01829 733496
E-mail parishclerk@tarporley.org.uk**