



TARPORLEY PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

www.tarporley.gov.uk

November 2005

Quality Accreditation Achieved

What will it mean for Tarporley?



Picture courtesy Peter Willis

On 31 August 2005 Tarporley Parish Council was accredited as a **Quality Parish Council**. In the letter accompanying the Certificate the Chairman of the Accreditation Panel informed us that the Accreditation Panel had agreed unanimously that our application had met the required criteria. The letter went on to say that our application was excellent, that it was encouraging to see that the Parish Council website was used as a means of communicating with the community and particularly recommended Tarporley for engaging with the electorate through the medium of holding regular Councillors Surgeries on the first Tuesday of every month.

The Charter

In February 2005 a Charter was agreed to promote and develop enhanced co-operation between Town and Parish Councils (Local Councils) and County and District Council (Principal Authorities). It sets out the principles for the three tiers of Local Government to work together in partnership to improve the quality of life of those living in Cheshire. This Charter is a substantial document which cannot, because of restrictions of space, be reproduced here. Some points of note, however are:

Part 1. Applying to all Local Councils

Sustainability. Cheshire Councils will work in partnership to promote sustainable social, economic and environmental development for the benefit of the local community.

Land Use and Local Plan Issues. When a Local Council has prepared a Village Design Statement or Parish Plan the relevant planning authority will consider and discuss and take these documents into account as part of the next review of local development documents.

Local Governance. Principal Authorities will ensure that the Cheshire Association of Local Councils (Chalc) who represent Town and Parish Councils, will have a seat on the County Forums, District Area Meetings/Committees and other countywide forums; have direct involvement in the meetings of the Highways and Transport Local Joint Committees, have joint conferences with Local Councils and encourage councillors of Principal Authorities to accept invitations to attend Local Council meetings.

Consultations. The Principal Authorities will circulate public reports and give adequate opportunity to Local Councils to discuss and respond before making decisions which affect local communities.

Information and Complaints. There will be considerably enhanced communications between the three tiers of local government to encourage prompt settlement of matters causing concern

Delegating Responsibility for Service Provision. When a Local Council wishes to take delegated responsibility for the delivery of a service etc. the Principal Authority will actively discuss opportunities for devolution.

Practical Support. Principal Authorities will, where practicable, offer Local Councils access to their own support services

Part 2. Quality Parish Councils Only

The Principal Authorities will encourage the development of Parish Com-pacts to ensure that Local Councils are able to influence service delivery at local level.

Information and Access Points. Where a Parish Council wishes to become a Local Access and Information Point for County and/or District Council services, the Principal Authorities will help it to do so. Give electronic access to information and training to Local Government support staff.

Delegation of Functions and Service Provision. Principal Authorities will offer Local Councils the opportunity to undertake some aspects of such functions as Noise and Nuisance Abatement, Development Control, Library operations and Minor Highway Maintenance.

It is obvious that the Parish Council will not be taking active responsibility for these function immediately, but it will work to hard to be able to take the earliest opportunity to provide enhanced service provision to the Parish .

COMMUNITY CENTRE A.G.M.

The Community Centre AGM will be held in the Community Centre at **7.00pm on Monday 28 November**. Volunteers to join the Committee and help run the Centre are urgently required. If you want your Community Centre to prosper come along to this meeting and share your ideas.

TARPORLEY LIGHTS UP FOR CHRISTMAS

Carols Hot Chestnuts Mulled Wine

**Sing carols accompanied by the Tarporley Band and choirs
from the High School and the Primary School**

The Chestnut Tree lights will be switched on by Father Christmas

FRIDAY DECEMBER 2ND at 7.00 pm

Come and join us

Revised Speed Limits

The Parish Council Highways and Traffic Working Group continues to meet regularly with members of the Cheshire County Highways department as a result of the current Local Transport Plan Funding initiative. The first action by Cheshire Highways was to review speed restrictions in and around the village. As a result of this review 30 mph speed restrictions are shortly to be imposed at Brook Road from its junction with Eaton Road to its junction with Common Lane; Cobblers Cross Lane from its junction with Eaton Road to a position 30 metres north of its junction with Torr Rise; Common Lane from its junction with Bowmere Road to 66 metres south east of its junction with Brook Road; Eaton Road from its junction with Cobblers Cross Lane to a position 199 metres east of that junction; Utkinton Road from its junction with Burton Avenue to a position 50 metres north of that junction; the whole length of Walkers Lane.

40 mph restrictions will come into force at Birch Heath Road from its junction with Old Birch Heath Road to a point 800 metres north of that junction.

The Parish Council have requested that following implementation of this order that Cheshire Highways Department consider the extension of reduced speed limits to include Sapling Lane and all of Rode Street as soon as possible.

Playground Update

If you haven't seen the new playground at the rear of the Community Centre please go and have a look.

There are facilities for toddlers, a teen shelter and a new set of goal posts on the playing field. Trees and shrubs will be planted during November, completing phase one of the scheme. FLAG members are currently applying for more funds and hope to be in a position to finish the project around May next year. Approximately £60,000 is required to pay for the remaining toddler and junior play equipment, more bench seating and litter bins, all of which will be installed within the newly fenced area which has temporarily been grassed.

If you would like to become involved in helping to raise money or feel you could assist in any way, please contact Graham Lees on 733832 or e-mail gdlees@tinyworld.co.uk.

COMMUNITY PRIDE COMPETITION

BEST KEPT VILLAGE

Tarporley residents will be delighted to know that we have won first place in the 2005 Cheshire Community Pride Competition. Our category was for communities of 2500 to 5000 residents. Unfortunately we were not successful in the North West in Bloom competition which Vale Royal Borough Council persuaded us to enter. However, the outstanding contribution to the appearance of the village made by business, the allotment holders and residents played a great part in our success in the Best Kept Village. Our thanks go to all who have helped and we are grateful for the support and encouragement given by our late Chairman Helen Watson.

TALLEST SUNFLOWER COMPETITION

Congratulations and thanks to all the children who entered the Parish Council's "Tallest Sunflower" Competition. The judges measured many stems and eventually found the tallest sunflower at a height of 3.76 metres (12ft 3in) grown by Katy Walton.

The following children all received a book token prize as winner or runner up of their relative age group. The height of their sunflower is given in brackets.

Twins Joe and Luke Windsor	(3.35m)
Barnaby Jones	(2.96m)
Hannah Jackson	(2.95m)
Katy Walton	(3.76m)
Ellen Jackson	(3.57m)
Emily Jeeves	(2.88m)

Local Police Details

Our local Police Officer is -

PC 3528 Chris McCourt
Dragon Hall Police Office
Whitchurch Road
Tattenhall
Chester CH3 9DU

Answerphone: 0845 4586377

E-Mail: Christopher.mccourt@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

Possible Police Service Restructuring

(Extract from a survey distributed by the Cheshire Police Authority in late September.)

The Government has just published a review of the structure of police forces. The key findings were that the present 30 year old, 43 force structure, must change to more effectively tackle serious organised crime, terrorism, critical incidents and public order.

A proposal has been made to merge existing forces to create larger regional organisations that can better provide protective services whilst ensuring that recent investment in local neighbourhood policing remains intact. The proposal also indicates that the cost of providing policing services could be reduced.

The report says that forces should have a minimum of 4000 officers; Cheshire Constabulary currently has 2214 so on that basis, to resist the change is not an option. In addition changes must be confined within the existing regions i.e. north west forces (which includes Cheshire, Merseyside, Greater Manchester, Lancashire and Cumbria) must not be divided up.

The survey considered it important that the Police Authority understood your views and required that the completed questionnaire be returned by 14 October 2005.

The proposed structure for each region must be submitted to the Government by the end of December 2005. Any changes will take place from 2007.

Anti Social Behaviour

The Parish Council is very concerned at the rising incidence of anti social behaviour taking place in the village at week ends, primarily in the vicinity of public houses and the Community Centre. A few weeks ago a serious assault took place near the Community Centre.

The Parish Council is considering a number of options which will assist in the prevention of anti social behaviour. Firstly the installation of CCTV cameras around the Community Centre which is frequently the victim of vandalism. The cameras will survey the front and sides of the building while at the rear the cameras will monitor the car park, children's play area, the teen shelter and a portion of the playing field. They will be equipped with infra red illumination which will enable the cameras to record in total darkness. At a later stage cameras will possibly be installed in the car park behind the Rising Sun.

Secondly, the Parish Council is considering patrols of certain areas during the late evening. These patrol may be by police, at overtime rates, special constables, or by staff of an accredited security company who will be accompanied by dogs.

Thirdly, the Parish Council has applied to Vale Royal Borough Council to obtain an order prohibiting the consumption of alcohol in the open air along the High Street and on the grounds adjacent to the Community Centre.

The police will also take action against anyone who sell alcoholic drinks to the under aged.

These are serious and distasteful measures, but the Parish Council believes it has a duty to take such action as is required to preserve the peace of the village.

School Matters

Transforming Learning Communities

Below are extracts from Cheshire County Council's web pages. Further information can be obtained by logging on to www.cheshire.gov.uk/tlc

What is Transforming Learning Communities?

The County Council is preparing to respond to "Every Child Matters" and the Children's act 2004. This will be a far reaching change for all those delivering services for children and families. The Government has put schools at the heart of the change and Cheshire's response is a wide ranging review of its educational provision. This coincides with the County Council having to manage the effect of significant population changes. Next year we will have 5% fewer 0-15 year olds than in 2001 and by 2021 some 25% fewer 15 year olds. Clearly this would compound the already existing problem of surplus capacity in schools if nothing were done. Therefore the County Council has agreed to a full review of school provision across Cheshire—the "Transforming Learning Communities" initiative—with the intension of removing surplus places while meeting wider community needs where possible. The timetable and consultation process has all-party support within the County Council and it has been agreed that the "Transforming Learning Communities" initiative should be underpinned by seven principles developed by key stakeholders during a conference in September.

The review will be undertaken over the next two years on a phased basis in eight localities. An agreed procedure will be followed involving local people within a defined consultation process with recommendations for change emerging from these. Implementation, again on a phased basis will have a target date of 2011 for final completion. In each locality the review will begin with a Stakeholder Conference which will present the case for change, the detailed timeline and the mechanisms by which individuals and/or interest groups can become involved.

The Review for Tarporley, Winsford and Middlewich will commence during Spring 2006 and the Options for Consultation expected in Autumn 2006

THE HELEN O'GRADY DRAMA ACADEMY

Classes are held in the Tarporley Community Centre, commencing at 5.15 pm every Thursday. The classes encourage the development of good communication skills using a fun drama course based around three elements, speech, movement and creative improvised drama. The speech section is basically speech training, the movement segment involves learning skills and acting out stories to music. The drama section which takes up the major part of the lesson can be as diverse as adventures on "Spider Island to creating new products in an over worked "Ice Cream Factory!" All the plays and music are specially written for the Academy. Lessons are taught by qualified CRB checked teachers, are a lot of fun and not expensive. Parents can contact the Principal, Brian Ormond on 01270 765586.

CHESTER CRIME PREVENTION PANEL

Chester Crime Prevention panel is a group of local people from a variety of backgrounds, who work in partnership with the community, the local police and other local agencies, to minimise crime and improve the quality of life for all people in the Chester area.

Panel members are in a unique position to assist in this work. They live and work in the area and have the local knowledge of vulnerable groups and places. They are in a position to see changing patterns of behaviour and have access to sources of help available in the vicinity.

The aims of the panel are to—Minimise the opportunities for crime - Help and reassure those who live in fear of crime - Develop more involved communities - Involve young members in panel activities to prevent them and their peers drifting into anti-social behaviour . Assist other authorities having similar aims . Any person wishing to assist in this worthwhile activity should apply initially to **David Owens, Chester Safety Network Officer, Chester Police HQ, Blacon, Chester CH1 5BD, Tel 01244 616183**

**Cheshire County Councillor
Eddisbury Ward**

Councillor A. Needham 01829 732444
Andrew.Needham@cheshire.gov.uk

**Vale Royal Borough Councillors
Tarpорley and Oulton Ward**

Councillor Mr. T. Hill 01829 732804
Councillor Ms. G. Fairhurst 01829 760568

Tarpорley has twelve Parish Councillors each of whom sits on one or more of the Parish Council Working Groups.

Contact details are

<u>Councillor</u>	<u>Phone (01829)</u>
Mr. E. Boynes (Chairman)	733127
Dr. R. Brierley	732539
Mr. R. Craven	732869
Mrs. J. Foden	732681
Mrs. J. Greenwood	730032
Mr. T. Hill (VRBC)	732804
Mrs. H. Nickson	730601
Mr G. Lees	733832
Mr. K. Parker	732188
Mr. T. Spark	732763
Mrs. C. Topping	732960
Mrs. J. Wall	733155

Parish Clerk

Mr. J. Macdonald 01829 733496
parishclerk@tarpорley.org.uk

**Chartwood House
20 Nantwich Road
Tarpорley
CW6 9UW**

Parish Council Meetings

Parish Council meetings are held on the second Monday in the month, except August, in the Committee Room of the Community Centre at 7.00 pm and are open to the public. A period is set aside prior to the commencement of the meeting during which members of the public can raise parish matters which may be of concern to them.

Parish Councillor's Surgeries are held in the Community Centre Committee Room on the First Tuesday of every month except August. Members of the Public are welcome to attend and discuss matters of concern to them informally with councillors.

Parish Council Working Groups

Planning Committee

Composed of all Parish Councillors and meets as required

Traffic and Highways

Councillors R. Craven, T. Hill, T. Spark

Quality Parish Council

Councillors E. Boynes, (spokesperson) K. Parker

Affordable Housing

Councillors J. Wall (spokesperson) R. Craven, J. Foden. K. Parker

Community Security

Councillors J. Greenwood (spokesperson) R. Craven, T. Spark.
H. Nickson

Burial Ground

Councillors J. Foden (spokesperson) T. Hill. J. Wall

Celebrations and Christmas Lights

Councillors T. Spark (spokesperson) J. Greenwood, C. Topping,

Best Kept Village

Councillors J. Foden (spokesperson) J. Wall, E. Boynes

Budget and Forward Planning

Councillors K. Parker (spokesperson) T. Spark, E. Boynes, the Clerk

Parish Plan

Councillors R. Brierley (spokesperson) G. Lees, C. Topping

Community Centre Management

Councillor R. Craven,.

Publicity

Councillors E. Boynes (spokesperson) C. Topping, G. Lees

Monthly Finance

Councillor T. Spark

Rowlife Homes

Councillors J. Foden, J. Wall

Arthur Meredith Memorial Trust

Councillors E. Boynes, R. Craven, T. Hill, J. Wall

Flag Playground

Councillor G. Lees

Helen Watson Memorial

Councillors R. Brierley, J. Foden, T. Spark, J. Wall

Primary School Governor Councillor C. Topping

High School Governor Councillor E. Boynes

Parish Council Working Groups meet as and when the needs of the project upon which they are engaged require.

They report back to the Parish Council at full Parish Council meetings. They also have meetings with officers of Cheshire County Council, Vale Royal Borough Council and various other organisations

Clerk's Corner

LITTER

Litter can seem to be a bit of a boring subject but the removal of litter is an expensive activity. Vale Royal spends £1,150,000 per annum in the Borough, while the Parish Council supplements this with another £2,000 per annum to improve the local service. Why is this necessary? In part it covers the provision and emptying of litter bins as a sensible service to the community, but the major expense is in collecting dropped litter and removing items thoughtlessly or deliberately left by passers by. Our enjoyment of our lovely village is regularly spoilt by those who litter and the cost of our Council Tax reflects this casual attitude. Any regular visitor to the village centre will readily come to the conclusion that most of this litter is from three sources Lunch time litter left by those who leave food wrappings and empty bottles; the debris of late night revellers who leave glasses, bottles and take away wrappers and finally litter bin overspill due to some traders using litter bins to dispose of trade waste. What can be done? The Parish Council is currently reviewing the provision of litter bins with Vale Royal, but the real answer is more straightforward —

be thoughtful as to how you dispose of your litter—find a bin or take it home

**If you need a large print copy of the Newsletter please contact the Clerk on
01829 733496**