

Tarporley Parish Council Annual Report 2015-2016

Chairman's Report 2015-2016 Ken Parker

The Parish Council started the year with 11 elected councillors, 5 of which were elected for the first time and a new parish clerk, the twelve councillor was co-opted in June. I continued as chairman and Gill Clough as vice chair.

We have had an extremely busy year dealing with the needs, requirements, aspirations and development of the village, not only for the residents and businesses located here, but also for the many visitors.

Individual councillors became members of various specific working groups which included Infrastructure, Streetscene, Finance, Cemetery Committee and the Neighbourhood Plan. Councillors also represented the Parish Council on various local matters, and were directly involved with the Community Centre, the High School, and the Primary School. We also continued to employ contractors and subcontractors, to deal with the day to day cleaning, maintenance and improvement of Tarporley. Their tasks included litter picking, street cleaning, footpath maintenance, grass cutting, weed spraying and also salt gritting to footpaths and public areas during icy conditions. We also carried out regular inspections of the children's play area, to ensure that this and the facilities were maintained to a good and safe standard. We have also recently renewed the contract for the shopping bus service for the elderly and disabled members of our community.

We have ensured that improvements to the village have continued to be made, and these include forming flower and shrub beds, and planting additional fruit trees in the grass areas situated around the village, and are still working on the design and landscaping proposals for the Village Square, which will be located at the entrance to St Helens Church on High Street. This will be discussed at a public consultation soon.

We have awarded grants towards the costs of upgrading the community centre car park, the provision of the new public footpath along side the playing field, and the general maintenance of both churchyards.

We have completed a full survey, and are now carrying out maintenance and improvements to the public footpaths around the village. We are also in discussion with CWaC with the intention of taking over control of the maintenance and grass cutting of all public grassed areas located around the village, and the provision of the hanging flower baskets along High Street, but this will be on the understanding that they will reimburse us for the costs of carrying out this work on a regular basis.

The sports and recreation field off Brook Road, has recently been transferred to the Parish Council, and we will now tidy up the area, and install the very necessary land drainage, before work on site can commence, to create this new and very welcome asset to the village. We will be appointing a project manager to control and oversee this work.

The development of the Neighbourhood Plan, which is based on the wishes of local people, is now complete and the results of the referendum on 5th May was overwhelmingly in favour of its adoption. Once formally adopted by CW&C it will form the basis for making decisions on all future developments and improvements to the village. The Plan crucially designates a total of 9 Protected Local Green Spaces, including several key areas off the High Street to be retained for the visual benefit of the village. These include the Daffodil Field, bowling green, allotments and land to the side of the Manor House. These particular areas are being seriously pursued by developers. In the case of the Daffodil Field, which has been approved on appeal by the Planning Inspector for housing development, CWaC have asked for a judicial review to take place on the Inspector's decision. The Neighbourhood Plan gives residents more control over this type of controversial issue, and also future development in our own village. Planning applications for large housing schemes located outside the village development boundary, are still a problem.

Chairman Ken Parker (in cap) with Councillors on the Parish Council stall at the 2015 Tarporley Carnival



Chairman's Report continued...

A number of planning refusals have gone to appeal, others have been temporarily withdrawn, but the implementation of a Neighbourhood Plan should give the village more control over its future.

The major problems associated with car parking generally, and also traffic congestion on High Street, has increased over the past years, and because of this, our shops and other businesses are experiencing a sharp fall in trade. This has resulted in an increasing number of empty shop premises, and we are aware that a number of businesses are also now for sale. We have managed to increase the number of parking spaces in the car parks, but cars parked all day on High Street are a major problem for shoppers and visitors. To improve this situation, we are considering the introduction of limited time parking on High Street. Questionnaires have been delivered to local residents on and around High Street and shoppers, for their comments and views on this, and a decision will be made following receipt of these comments and recommendations.

As in past years, we have entered Tarporley for this year's Best Kept Village Awards, but we do need the assistance of all residents, shop keepers and local businesses to keep the village clean, litter free, neat and tidy, and to provide additional colourful floral displays on their buildings and in their gardens. Last year we didn't achieve the usual high award, but we are hoping that this year, with your help, we will be awarded a much better result. Judging has already commenced, and covers the total area within the Tarporley parish boundaries, not just High Street.

In conclusion I take this opportunity to thank all of the councillors and our parish clerk, for their enthusiasm, time, dedication and professionalism in carrying out their duties for the council. Each year has seen an increase in the amount of work necessary, due to government initiatives and legislation, and also to deal with the needs and aspirations of this vibrant village of Tarporley.

We look forward to serving you and the village of Tarporley over the coming year, and if you have any views or concerns about village matters, I invite you to visit us on our stand at the Tarporley Village Carnival in July, or come to one of our parish council meetings held in the community centre on the second Monday of each month. We look forward to meeting you.

Outdoor Sports and Recreation Ground Update (Brook Road)

The OSR Committee was set up in June 2015 to oversee the development of new Outdoor Sports & Recreation facilities on land to the east of Brook Road, and improve the existing facilities on the Community Centre field.

Recently the Committee has also been tasked with looking at updating the Children's Playground at the rear of the Community Centre.

Some of the key achievements since the Committee was formed include:

- Development of proposals for both sites following the public consultation carried out in March 2015.

- Further consultation on proposed facilities and layouts conducted at the Carnival in July 2015.

- Development of budget costings for the proposals.

- Identifying potential funding sources and commencing discussions with potential fund holders.

- Seeking proposals from professional organisations who specialise in accessing funding.

- Commissioning topographical and soils investigation surveys on both sites, resulting in technical proposals for levelling, drainage and development of playing pitches on both sites.

- Drawing up specifications for changing facilities on the Brook Road site, and appointing an Architect to prepare plans.

- Fact finding visit to Ashton Hayes Jubilee Fields development.

The next key milestone will be the submission of Planning Applications. The granting of Planning Permission will enable work to commence on developing the sites in a phased manner to suit available funding streams.

Attendance

The Council has twelve seats, eleven of which were filled at the May 2015 elections so there was an uncontested election (no voting). James Kennedy was co-opted by the Council at their June meeting. The Council has held 11 scheduled meetings during the Council year which runs from May to May and two extraordinary meetings. The average attendance of Councillors at the meetings is 10, while the average public attendance is 6 per meeting. Meetings have also been regularly attended by CW&C Ward Councillor Eveleigh Moore Dutton and PC Wayne Thomas. All Council's meetings are open to the public and include Public Participation where members of the public can raise any matter of concern.

New Website for Parish Council

In the second half of 2015 the Parish Council Website Working Group began working on a project to upgrade the www.tarporley.org.uk website.

Phase 1 of the project was completed in November 2015 when the new website was launched. At this stage the website contains information about the Parish Council, Councillors, working groups & committees, meetings, publications and announcements plus some information about Tarporley and some Local Services.

Phase 2 of the project will involve adding information about Tarporley clubs and organisations and should be complete by June 2016. If you are involved with a club or organisation and would like to be included on the website please e-mail the Clerk at clerk@tarporley.org.uk.

Phase 3 will involve presenting information aimed at visitors to Tarporley to assist in promoting Tarporley as a tourist destination.

Council Meeting Dates 2016-2017

The Council meets on the second Monday of the month (except August).

Monday 9th May 2016

Monday 13th June 2016

Monday 11th July 2016

Monday 12th September 2016

Monday 10th October 2016

Monday 14th November 2016

Monday 12th December 2016

Monday 9th January 2017

Monday 13th February 2017

Monday 13th March 2017

All meetings start at 7pm and are held in the Committee Room, Community Centre, Tarporley unless advertised differently.

Footpaths Report, David Press Parish Footpath Officer

Most of our footpaths are in good order and are now well signed except for some improvement needed on paths now in the Parish because of the expanded boundary.

The routes from Heath Green to Heatherways and Heathfields and on to Utkinton Road and Forest Road are now accessible without having to climb stiles. However, there is one gate on the route which is on top of a steep bank and we hope to build a gentler ramp here. The surface on the route toward Forest Road has also been improved and has been far more useable this winter. We hope to replace stiles with gates on several more routes in the coming year.

We hope that when the Nantwich Road housing development nears completion that the landowner will be persuaded to allow a route through the A51/49 underpass.

It has come to light that the definitive rights of way map shows the route from behind Birch Heath finishing short of the road. This was probably an error when the map was originally drawn. We hope to be able to gather evidence to be able to get it included on the map.

(picture Footpath 10, towards Heath Green)



Tarporley Neighbourhood Plan Report 2015-2016

A big push by the Steering Group over the last 12 months has resulted in the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) moving through 5 of the 9 key stages in its creation, with only the final stage remaining before the Plan becomes part of the statutory development plan. Following the public consultation throughout February and March last year the group spent the following months reviewing the 43 responses, 14 from residents and 29 from organisations and developers. The Plan was revised in light of these consultation responses, approved by the Parish Council and submitted to CWaC in October who then undertook a further 6 week consultation.

During this final consultation phase we worked with CWaC on the process of selecting an examiner. From the candidates received we were unanimous in choosing Nigel McGurk based on his public, private and community sector experience. He was also the examiner for the Tattenhall NP. The examination was undertaken by way of written representations only and the final report was issued on the 9th February with his recommendation being that subject to the required modifications the Plan can meet the basic conditions and proceed to a referendum. The examiner recommended some major modifications to the Plan including the deletion of the settlement boundary and housing policy TH1. Whilst this was disappointing he was clear that these were necessary to meet the basic conditions and enable it to proceed to referendum. The other modifications aimed to add clarity and help decision makers when determining planning applications. The designation of Local Green Space is a significant policy designation and the examiner retained all nine designations and development in these areas is not permitted other than in very special circumstances. Following this the report we sought guidance from CWaC around the proposed changes to the settlement boundary and we have been reassured that the existing boundary will remain 'in force' until a new one is drawn as part of the Local Plan Phase 2. The necessary changes were made to the Plan and the final version submitted to CWaC to undertake the referendum on the 5th May 2016.

In addition to the promotion undertaken by CWaC and in order to help raise awareness of the referendum and encourage as many people to vote, a leaflet was created and distributed to all households within the plan area. There have also been numerous postings on the Tarporley News Facebook pages, again helping to raise awareness. It was great to see so many people turn out for the referendum and more importantly show their overwhelming support for the Plan with 96% of the 1083 people who voted giving a resounding YES. It has taken 4 years to get to this point with lots of hard work from the members of the Neighbourhood Plan working groups but now we have a plan, based on the views of local people that will become part of the statutory development plan for the area.

The Plan is scheduled to be 'made' at the CWaC Cabinet meeting on 8th June 2016. Thank you to everyone who has helped create the Plan and to the community for providing their views at key stages in the development of our Neighbourhood Plan.

TARPORLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN 2016 – 2030

REFERENDUM 5 MAY 2016



Thank you for your Vote!

The plan has been written by volunteers who live in Tarporley and have devoted thousands of hours to bring forward the Neighbourhood Plan based on your comments.

THE LARGER THE TURNOUT THE BETTER
LET'S SHOW THAT TARPORLEY TAKES THIS SERIOUSLY

Planning

Tarporley as a key service centre in the Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part 1) has continued to attract a large amount of interest from developers who are looking to build in the village, and in July 2015 the Council established a 'Planning Protocol' on how to deal with developers wishing to meet with Parish Councillors. The Council has met with different developers throughout the last Council year and the minutes of these meetings can be found on our website at <http://www.tarporley.org.uk/tarporley-parish-council/meetings/>

Since May 2015 the Council has been notified of approximately 48 planning applications, the majority (18) were for extensions, 6 related to removing trees or hedges, 6 related to changing or replacing windows, 6 were to create single dwellings, either conversions or new builds, 2 were change of use of buildings. Only one application was for a large development, application 16/00719/FUL for 48 dwellings in land adjacent to 2A High Street. The decision on this is not known at the time of writing.

Summary of Accounts 2015-2016

Balance Carried forward (from 2014-2015)	97,730	Payments Made	
		Salaries	18,392
Receipts (Money Received)		Administration inc. subscriptions	13,024
Precept	59,053	Room Hire	807
Grants inc Local Tax Support Grant	3697	Insurance	1,195
Grant—New Homes Bonus	20,178	Community Bus	2,089
Interest & VAT Rebate	3338	Neighbourhood Plan	5,128
Cemetery	6450	Village Maintenance inc. Bowser	21,807
Community Bus	886	Cemetery	1,280
Miscellaneous inc Brook Road Fund- ing from CW&C	4205	TCC Field & Brook Road Sports	5,109
		Field Development	
Total Receipts	£97,807	Donation to TCC Path & Kerb	12,270
		Donation to TCC Field	2,000
		Donations to Groups inc Guides, PTA	2,650
		Miscellaneous items	1,563
		VAT	4,055
		Total	£91,369
		Balance 2016-2017	£104,168

Parish Council SURGERIES

Prior to every meeting between 6.30 and 7.00pm, the Parish Council holds a drop-in surgery where members of the public can talk to one to one with individual councillors on an informal basis.

Tarporley Community Centre Installs Defibrillator

Tarporley Village has just been equipped with a heart defibrillator which can be accessed by any member of the public on dialling 999. The defibrillator is located in the yellow box on the side (north) wall of the Community Centre and is illuminated by a light which is on from dusk to dawn. The cabinet is internally heated to keep the kit in working order. The defibrillator and cabinet were made possible by a very generous anonymous donation, together with smaller donations from Community Centre user groups.

Our local First Responder Mr. Jeremy Mills gave much useful advice during the project, and acted as the liaison person with the North West Ambulance Service. The defibrillator is now registered with the Ambulance Service control, and in the case of a 999 call relating to a collapsed patient, the caller will be told of the location and the keycode to gain access to the defibrillator. The unit is "smart" and gives voice instructions, so any member of the public can use it.

Jeremy has offered to give training in resuscitation and defibrillator use to Community Centre users, with the objective of ensuring that every group using the centre will include at least two trained personnel. The training is currently being organised.

The attached photo shows the defibrillator being installed in the cabinet by (left to right) Rob Hussey (NWAS), Angela Yeates (Management Committee member), Linda Martin (Chair of Management Committee) and Jeremy Mills (Tarporley First Responder). Linda has agreed to be the "Guardian" and Angela the "Deputy Guardian" to routinely check the defibrillator and act as the liaison point with NWAS. Management Committee members Anita Langford, Judith Oates and Tony Yeates were also present at the handover. We would also like to extend our thanks to Robin Ford for tendering the installation work, and to village electrician Brian Rathbone who installed the cabinet at short notice.



Tarporley War Memorial Hospital

Did you know the following about the Tarporley War Memorial Hospital?

- TWMH was founded in 1919 by local subscription and has a long history of community funding
- The hospital is a unique community asset, delivering personalised care in the heart of our community
- TWMH is 98 years old, owned by the community for 58 years with 40 years as part of the NHS
- The hospital has operated as a charity since 1989 running independently for the last 27 years
- The hospital receives a small NHS grant which covers less than 1/4 of operating costs
- The hospital relies on your donations to survive
- Most of our patients come from the parishes of Tarporley, Tarvin, Waverton, Bunbury, Kelsall and Tattenhall, a population of 12,900 of which 83% have used the hospital at some time.

We are currently in real danger and *may not be here next year* without your help and further support



Best Kept Village Competition 2016 – Your assistance is needed.

Tarporley is once again entered in the Best Kept Village (large village) category of the Community Pride competition organised by Cheshire Community Action.

Last year Kelsall won, Disley and Mobberley came joint second and Davenham, Helsby and Tarporley joint 4th. Tarporley scored 675 points out of a possible 810 or 83%. In all 27 applicable judging criteria, Tarporley scored “Very Good” or “Excellent” and in 11 criteria we scored just one or two points short of “Excellent”.

The standard is very high and the competition is fierce but if everyone does their bit then we can regain this prestigious award in 2016. Judging is based on random inspections between May and September with the final score being based on the later inspections.

The Parish Council will take care of some areas such as public toilets, seats & benches, children’s playground, public space planted areas, war memorial, notice board and will chase CWaC Council to look after items under their responsibility.

What can you do?

Home owners and residents: Keep the area around your home well-tended and presentable, neat and tidy, free from weeds, litter and report to the Parish Council Clerk or CWaC anything that needs to be fixed or that needs attention. If you have a dog, then do not let it foul any public areas. Please don’t drop litter and chewing gum.

Shops, Businesses, Restaurants, Pubs, Hotels, etc: Keep the area around business neat and tidy, free from weeds and litter. Ensure that any notices in windows are up to date. Keep car parks, external areas and furniture tidy and well maintained. Attractive floral displays help. Report to the Parish Council Clerk or CWaC anything that needs to be fixed or needing attention.

More detail, including last year’s scoring, Judges comments and Cheshire Community Pride Competition Hints for Entrants can be found on the Tarporley website at <http://www.tarporley.org.uk/best-kept-village-competition-2016/>



Community Pride Competition
Sponsored by ESSAR Oil UK

Judging is taking place in this area throughout the summer months.
Please help us gain points by keeping everywhere clean, tidy, and free from litter.
Your support will be much appreciated

Watercolour by Gordon Wilkinson, Cheshire Life

Competition organised by Cheshire Community Action
Suite G2, Ground Floor, Northwich Business Centre, Meadow Street,
Northwich CW9 5DF
01838 350053 www.cheshireaction.org.uk
Registered Charity 1015876, Company Number 3880780

CHESHIRE COMMUNITY ACTION **ESSAR OIL UK**

OPAL Older People Active Lives

This is what we are all about - helping older people to lead active lives.

Being lonely because you are no longer able to get out and about on your own is a real problem for some older people. It is reported that it is as damaging to health as smoking. With the support of our staff, we run 3 volunteer based services - OPAL Clubs (Tarporley’s club is on Fridays at the Hockey Club in Tiverton), OPAL BreakTime (giving carers a break by coming to their house) and OPAL GoOnLine (running sessions to help people access the internet). More details can be found at www.opalservices.org.uk.

Our services can only operate through the generosity of our local volunteers who give their time and enthusiasm to what we do. If you would like to join us or you just want to know more about our volunteering opportunities, please contact Jean on 07563 156 220 or volunteering@opalservices.org.uk

We are a small local charity called Rural Community Services (West Cheshire), with a registered office in Tarporley, supported by fund raising, donations and grants from the local authority and other grant giving organisations. Reg. Charity No. 1143753



Tarporey Parish Councillors

Chairman 2015-2016: Councillor Ken Parker

Vice-Chair 2015-2016: Councillor Gill Clough

Elaine Chapman	733972	Julie Hall	734078
Gill Clough	733545	John Millington	730921
James Kennedy	07900 276 217	Gordon Pearson	733813
Jeremy Mills	730898	Richard Statham	732940
Ken Parker	732188	Peter Tavernor	732165
Andrew Wallace	732467	Nigel Taylor	732538

Tarporey Community First Responders (CFRs)

Tarporey Community First Responders (CFR's) serve the residents of Tarporey and surrounding areas and are part of a wider group including Bunbury, Tattenhall and Malpas. They provide a rapid response within the local area. Responders are called out at the same time an ambulance is alerted following a 999 call.

Trained responders are called to a range of life threatening situations including, Cardiac and Respiratory Arrest, Breathing problems, Chest Pain, Diabetic Emergencies, Strokes and Bleeding among others.

In the first three months of this year there have been about a dozen call-outs where Responders have been involved. However call-outs are increasing.

In an emergency as described above, time is of the essence. Rapid intervention before the paramedics arrive can have a significant influence on survival rates.

Tarporey at present has one Responder and one person who is in the early stages of becoming a fully trained member. If anyone would be interested in learning more about becoming a CFR, please contact the Parish Council.

To keep up to date with what the Parish Council is doing join our distribution list, just forward your address or e-mail to the Clerk at clerk@tarporley.org.uk



Cheshire Police Community Contacts for Tarporey

PC 3722 Wayne Thomas is your police local beat manager and is contactable via 101 or E-mail wayne.thomas@cheshire.pnn.police.uk



PSCO 21148 Kenneth Williamson is your local police community support officer (PCSO) and is contactable via 101 or E-mail kenneth.williamson@cheshire.pnn.police.uk



PS 3468 Haddock is the police sergeant responsible for the Winsford, Tarporey and surrounding areas and is contactable via 101 or E-mail daniel.haddock@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

For more information contact the Clerk:
Ann Wright, 62 Well Street, Malpas, Cheshire, SY14 8QH
01948 861 035
E mail: clerk@tarporley.org.uk or visit www.tarporley.org.uk