

# Tarporley Parish Council Annual Report 2016-2017

## Chairman's Report 2016-2017 Ken Parker

The Parish Council started the year with a full complement of twelve Councillors, but following the resignation of James Kennedy, we co-opted Bill Mather as a new member of the Council. I continued as chairman and Gill Clough as vice chair.

We have had another extremely busy year dealing with changes, improvements and general maintenance in the village. We have also discussed and commented on the various planning applications received and had detailed discussions with a number of developers still wishing to build more houses in the village. Our various working groups and committees have continued their work in areas such as planning, dog fouling, finance, cemetery, village improvements and website. This year we formed two new working groups to deal with Traffic & Parking and Outdoor Sports & Recreation.

We have continued to employ contractors and sub contractors to deal with the regular cleaning, maintenance and improvement of the village in general, and also ensured that CWaC carry out their responsibilities to keep our lovely village neat and tidy. This work includes, litter picking, street cleaning, footpath maintenance, grass cutting, weed spraying and also salting and gritting during icy conditions. We have also ensured that the recently created planted garden and grass areas which are located around the village, are maintained to a high standard. We continue to provide a regular mini bus service to help the elderly and disabled members of our community do their weekly shopping. We have also continued to improve and upgrade the extensive public footpath network, serving the village.

During this past year we have also been involved in developing plans to improve car parking on and off the High Street, improvements to facilities on the Community Centre playing field and the children's play-ground and also development of the sports and recreation facilities off Brook Road.

The major development proposal this year is for the redevelopment of the former Royal British Legion (RBL) site off High Street. We have had meetings with the developer, the allotment holders and the bowling club. A planning application for this development has now been submitted to CWaC. We held a public meeting to hear the views of our local community and these have been incorporated into our formal response to the application. The Neighbourhood Plan was adopted in June 2016 and is now playing an important role in dealing with development proposals. We understand that this has already ensured that the bowling green and a large proportion of the allotments will remain an important open space facility in the village. We have also published a Community Benefit and Infrastructure Improvement List for prospective developers and land owners. This is intended as a guide, in association with the Neighbourhood Plan, for any proposed development to provide the additional facilities needed in the village.

The shortage of suitable car parking facilities in the centre of the village continues to be a major problem, and is seriously affecting trade and causing considerable frustration to visitors and shoppers. We have carried out a number of surveys on this and also held a drop in session in the Community Centre to discuss possible solutions. Based on the community response and working with CWaC, we will shortly be implementing time limited parking on parts of High Street and in the longer term hope to be able to considerably increase off street parking facilities.

We are also improving and expanding useful local information on the Parish Council website which will include sports and social activities in Tarporley, and information for visitors and tourists.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Councillors, the clerk and the project coordinator for their time, enthusiasm, dedication, and professionalism in carrying out their duties for the community and the Parish Council. Each year we experience an increasing workload and have to deal with changing government legislation and initiatives, whilst also having to deal with the needs and aspirations of the residents, visitors and the business community.

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, please come to one of our Parish Council meetings which are held in the community centre, on the second Monday of each month, apart from August.

***We look forward to meeting you.***

## Planning Report 2016-2017

As of the end of March 2017 Tarporley Parish Council has been notified of just over 50 planning applications for the Council year from May 2016 and commented on them all.

Of these 50 applications, almost 30 related to extensions to existing properties including conservatories and loft conversions. 11 applications related to tree works and it is worth noting that the Parish Council is only notified of tree works which include the removal of one or more trees as such it is likely that there were many more applications for works to trees in Tarporley which the Council was not notified of or commented on.

The Council was also notified of 3 applications which related to the creation of a garage, car port or driveway. There was one application for change of use from residential to A3, food and drink use, for one business on the High Street.

The Council also considered 5 applications for new dwellings some of which were conversions of existing buildings including barns, as such a total of 6 new dwellings were applied for.

The Council has considered applications, including a listed building application for alterations to the Rising Sun and an application for the installation of temporary Sibcas Jackcabins at the Primary School.

At the time of writing the most significant application received this year was for the former RBL Site which includes the demolition of the club house, creation of a new car park and the erection of 10 dwellings, the loss of roughly 38% of the allotments and retention of the bowling green, the results of this application will be known in the next few months.

The Council is also aware that the Primary School will be submitting an application in the near future to expand the school, and will consider this application when it is received.

During the last Council year the Councillors have attended a number of meetings relating to planning matters, including various meetings with Cheshire West and Chester planning officers and also developers and individuals who wish to develop different sites in Tarporley, notes are taken at all these meetings and these are published on the Council website at

[www.tarporley.org.uk/tarporley-parish-council/meetings/](http://www.tarporley.org.uk/tarporley-parish-council/meetings/).

The Council's planning protocol and procedures can also be found on our website at

[www.tarporley.org.uk/tarporley-parish-council/publications/](http://www.tarporley.org.uk/tarporley-parish-council/publications/).

It should be noted that Tarporley Parish Council along with other Parish Councils is only a consultee in the planning process and it is Cheshire West and Chester Council which decides all planning applications in the Cheshire West area.

March 2017



## Former RBL Site Planning Application

Planning Application ref. 17/00760/FUL for the ex-RBL site (Legion Hall, High Street Tarporley) was submitted on 22nd February 2017. The proposal is for demolition of the RBL club hall, erection of 10 dwellings on the site of the old car park and a portion of the allotments, provision of a new car park at the entrance to the site, access road and ancillary works. Full details of the application and comments can be found at [www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk) by searching for reference number 17/00760/FUL. The standard consultation period was extended from 30<sup>th</sup> March to 10th May 2017 and, at the time of writing this, the decision date had not been posted on the CW&C website.

The planning application includes for "the transfer of the proposed car park, retained allotments and bowling club land to an appropriate managing body, possibly Tarporley Parish Council, a management company or similar".



An extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council was held on 27<sup>th</sup> March to discuss the planning application. It was attended by approximately 30 members of the Bowling Club, Allotments, neighbours to the ex-RBL site and other interested parties. Taking all the comments into account, along with the Tarporley Neighbourhood Plan and other planning policies, the Parish Council submitted comments on the planning application to CW&C on 31<sup>st</sup> March.

## Former RBL Site Planning Application cont'd

These comments can be seen on the CW&C website and the minutes of the meeting can be seen on [www.tarporley.org.uk/tarporley-parish-council/meetings/](http://www.tarporley.org.uk/tarporley-parish-council/meetings/) Essentially, Tarporley Parish Council support in principle the development of the former Royal British Legion site but cannot support the application as submitted for reasons relating to: the height and design of the proposed properties, access arrangements to the bowling green and allotments, and transfer of ownership of the allotments, bowling green and car park.

Updates regarding this planning application will be available on the CW&C website, [www.tarporley.org.uk](http://www.tarporley.org.uk), Tarporley News, Tarporley Talk, [www.facebook.com/Tarporley](https://www.facebook.com/Tarporley) and [www.twitter.com/TarporleyPC](https://www.twitter.com/TarporleyPC).

## Summary of Accounts 2016-2017

<b>Balance Carried forward</b>	<b>104,168</b>	<b>Payments Made</b>	
<i>( from 2015-2016 )</i>		Salaries	15,042
<b>Receipts ( Money Received )</b>		Administration incl. subs	5,558
Precept	62,488	Room Hire	1,562
Grants incl. Local Tax Support	2,623	Insurance	1,261
Grant		Community Bus	2,502
Grant—New Homes Bonus	0	Village Maintenance	12,938
Interest & VAT Rebate	4,677	New PROW Kissing Gates	2,333
Cemetery	5,380	Cemetery incl. emptying bin	2,376
Community Bus	888	TCC Field & Brook Rd Sports	10,901
Miscellaneous incl. defibrillator	3,302	Field Development	
& Neighbourhood Plan		Christmas Lights	2,400
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>£79,358</b>	Defibrillator Payment	1,660
<b>Parish Council SURGERIES</b>  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 one to one with individual councillors on an informal basis.		Grants to Church & Chapel	1,750
		Grant to TCC for playing field	2,000
		Grant to War Memorial Hosp	2,000
		Grants to Groups	2,400
		VAT	5,759
		<b>Total</b>	<b>£72,442</b>
		<b>Balance 2016-2017</b>	<b>£111,084</b>

## Tarporley Environmental Audits

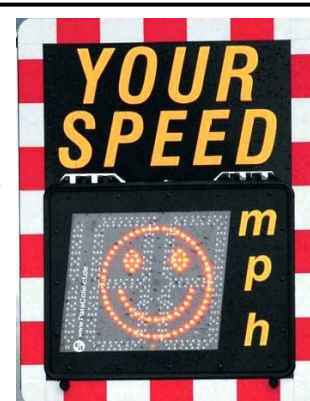
As part of our plan to improve the appearance of the village, the Council will be conducting a number of environmental audits covering specific areas of the High Street and surrounding areas. General appearance, state of repair and public safety will be considered.

These environmental audits will involve a number of Parish Councillors and are open to members of the public to join in, walk around the streets and determine what needs to be improved. This can include litter, dog fouling, overgrown hedges, potholes, weeds, flower beds, faulty street lighting, etc. All issues will be reported to the relevant agencies for action and feedback will be provided as to what improvements have been made to the area. To find out more about the environmental audits or if you would like to get involved, please email Abigail at [projects@tarporley.org.uk](mailto:projects@tarporley.org.uk)

## Tarporley Speed Management Scheme

A new Speed Management Scheme was launched in October 2016 in Tarporley. Volunteers have been trained by Cheshire West and Chester Council Highways Team on how to operate the speed indicator device (SID) and are now taking to the streets.

The device is used to inform drivers of their current speed and will be used initially on Utkinton Road, Walkers Lane, Brook Road, Bowmere Road and Cobblers Cross. Other roads within the village are being assessed for suitability for this scheme. The Parish Council are looking for extra volunteers to help with the scheme so if you have some spare time and would like to get involved, please email Abigail at [projects@tarporley.org.uk](mailto:projects@tarporley.org.uk)



## Outdoor Sports & Recreation (OSR) Working Group

The OSR Working Group has continued to prepare proposals to develop new Outdoor Sports & Recreation facilities on land to the east of Brook Road, and improve the existing facilities on the Community Centre field.

The major achievement since the last report has been the preparation and submission of a Planning Application for the Brook Road site. The Planning Application was submitted at the beginning of October 2016 but, at the time of writing, we are still awaiting a decision from the Planners. The principal reason for the delay has been the requirement for additional ecology surveys to be carried out before the Planners can determine the application. These surveys have been commissioned, and initial findings submitted. Further surveys may be required during the Spring when various protected species are more active.

Whilst awaiting the result of the Planning Application for the Brook Road site, the Working Group have been exploring ways of improving play, recreation, sports and car parking facilities at the Community Centre. The Parish Council is keen to improve facilities on this important piece of community land, and has been working with the Community Centre Committee, who are custodians of the land, on the proposals.

We have recently applied for the release of some S106 funding from Cheshire West & Chester Council to spend on feasibility studies that will lead to proposals that will be put forward for community consultation in due course.

To keep up to date with what the Parish Council is doing and to join our email distribution list, just forward your e-mail address to the Clerk at [clerk@tarporley.org.uk](mailto:clerk@tarporley.org.uk)



## Parish Council Precept 2017-2018

The Parish Council Precept is a tax charged on each property in the Parish to fund the Parish Council and is collected along with your Council Tax.

Each year the Parish Council has to submit it's proposed precept to CWaC for inclusion with annual Council Tax demands for each household. We then receive the funds necessary to fulfil our responsibilities in the village, including making grants to various community bodies we choose to support. Our estimated budget for 2016/2017 is around £67,000 and this means we have proposed raising the precept by 2%. This will help offset the reduced grant we will be receiving (and which CWaC plan to phase out over the next 3 years). For the average Band D property the new precept element on their Council Tax will amount to an annual charge of £46.06 (increased by 2% from £45.15).

We also proposed to CWaC that they end the collection of a separate Special Expense in Council Tax that helps fund our village Christmas Lights and that this amount (£4.50pa for a Band D property) will forthwith be included in the precept for the Parish Council. This has no net affect in the total Council Tax charged but we believe will give us the opportunity to deliver better value for our Christmas lights by managing all the arrangements and funding them ourselves. It does mean that the proposed precept amount for a Band D property of £46.06 increases by a further £4.50 to £50.56 (with a corresponding reduction with removal of the Special Expense charge)

Overall these proposed adjustments to the Precept amount will still mean that it is less than £1 per week for a Band D property, which is a relatively small proportion of the Council Tax charge and especially so considering the responsibilities and activities managed for the benefit of the community.

Looking forward, as Central Government and CWaC grant support reduces, we will undoubtedly face challenges to maintain and fund the services we cover. More significantly, we want to deliver major improvement projects for the community (like the Brook Road Sports & Recreation field) and try and resolve on-going parking and traffic management issues in the village. None of these of course are possible without us being successful in attracting additional funds from various bodies, sponsors and benefactors. The support and understanding of villagers is appreciated as we endeavour as a Parish Council to deliver services and improvements for community benefit.

## Tarporley Parish Council Attendance

Tarporley Parish Council holds 11 scheduled meetings a year, on the second Monday of every month excluding August, at the time of writing the Council has held 10 scheduled meetings and two extraordinary meetings.

Cllr Mather was co-opted onto the Council in December 2016 filling the vacancy created in September 2016 when Cllr. Kennedy stepped down.

Average attendance at meetings of the Council by Councillors is 9 per meeting, and average attendance by members of the public is 8. The highest public attendance was recorded at the extraordinary meeting held at the end of March to discuss the planning application for the former Royal British Legion site.

Parish Council meetings are regularly attended by the Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillor Eveleigh Moore Dutton and by members of the Press from Tarporley News.

All Tarporley Parish Council meetings are open to the public and include 'Public Participation' where members of the public can raise matters of concern for the Council to note. Some items of Council business are discussed in private due to their sensitive nature, at which point members of the press and public will be asked to leave the meeting. This usually takes place at the end of the meeting and the agenda will normally state that this may happen.

Agendas and information for meetings can be found on the Council's website at:

[www.tarporley.org.uk/tarporley-parish-council/meetings/](http://www.tarporley.org.uk/tarporley-parish-council/meetings/)

## Tarporley Community First Responders (CFR's)

Tarporley Community First Responders (CFRs), aided by other local responder colleagues have helped the Community Centre install a Public access AED (Defibrillator) on the outside of the Community Centre building.

We have also provided training for the use of AED's along with CPR training for the users of the Community Centre. More training is anticipated and if anyone in the village wishes to experience these sessions, they should contact the Community Centre committee.

We also have a person who attended one of these sessions who is in the process of becoming a CFR, which is good news for the residents of the village.



## Tarporley Hospital – The Heart of the Community

As we approach our 100-year anniversary in 2019 and over the next few months, we will be introducing fundraising initiatives in which the community can be involved, ensuring a sustainable future for Tarporley War Memorial Hospital. As you all know, that Hospital is a charity, and although we receive a small grant each year from the local authority (£312,000) this only covers 30% of our overall costs for a year, meaning that we have to fundraise the majority of the money needed to run the Hospital.

Last October, we held a campaign launch at Tirley Garth to make everyone aware that the Hospital was in the midst of a financial crisis. We were running at a massive £330,000 deficit. The aim was to ensure that

the Hospital is around to serve the community for another 100 years. Since then the community has rallied around the Hospital, and we've seen an Increase in donations.



The Heart  
of the  
Community



The Tarporley and District War Memorial Cottage Hospital (to give it its full name) has been The Heart of the Community since 1919. It was funded by local subscription, meaning that every household in Tarporley and its surrounding areas contributed financially to the running of the Hospital.

This is a model we want to replicate today...

Many of you may have seen the Tarporley Hospital edition of Tarporley News, which stated a bold and startling fact. **There are 13,000 residents in the catchment area so just £25 each would cover the deficit, just 7p a day – just £25 a year!**



So we are asking anyone and everyone to join our

Silver Heart Club. This means committing to donating a minimum of £5 a month to the Hospital. We strongly feel that regular giving is a more sustainable way for the Hospital to raise much needed funds. You can easily sign up to this via our website [www.tarporleyhospital.co.uk](http://www.tarporleyhospital.co.uk) and click on the *Charity Check-out* button, or by picking up a standing order form from reception, and don't forget to Gift Aid your donation. Our future is in your hands.

Keep up to date with our latest events and news. Sign up to our monthly emails by sending your email address to [marketing@tarporleyhospital.co.uk](mailto:marketing@tarporleyhospital.co.uk)

## Follow Tarporley Parish Council on Twitter....

Did you know that Tarporley Parish Council is now on Twitter? To keep up to date on the latest information and the activities of the Parish Council, follow us on @TarporleyPC



## Tarporley Footpaths Report 2016-2017—David Press

The most important development this year has been the installation of more gates on our footpath network. The route from The Close to Moss Lane is now accessible without having to climb any stiles. More gates have been installed on several paths and more are planned. For example, the Sandstone Trail from Rode Street headed South will soon have gates instead of stiles most of the way to Pudding Lane. Some routes will retain stiles for the time being, because the landowner cannot be persuaded to have a gate instead.

Most of our footpaths are in good order and are now well signed with a few exceptions. We had hoped to come to agreements with the Portal Hotel and Golf club to improve signs on routes across the course and create a permissive route around the perimeter of the championship course, but the lack of control with which some dog owners exercise their dogs has led to a lack of enthusiasm on the part of the hotel management.

As previously planned, a ramp has been built on the route from Heath Green to Heatherways and Heathfields where it descends a steep bank at the second gate.

Some residents have been unhappy with the muddiness of some of the paths leading into the village. At their March meeting, the Parish Council agreed that the Council's policy would be to not take action to deal with mud on paths which are part of routes leading into and out of fields and do not connect with other residential or business premises. The expectation is that people walking such routes should be shod for a muddy rural walk. Paths that provide walking routes from one village location to another would be treated differently with some concern to maintain a walking surface which can be tackled in town shoes.



## Tarporley Parish Council Grants & Donations

Tarporley Parish Council agreed the grants listed here in the 2016-2017 financial year.

The Council has agreed that from the 2017-2018 financial year, it would hold two rounds of grant funding in order to simplify the process.

In April, the Council will consider larger grant applications from Tarporley War Memorial Hospital, Tarporley Community Centre and for the two grave yards.

All other grants will be considered at the Council's October meeting where grants of normally up to £250 will be awarded to groups that submit successful applications. In exceptional circumstances, grants of up to £500 may be considered.

The Council will advertise for applications for this second round of funding during August and September 2017.

The Council has earmarked a fund of £8,500 for grants in the 2017-2018 financial year.

The Council's Grants Policy and Procedures and Grant Application Form can be downloaded at:

[www.tarporley.org.uk/tarporley-parish-council/publications](http://www.tarporley.org.uk/tarporley-parish-council/publications)

under the Regulatory Publications section.

### 2016 - 2017 Grants Awarded

Tarporley Community Centre	£2,000
St. Helen's CE Church	£1,000
Baptist & Methodist Chapel	£750
Baptist & Methodist Chapel	£250
Tarporley War Memorial Hosp.	£2,000
Decibellas	£250
Done Room Pre-School	£250
Tarporley Opal Club	£250
Tarporley U3A	£250
Tarporley Primary School PTA	£250
2nd Tarporley Guides	£250
Mid Cheshire NCT (Tarporley)	£150
Tarporley Twinning Association	£250
Tarporley Bowling Club	£250
<b>Total</b>	<b>£8,150</b>



## Decibellas Women's Choir of Tarporley

Decibellas is a vibrant community choir based in Tarporley. A choir open to all women, it currently maintains a membership of almost 70, which represents women between the ages of 25 and 75 from the village and its surrounding areas. Weekly rehearsals take place term-time in Tarporley CE Primary School, providing income from hall rental to the school.

One of the choir's mandates is to maintain an active role in community events such as the Tarporley Christmas Lights Switch-On and the Tarporley Carnival. Major ticketed public events are also held twice annually; these are not only showcases for musical performance, but also an attempt to engage the public with programming that is creative and thought provoking. The most recent example was a multi-cultural celebration of light concert which raised over £1,500 for two wonderful charities, bringing total charitable funds raised over the last few years to over £5,000.

The grant we received from the Parish Council will be used to improve singing standards which will benefit both choir members and audiences – and in turn raise more funds for charity - the choir intends to focus this year on broadening our repertoire and improving vocal technique.

As choir policy is to ensure that there is no breach of copyright, every piece of music costs £1.50-2.50 per copy for over 70 members. The choir has purchased two pieces of music in very different styles with the funds received. These pieces are: Bob Chilcott: So Fair and Bright and A Copland: Ching a Ring Chaw. The Chilcott will enable us to work on improving blend within the parts and improve our legato (smooth) sound. The Copland is a fast, upbeat, highly challenging piece of music, with which our Director intends to improve our diction and rhythm.

We hope that some of the Parish residents will come to our concert on 24 May at St Boniface Church, Bunbury, to assess the results! Tickets will be on sale soon.

We also plan to enter two competitions in 2017-18 for which these pieces may well be part of our programme.

## Tarporley (Mid Cheshire Branch) NCT

The NCT (National Childbirth Trust) is a charity that supports new families through the pre-birth period, the birth of their new child, the crucial first 1000 days and beyond. We provide a wide range of services and activities to the young families of the Tarporley area including coffee mornings, toddler groups, bumps and babes sessions, children's events, parties and a lot more besides, as well as of course offering help, advice, and a shoulder to lean on now and again.

Our baby and toddler group takes place in Tarporley Community Centre and is open on Friday mornings between 10 and 11.30 (except bank holidays and during August). Always popular, it is a great place for the children to mix and start to learn to socialise with others in a safe environment and for parents to meet one another share advice and talk over any issues they may be having. We have a range of toys for the children to play with including ride on toys, cars, dolls, and a small area for the babies with mats and soft toys. We provide a healthy snack about half way through each session where the children have some fruit and a drink, and of course we provide plenty of tea, coffee, and biscuits for the grownups. We ask for a small contribution of £2 for each attending family to help cover our costs.

We have received a grant this year from the Parish Council which has allowed us to buy some new storage boxes so that we can re-organise our toys and buy some new mats to make the community centre floor safer for the younger babies. We have also begun to buy some new toys to replace some of older toys which have been well-loved. The group has been increasingly busy over the last few months and we've seen lots of new families who have recently moved to the area, as well as families who have lived in the village all their lives, and are now bringing their little ones along for a play.





## The Chapel in Tarporley going for growth

The Chapel (Tarporley Baptist and Methodist Church) celebrated its 150<sup>th</sup> year on the 27<sup>th</sup> January 2017 with the opening of its newly refurbished and modernised Chapel. With help from charity agencies, various Church Associations and Unions and enthusiastic fund raising by the Tarporley community, the project became reality after 8 months work when local MP Antoinette Sandbach cut the ribbon and the Chapel was blessed and re-occupied on the 27<sup>th</sup>.

As the congregation has been growing in numbers, faith and worship, the Leadership Team led by Pastor Nic Willis made the decision to go for growth and update the building to accommodate more followers to join as part of our energetic outreach.

Although the importance of a happy and safe place for joint worship is key to the spread of the Gospel and The Holy Spirit, we recognise the importance also of external activities involving the community in worship outside our church building. We have, therefore, a range of both internal and external activities for young and old including Youth Club, Mums and Tots group, Music Band, Drama Group, House Groups, Holiday Club, Faith training as well as our regular and varied Services.

The church is encouraging the community to use the Chapel for good, recognised and safe activities and is therefore open for hire.

We welcome all to participate or to view both our new Chapel and our wide range of activities.

Pastor Nic Willis on 01829 730606 welcomes any enquiries or questions

## Tarporley Opal Club



Tarporley OPAL Club, run by the local charity Rural Community

Services (West Cheshire), is a weekly social club for older people who find it difficult to get out and therefore as a result can become socially isolated.

The Club is based at Deeside Ramblers Hockey Club in Tiverton, which has a pleasant ambience and lovely views across the countryside. The OPAL Club operates every Friday and provides companionship, a hot meal at lunchtime, a range

of interesting activities and outings, and a lot of fun. A team of volunteers looks after the day-to-day activities at the club, as well as providing transport for members to and from their homes.

This is often the only opportunity each week for our members to socialise with others. They thoroughly enjoy it and all look forward to their Fridays at Tarporley OPAL Club. For further information contact Carol Hitchen 07851 253587.

## Reporting Road Faults and Street Cleaning Issues

Pot holes, faulty street lights, rattling manhole covers, overgrown hedges, fly tipping, dog poo, dead animals and lots of other faults and nuisances can be reported, by anyone, directly to Cheshire West and Chester Council.

You can report these....

by telephone on **0300 123 7036** (Road Faults) and **0300 123 8123** (Street Cleaning), online at: [www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

by Twitter at: **@go\_cheshirewest** or the **Smyle** app (iOS, Android, Microsoft)

## Tarporley Allotments

Tarporley's allotments have been an integral part of village life for many decades and are recognised in the Neighbourhood Plan as a Protected Green Space. Since the sale of the Royal British Legion site in 2015, they have been under threat of closure for housing development. However, as things stand at time of writing, the planning application submitted by the developer intends leaving the main block of allotment plots and bowling green untouched. Regrettably, this does mean that nearly 40% of allotment area will be lost to housing if planning permission is forthcoming. But, at least the village will retain the bulk of the plots and a continuing allotments presence.



Already, the allotments committee has been re-jigging the positions of plots to ensure that plot-holders who wish to continue can be accommodated. This has unfortunately led to the reduction in size of several plots in order to "squeeze a quart into a pint pot". This reduction in the number of plots from 39 to 25 will inevitably lead to a slowdown in the availability of plots to newcomers and an increase in waiting times. This is most unfortunate given the recent significant increase in housing numbers in Tarporley as demand for allotments will surely increase. Since the 1990s, the demand for allotments has been steadily growing as fashionable interests in green issues, food miles and organic production have flourished. It's now estimated that nationally there are approximately 330,000 allotment plots with a need for a further 90,000 to satisfy those on waiting lists (NSALG website).

Tarporley's allotments are a place of green tranquillity where all are welcome to stroll and chat to plot holders and, thanks to wildlife-friendly practices, the allotments are a haven for birds and insects such as bees and butterflies. Tarporley Allotment Holders have been at the heart of village activities for decades, raising funds for local charities such as Tarporley's War Memorial Hospital. Hopefully, all this will continue for more decades to come.

## There is no such thing as the dog poo fairy.....



Tarporley Parish Council is receiving an ever increasing number of complaints regarding dog fouling on pavements and grass verges throughout Tarporley.

The Cheshire West and Chester Council (Fouling of Land by Dogs) (General) Order 2012 makes it an offence not to remove any faeces deposited by your dog. Removal must be done without delay.

Failure to do so is an offence that carries a maximum penalty of £1,000

The Order applies to all land in the Borough which is open to the air and to which the public are entitled or permitted to have access, whether or not warning signs are displayed.

By not picking up after your dog you are risking the health of those, particularly children, who may come into contact with your dog's mess as in severe cases Toxocariasis which is caused by worm eggs being ingested can result in, partial or total loss of sight in humans.

As such we encourage all residents to report dog fouling when they see it. This can be done via the CW&C website at: [www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/contact-us/report-it/dog-animal-fouling.aspx](http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/contact-us/report-it/dog-animal-fouling.aspx) or by using this short URL - [goo.gl/SGLqi4](http://goo.gl/SGLqi4) or by calling CW&C on 0300 123 8 123.

**There is no excuse, Pick up after your dog!**

## Tarporley Parish Councillors

Chairman 2016-2017: Councillor Ken Parker

Vice-Chair 2016-2017: Councillor Gill Clough

Elaine Chapman	733972	Ken Parker	732188
Gill Clough	733545	Gordon Pearson	733813
Julie Hall	734078	Richard Statham	732940
Bill Mather	733628	Peter Tavernor	732165
John Millington	730921	Nigel Taylor	732538
Jeremy Mills	730898	Andrew Wallace	732467

## Meeting Dates 2017-2018

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

Monday 8th May 2017

Monday 12th June 2017

Monday 10th July 2017

Monday 11th September 2017

Monday 9th October 2017

Monday 13th November 2017

Monday 11th December 2017

Monday 8th January 2018

Monday 12th February 2018

Monday 12th March 2018

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

## Tarporley Community Centre

Tarporley Community Centre is a registered charity and run by a committee of volunteers. Upkeep of the building is mostly paid for by room and field hire and bookings can be made and paid for on-line.

We are now in our 4th year of operation using the VillageVenue booking system. Our promotional website [www.tarporleycc.co.uk](http://www.tarporleycc.co.uk) provides further information, several user guides, details of our rooms and a link to the booking website.

The site is also a useful source of information for what is on at TCC, including the many classes, the Rotary Film Night, TADS plays, Blood Donor dates and news of changes such as the new defibrillator and parking restrictions.

## What's on in Tarporley?

The Parish Council have been working to update the Tarporley website to include details of activities of clubs and organisations in the village. If you want to find out more information about social or sporting activities taking place, please visit [www.tarporley.org.uk/whats-on/clubs-organisations/](http://www.tarporley.org.uk/whats-on/clubs-organisations/).

If you are running an activity that's not listed on the website, please e-mail Abigail at [projects@tarporley.org.uk](mailto:projects@tarporley.org.uk) to include your details on the website.

## Cheshire Police Community Contacts for Tarporley

PC 4372 Philip Monks - Winsford & Tarporley Beat Manager

Northwich Police Station, Chester Way, Northwich, CW9 5EP

[Philip.monks@cheshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Philip.monks@cheshire.pnn.police.uk)

PSCO 21148 Kenneth Williamson - Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)

[kenneth.williamson@cheshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:kenneth.williamson@cheshire.pnn.police.uk)

Cheshire Police at [www.cheshire.police.uk](http://www.cheshire.police.uk)

Dial 999 in an emergency or Dial 101 in a non-emergency.



## Tarporley Parish Council Annual Meeting

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May

10am – 12pm

Tarporley Community Centre

Tarporley Parish Council would like to invite you to its Annual Meeting event which is taking place on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2017 between 10am and 12 noon. In a change to recent years, the event will take the form of a Market Place and the Council have invited local organisations and agencies to attend to showcase their work and provide information to the community about what their organisation does.

The organisations already confirmed are

Cheshire Police

U3A

Rotary Club

Twinning Association

Community Banker

Done Room Pre School

Allotment Committee

Tarporley Parish Council

Patient Participation Group

Recycling for Cheshire – Cheshire West and Chester

There may be more...

There will be bacon butties and tea and coffee available on the morning so come along, meet your local councillors and find out what is going on in Tarporley.

Updates about the event will be posted on the Tarporley Facebook page

[facebook.com/Tarporley](https://facebook.com/Tarporley)

and on Tarporley Parish Council Twitter account

[twitter.com/tarporleypc](https://twitter.com/tarporleypc)

For more information contact the Acting Clerk:

Abigail Webb, 35 Oswalds Way, Tarporley, CW6 0GF.

01829 732 516

E mail: [clerk@tarporley.org.uk](mailto:clerk@tarporley.org.uk) or visit [www.tarporley.org.uk](http://www.tarporley.org.uk)