

Tiverton and Tilstone Fearnall Parish Council Newsletter

May 2014

For those of you who look at the Tiverton and Tilstone Fearnall website, www.tiverton-cheshire.org.uk you may have noticed that the Home Watch page was recently updated. The Tiverton Home Watch scheme is alive and well, although the geographic area that is covered by the scheme is less than it used to be. Ray Mould is the Home Watch Area Co-ordinator and can be contacted via email at: homewatch@tiverton-cheshire.org.uk or if you prefer by telephone: 733508 or at his house: Ivy Cottage, Huxley Lane (this is the Ivy Cottage next to the village green).

Currently information is collated by the Area Co-ordinator and distributed to 4 Co-ordinators on a weekly basis by email. If there is an issue of urgent local importance then local residents will be informed by their allocated co-ordinator by phone call or personal call (not email).

If you fall outside the village centre/A49/Gardenhurst area and would like to be part of the Home Watch scheme, then as a first step gather together a small group of your neighbours and nominate a volunteer to be the co-ordinator for your group of houses. Then contact Ray to discuss becoming part of the scheme.

If you don't have a Home Watch sticker for your house and would like one, or if you have any comments, suggestions or concerns about local crime then please contact Ray using the email address above.

Advance Notice

Jean Toyn, who organised a very successful Village Day in 2006, is willing to stage another Village Day next year, probably mid June 2015. With her experience, it is bound to be a success but it does require villagers to come forward to help with the arrangements. If you want to get involved, please get in touch with Jean on 730739 or by email to toyn277@btinternet.com sooner rather than later so she can get a feel for the village interest in such a project.

Dates for your Diary

Thurs 26 June	Coffee Morning, Tiverton Village Hall 11:00am
Tues 8 July	Parish Council Meeting, Tiverton Village Hall, 7:00pm

If you would like to have your event listed here, please send details to info@tiverton-cheshire.org.uk

Chairman's Annual Report 2014

During 2013-14 the issues dealt with by your Parish Council followed a familiar pattern, which is no great surprise, dominated by planning applications, road conditions, speeding, village hall parking and repair of the elephant fencing. But we also saw good progress on the development of the Neighbourhood Plan, in conjunction with Beeston Parish.

We have continued, with limited success, to press for improvements to the condition of road surfaces throughout the parish. Similarly, we continue to lobby Cheshire West and Chester for measures to improve road safety, such as reduced speed limits, speed warning signs and HGV weight limits, again with varying degrees of success.

We are currently exploring, with Cheshire Highways, changes to the road marking and layout of the Huxley Lane / A49 junction, with a view to providing more parking and reduced damage to fencing and verges, while preserving the vehicle turning capability that CWaC insists upon. Unfortunately, as with road repairs, constrained budgets at county level are a major consideration.

There has been a steady flow of fairly routine planning applications, such as modest extensions and improvements, concerning which very few objections are raised either by members of the public or by the Parish Council. However, if we think that a proposed development is in any way inappropriate in the context of the village environment we will convey our objections to the planners.

The work on the Neighbourhood Plan, in conjunction with Beeston Parish, is progressing well, with five working groups, each consisting of councillors and volunteer parishioners, covering; Development, Roads & Traffic, Safety & Security, Community, and Environment. Over the next few months our Neighbourhood Plan will be harmonised with CWaC's emergent Local Plan and this will

Chairman's Annual Report (contd)

establish the framework for future development of the area covered by the three parishes. I would personally hope that some of these volunteers might consider making a further contribution to the parish in the future by serving on the Parish Council.

We have also liaised with Beeston in our various submissions regarding the planned developments of the whole Beeston Market site. Unfortunately we seem to have little influence compared with the political priorities for increased housing at both national and county levels. However, in the context of these proposed developments, we continue to seek improved local amenities while preserving our valued rural environment.

We have continued our modest financial support for Tiverton Village Hall, St Jude's Parish Church and Tarporley War Memorial Hospital.

We have received further submissions from members of the public both for and against the placing of floral tributes on the War Memorial Green on anniversaries, Mothers' Day and such. On balance the Council maintains its decision that the use of the Green for such private tributes is understandable but inappropriate, since it is a public space and is not consecrated. This policy does not apply, of course, to War Memorial Remembrance tributes.

Finally I would like to thank my fellow councillors and our parish clerk for their services this year.

Gordon Ibbotson, May 2014

Interested in Becoming a Parish Councillor?

As Chairman of the Parish Council I am already thinking ahead to next May's PC elections. We are likely to have one or two long-serving councillors who will be looking to retire after many years of devoted service to your community. So we would like, informally at this stage, for people who might be interested in making a contribution by joining the Council. We had a good response when we asked for volunteers to help with development of the Neighbourhood Plan and a number of you are now making excellent contributions. The questionnaire revealed a widely-held desire to preserve our village communities and also to see an expansion of activities and facilities, so why not do your bit?

For an informal chat about what is involved please contact me, Gordon Ibbotson (01829730221, gordon@fsm.dco.uk) or Roger Cheshire (07841661266, rchesh@aol.com).

Parish Website

Our website was constructed 10 years ago in the days of dial-up speeds and is rather showing its age. Several residents have pointed out that it seems dated and somewhat stagnant. With the imminent arrival of high speed broadband as the Connecting Cheshire programme rolls out through the rest of this year, it seems appropriate to revamp the website.

I would appreciate hearing about what website users would like to see e.g. a weekly e-mail bulletin, parishioners' photographs of the area, historical pieces, information on planning decisions, so please e-mail with your views at webmaster@tiverton-cheshire.org.uk.

We are also proposing to offer pages that individuals or clubs have access to for management of content. If you or the club you represent would like a dedicated page in the new look website, please drop me a line.

If you want to try your hand at rebuilding the website using a WordPress template, then again drop me a line with an indication of your charge and we will consider that alongside other offers.

If you want to administer the new website (unpaid, of course), then after 10 years in the role, I am quite happy to step aside. Again let me know if this interests you.

Home Watch

At the next Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 8th July there will be an opportunity for the community to meet with our local Police Support Officer: PCSO Jon Hurst. This session has been set up in response to the feedback from the 2013 Household Survey for the Neighbourhood Plan where 52% of respondents indicated a desire to see a greater police presence in the area. Jon will give a short presentation about policing in the area as well as indicating where the police can provide some specific assistance, for example: speed monitoring and awareness campaigns.

The meeting will start at 7pm in Tiverton Village Hall (just prior to the Parish Council meeting itself).

If the demand is there we are also looking at scheduling police clinics in the village hall where residents can meet the police on a regular basis and discuss points of mutual interest. It will also be a great way for the community to get to know their local police officers.

For further and more up-to-date information on the Parish, please see our website at www.tiverton-cheshire.org.uk