



*A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our readers!*

### **What's On**

Christmas Day Service – Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December at 9am, St Jude's Church.

Tiverton History Afternoon Tea – Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April at 12noon, Tiverton Village Hall.

TivFest - 27th June 2020, from 4pm until late. Deeside Ramblers Hockey Club.

Parish Council Meetings; 14th January, 10th March, 12th May 2020.

### **Chairman's Notes**

#### **The New Water Main**

Work is progressing down Huxley Lane with the installation of the new water main, albeit more slowly than was originally envisaged. The current plan is that work will cease on 20th December for Christmas and New Year. When work recommences on the 6th January Huxley Lane will be closed from the A49 up to Rose Cottage for 2 weeks. The work is due to be completed by mid-February.

As part of this process a considerable amount of damage has been done to the grass verges and Smithy Green in particular, but we have been assured by

United Utilities that they will make good the damage caused by themselves, but probably not until the Spring when grass starts to grow again.

### **What To Do With Smithy Green?**

Now that the horse chestnut tree has gone we have to decide what to do with the Green, once UU have finished. A number of suggestions have been made and we would very much like to have your input on these. Suggestions are:

- *Plant a new tree that will grow to a similar size – basically replace what we had.*
- *Install a couple of wooden benches (no tree)*
- *Install a couple of wooden benches and plant one or two smaller trees*
- *Plant a community orchard*
- *Do nothing – just have it as a grassed area*

We really would like your input on these options. Please let one of the parish councillors know your view or email me: [mould.ray@gmail.com](mailto:mould.ray@gmail.com), text me: 07771 813249 or drop a note through my door: Ivy Cottage, Huxley Lane (adjoining the Memorial Green in the centre of Tiverton).

### **Improved Broadband For Tiverton.**

Great news! Many of you will know that your Council has been lobbying for improved broadband speeds in the Parish, especially for the outlying areas where speeds are unacceptably low. It appears that a large swathe of the Parish is going to benefit from an Openreach pilot that involves providing Fibre to the Premises (FTTP) for a number of communities attached to the Tarporley exchange. I am told that premises on Huxley Lane from the A49 through to Brassey Green are scheduled for this pilot and work should be complete by April 2020. You can see whether you are included in this pilot by visiting: [www.openreach.com](http://www.openreach.com) and using the “fibre checker”.

Note that this is different from the recent Openreach proposal on which we sounded out a number of our residents and local businesses. That would have required sizeable contributions from residents to the capital cost of providing the service, even after available grants. We decided that this was unacceptable, given that neighbouring parishes have recently had FTTP installed in the process of routine up-grading of the old copper network.

The wireless-based scheme proposed by **Voneus**, for which we had such high hopes last year, will probably be relatively unattractive if this Openreach scheme goes ahead as promised, but it is still scheduled for about March 2020.

## **Keeping our Pathways Clear**

For those of you who walk the A49 from Huxley Lane up to Four Lane Ends (no longer the Red Fox Junction!) you will have noticed a big improvement to the path. After some concerted lobbying Cheshire Highways did a great job of clearing away debris and widening the usable path. Some work was also carried out by them on the overhanging trees. Our thanks are also extended to those residents whose land borders these paths for cutting back their hedges as part of this process. Thank you also to the walkers who alerted us to the problem.

It is worth a mention that keeping pathways clear is the responsibility of CW&C Council and anyone can report an issue through their on-line system. If you do so please drop an email to the Parish Clerk with the allocated Enquiry Number so we can keep track of it. Hedges though are the responsibility of the residents so, if you do have a hedge bordering a right of way, please make sure that you keep it sufficiently trimmed so as not to encroach on the right of way.

*Ray Mould – Chairman, Tiverton & Tilstone Fearnall Parish Council.*

## **“Tea, Chat and Fun”.**

Alan Macready (01829 732476) is trying to launch a new, different kind of village social activity. He doesn't like to describe it as a formal discussion group but wants to get people together every other week for tea and good conversation. You are invited to come along, make new friends and have fun; whatever your age you will be warmly welcomed. The venue is Tiverton Village Hall, every first and third Thursday of the month at 6.30 pm.

## **How Does Local and National Government Work For You?**

*Gordon Ibbotson, Parish Councillor;*

*“The main role of Parish Councillors is to represent the views of residents and to pursue the interest of the parish in relation to outside bodies such as Cheshire West County Council, Highways, Police, utility companies etc. To facilitate this we need to listen to and understand the views and needs of individuals and community groups on issues of interest and concern to you. So please contact us or come to the Parish Council meetings and have your say. We are your first port-of-call into the local government system on issues such as planning applications, broadband, highways, potholes and bus services, to name but a few. We do have limited powers and even more limited financial and other resources, but we do have time for your problems. Contact details for all Parish Councillors can be found on the parish website”.*

Mike Jones, County Councillor for Tattenhall Ward;

*“Parish Councils have an important role to play in representing the community at that very local level in a non-party-political way; resolving issues, responding to problems quickly and working with myself and Cheshire West and Chester Council to deal with the difficult issues residents raise from time to time.*

*I enjoy attending Parish Council meetings; it ensures that I fully understand the concerns of the community and support the Parish Council as and when required. Our rural communities are very special places to live and it is important we continue to work together as residents, Parish Councillors and myself, to ensure that we protect what is so special about our villages, so that they continue to be great places to live”.*

[mike.jones@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:mike.jones@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

Note from Gordon; Mike Jones has made contributions several times from his discretionary fund to support expensive capital projects, such as the Chestnut Tree removal, improving Four Lane Ends safety and the Tilstone Fearnall de-fibrillator. We would struggle to fund those projects without this extra help.

Edward Timpson CBE MP, Member of Parliament for Eddisbury Constituency;

*“The public elects Members of Parliament (MPs) to represent their interests and concerns in the House of Commons. MPs consider and can propose new laws, as well as raising issues that matter to you in the House. This includes asking government ministers questions about current issues: particularly those which affect Eddisbury constituents. Most MPs are also members of committees, which look at issues in detail, from government policy and new laws, to wider topics like human rights.*

*I split my time between working in Parliament itself and working in Eddisbury. I'm based in Tarporley. MPs often hold a 'surgery' in their constituency office, where local people can come along to discuss matters of concern to them. Because Eddisbury is such a large constituency, I will be holding surgeries in different villages and in Winsford.*

*MPs also attend functions, visit schools and businesses, and generally try to meet as many people as possible. This gives us further insight into issues we discuss when we return to Westminster. I am always happy to hear from constituents. Just drop me an email on [edward.timpson.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:edward.timpson.mp@parliament.uk)!”*

Parish Council Website: [www.tiverton-cheshire.org.uk](http://www.tiverton-cheshire.org.uk)

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