



Tiverton & Tilstone Fearnall Parish Council Newsletter

Autumn 2023 Edition

Chairman's Report 2022-2023

This has been my second year as Chairman for our Parish Council, and I would like to start by saying thank you to all the other Councillors for their hard work and diligence throughout this last year. I would also like to personally thank Carol, our ever-hard-working clerk, for all the expertise and effort she has input into our Council. The clerk's role is rather all encompassing regarding the work of our Council, and we are indebted to Carol's efforts in keeping us all in check!

We appointed a new Vice Chairman last year, as Cllr Ray Mould stepped down from the role to allow Cllr Heather Lightfoot to take over. We have put in loose plans to try and have more turnover in the Chairman/Vice-Chair roles to give all the members of the Council the

chance to experience the duties of such positions over the course of their time on the Council. I would like to thank Ray for his due diligence and hard work as Chair and Vice-Chair, as well as his enduring help while I took over the reins over the last few years.

As usual, we at the Parish Council inspect all the planning applications that are submitted within our Parish to check if they follow our Neighbourhood Plan. We have a planning committee who pore over the details of each application and then submit our comments to the rest of the Council for final approval. We then submit our views to the planning officers on the Cheshire West and Chester Council planning portal where they can be seen by the general public. Our views are taken into consideration with the planners in that we have much more local knowledge on the immediate area and have more

‘invested interest’ in the community, which we hope will have an impact on their final decisions. Sometimes we highlight issues that are maybe missed or have not been given enough merit in the planning application process. In this respect we are a body that represents all our parishioners and hopefully a voice that is duly considered in the process. We look at all applications ranging from porch extensions up to multi-dwelling developer led projects. You can view our responses on the website or come to our meetings.

There has been quite a lot of change within the Royal Family this last year, with the Village Society holding a Jubilee event last summer which was well attended, and another smaller gathering for the coronation of our new King!

The Remembrance Day Service ran smoothly with a good attendance from the village(s). Refreshments were provided by Cllr Lightfoot and socialising was the order of the day in Tiverton Village Hall afterwards attended by many.

The Vyrnwy Aqueduct works by United Utilities are in full swing and we are in regular contact with the

team on the progress of the upgrades and maintenance of the aqueduct. They came along at the start to discuss their plans as we are a good focal point for the community to receive information. In this vein, the Tarporley War Memorial Hospital also sent a representative last summer to a meeting to discuss their future in the community and their plans to team up with the Countess of Chester to provide a new service to the area.

We have been receiving regular updates over the last year for the possible Beeston Station Re-opening, but Government changes have slowed progress for now. We hope that some final decisions will be forthcoming soon from the Department of Transport and we will update you when we know.

We have been planning to spruce up the area around Smithy Green next to the A49 and have some trees that need planting this summer, along with an area for benches for people to socialise. We have some funds to do this and hopefully a plan will come to fruition over this coming year. We have also bought a new bench to be

placed next to the bus stop located there.

Speeding in our Parish is a major issue that we see brought up by our Parishioners, with which we are looking to address. We have had meetings with Cheshire West and Chester to consider ways to manage and monitor speeds along our highways, particularly along the A49, Brassey Green and Huxley Lane through Tiverton Village itself. We have discussed options varying from speed cameras, village gates and extra road markings for example, and will endeavour to come up with some manageable solutions in the near future. One of the major stumbling blocks we are facing are the financial aspects of many of these options as we would be liable to 50% of any costs, which can range upwards to around £5000 depending on the choice taken. Our budget is extremely limited so we must consider what would be the best and most effective way to limit speeding along our highways. We are awaiting the results of a speed monitoring survey in a few places in our Parish and once we have the details we can move forward with a more definitive plan. The condition of the roads is also something we keep an eye on, and we are also in

discussion with CWAC about the road surface in The Dale, as well as other stretches along Huxley Lane for example. Unfortunately, the Dale resurfacing issue is not in the Councils budget this year, but we are in discussions with the Council to push for it to be a priority and for it to be rectified as soon as possible due to it's poor state of repair.

The hall at St'Jude's has recently had a new kitchen installed and has now been in use. We had previously held our meetings exclusively at Tiverton Village Hall but it was decided to now use St'Jude's as well, so we had our first meeting there in November 2022. We now alternate our meetings between the two halls.

We have been unfortunate in the fact that over the last few years the PCSO contact has been absent from our meetings, though we have had some recent attendance which we hope will continue as we feel it is important to keep some community contact with the Police. They aim to attend more meetings but mentioned their resources are extremely stretched.

The Parish Council website has been running very smoothly over

the last year, in no small part to Steve Armitage who has been overseeing it's use and maintenance. We have had to update it to follow GDPR rules over the last year or so regarding accessibility. To do this we need more control over its administration so we need to change our supplier which we aim to do this coming year.

We update our website regularly with all the relevant meeting documents and latest Parish news we feel may be of interest to you, so please have a look at www.tiverton-cheshire.org.uk. If you would like to contact us for any issues you may come across, please email the clerk at parishclerk@tiverton-cheshire.org.uk.

Unfortunately for various reasons we have seen 4 councillors not renew their position at the last elections in May. I would like to thank them all for their support and hard work during their tenure-ship here. Cllr Gordon Ibbotson and Cllr Ray Mould have been longstanding members, taking up the Chairman and Vice-Chairman position, as well as Planning committee chair etc throughout their service. They have

both been instrumental in the issuing of the newsletter, with Gordon recently stepping down as editor. They have both been great fonts of knowledge and all our councillors have worked hard to keep our Parish involved with planning issues and making sure the rules are followed.

With that I would like to say thank-you to all the councillors and the clerk for all their efforts this last year, and we hope to have some new councillors join us soon.

*Asheesh Sharma – Chairman,
Tiverton & Tilstone Fearnall Parish
Council. May 2023 Report*

St.Jude's Hall

St Jude was reportedly one of the 12 apostles and a cousin to Jesus, he is known as the patron St of lost causes.

St Jude's is the last open church in the parish boundary of the Tiverton and Tilstone Fearnall Parish Council. Opened in 1836 it was built and funded by The Admiral Sir John Delap- Tollemache ancestor of the current Lord Tollemache, it is unusual as it is built the wrong way around! Normally churches are built East West and only very rarely

North South and only then if the plot of land won't permit a traditional layout, however since Sir



John lived at Tilstone Lodge and was paying the bill He wanted the front door opposite his drive and so North South it is!

Unfortunately, time has not been kind to St Jude's and it now needs substantial work to the guttering spires and roof Don't panic we aren't asking for money!! We intend to apply for suitable Grants to fund the work once we have the relevant permission which is where we are at the moment.

We will be doing all sorts of things once we have the funds to keep you all engaged and interested (we hope) So look out here and in the

church link and on the notice board for updates or just come to one of our services you might even enjoy it!

Services are every Sunday 09:30 with Holy Communion on the 2nd and 3rd Sunday, we will even give you a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit afterwards.

The kitchen in the church hall at St Jude's has undergone a complete refurbishment. Many thanks to all who attended coffee mornings to raise funds and to Tiverton and Tilstone Fearnall parish council and Ward councillor Mr Mike Jones for their kind donations and all the volunteers who helped the renovations .

The church hall is available for hire please contact Mrs Elizabeth Marren on 01270 528556.

Yours, Mike Lightfoot and Liz Marren, Church Wardens

Tiverton Village Hall

Tiverton has had a village hall since the days after World War 1 and records from 1928 show a lively range of activities provided by the Village Institute. During WW2 the hall was used for training by troops

stationed at Gardenhurst. That didn't stop some social activities continuing in the officially closed village hall, including a Dec 1942 whist drive to raise money for Red Cross funds. In 1959, Peckforton Estates gifted the land upon which the Village Hall stands to be held by four local Trustees. By 1980, the years of heavy use had taken their toll on the fabric of the original wooden huts and the village set about rebuilding the hall. Money was raised in whatever way could be imagined: dances, raffles, jumble sales, teas on the village green during market days, all through the efforts of many of the villagers who then went on to rebuild the structure with their own hands.

All this demonstrates a close-knit community that valued its local centre for social activities in days when car ownership was low and most day-to-day activity happened in and around the village. In the late 1960s there were 5 working farms within a mile of the village centre, 2 garages, a shop, chapel, primary school, 2 public houses and a weekly market. Many villagers were either involved in farming activities or support trades.

Over the last 50 years, the village has seen huge changes in its social structures as more widespread car ownership opened opportunities farther afield. Local businesses closed, there is now only one working farm, no shops or garages and no pubs. The village hall is now the last community building in the village and possibly going the same way as other community resources.

The same core committee has been managing the hall since the 1980s, despite frequent and usually unanswered pleas for more locals to come forward and take on responsibility. With an average age now approaching 80, the current officers will be resigning en masse at the Nov 2025 AGM. If the village is still of the opinion that the hall is valued, as demonstrated by two recent whole village surveys, then a replacement committee will probably be forthcoming after a short closure. This was the recent experience in Bunbury when faced with a similar potential hall closure. But how much easier for a new committee to take over from an experienced group, rather than pick up the threads with no one to guide them.

The hall is in good order and financially sound, so there is no need to engage in fund raising to keep the doors open. All that is needed is a group of 5 villagers willing take on the responsibilities of running the hall day-to-day. To assure a future for the village hall, let us hope volunteers are forthcoming well before the crunch date.

Further information or offers of help via villagehall@tiverton-cheshire.org.uk.

Steve Armitage

Parish Council meetings will take place on the following dates at 7.30pm:

*Tuesday 12th September 2023,
Tiverton Village Hall*

*Tuesday 14th November 2023, St'
Jude's Church Hall*

*Tuesday 9th January 2024, Tiverton
Village Hall*

*Tuesday 12th March 2024, St Jude's
Church Hall*

*Tuesday 14th May 2024, Tiverton
Village Hall (to include Annual
Parish Meeting and Annual (first)
Parish Council Meeting)*

*Tuesday 9th July 2024, St Jude's
Church Hall*

*Tuesday 10th September 2024,
Tiverton Village Hall*

*Tuesday 12th November 2024, St
Jude's Church Hall*

*For all the up-to date news and
information in the Parish please visit
the website.*

*Parish Council Website:
www.tiverton-cheshire.org.uk*

*Parish Clerk: Carol Spencer (07730
405913), e-mail
parishclerk@tiverton-cheshire.org.uk*

*Newsletter Editor: Asheesh Sharma,
Chairman*

Parish Council VACANCIES

The Parish Council has FOUR(!) vacancies and we would welcome interest from anyone in the Parish to join an enthusiastic, non-political group of individuals.

A parish council is a local authority that makes decisions on behalf of the people in the parish and has an overall responsibility for the well-being of its local community. It is the level of government closest to the community and as it is the authority closest to the people, parish councils are invariably the first place people will go with concerns or ideas. For this reason, they are a vital part of any community.

Its work falls into three main categories:

- representing the local community
- delivering services to meet local needs
- striving to improve quality of life in the parish

No previous experience of local government is needed, just an interest in local affairs, and the minimum commitment is a meeting on the second Tuesday evening of every second month, so it is perfectly feasible for working people to be productive and pro-active participants to help further our small community.

By becoming a parish councillor, you become someone your community will look to for help and guidance with the power to influence decisions for the benefit of the people you serve.

Please contact our clerk for more details:

Parish Clerk: Carol Spencer (07730 405913), e-mail parishclerk@tiverton-cheshire.org.uk