



Dunnockshaw Parish Council -Newsletter May 2016

Welcome to our 24th Parish Council Newsletter.

As in previous newsletters I begin by reminding all residents that the Parish Council has existed since 1894. Throughout this time, local people have given up some of their precious time to attend meetings and work for the overall benefit of the Parish.

We meet once every two months, on a Monday, at Burnley Town Hall. Notice of the meetings is on the Parish Council notice board, on the children's playground, before they take place. Any resident is welcome to attend our meetings and time is set aside for residents questions. The meetings usually begin at 7pm and there is free parking on the Town Hall car park nearby. If you cannot attend a meeting and want a matter bringing up, please contact one of the Councillors, who will do this for you.

Parish Councils are the smallest and most local layer of government and are lacking in many parts of the country. Some people probably think we have very little purpose these days and certainly our powers are limited. However, it is surely to the benefit of the Parish that we exist and can speak up for the villages of Dunnockshaw and Clowbridge, both with Burnley Borough Council, Lancashire County Council and any other organisation that has an effect on the Parish. Our purpose is to look after the area and to try and improve it in any way we can. If there is anything else we can do to achieve this please let us know.

The Parish Council consists of 7 members and their names and addresses are at the back of this newsletter together with the names of our County and District Councillors and the Community Police Officers.

Since the last news letter, we are very sorry to say that we have lost another valued Council member Mr. Alan Childs, who died late last year. Alan was a dedicated, hard working Councillor and will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

Our new Council member is Mr. William Brindle and we extend a warm welcome to him. He has an in depth knowledge of local government, having served in the past, as a district councillor on Burnley Borough Council.

Each May the Parish Council holds an Annual Meeting, to which all residents are invited.

This year the Annual Meeting will be held on Monday the 16th May 2016 at The Town Hall, Burnley at 7 30pm. ALL RESIDENTS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

Entrance to the meeting is via the main entrance to the Town Hall on Manchester Road. The meeting is informal and fairly short so please come along if you can.

Parish Council Funding

At the moment the parish council receives a grant from Burnley Borough Council that covers our annual running costs. These costs include insurance, the clerk's salary, Audit fees, printing and stationery. Next year our grant is to be cut by 12% and there will be further cuts in the following years. If the cuts continue beyond the next 2 years, we will no longer be able to continue as we have in the past. We have been told that any shortfall will have to be made up by levying a precept, paid by parishioners on top of their normal Council Tax. The Parish council has been very much against this, as we are aware that residents pay a high price without having to pay any more.

Police Matters

Fortunately we live in a low crime area and the police's monthly crime report often shows that there has been no crime at all. However incidents do occur and we ask residents to be vigilant at all times and ring 101 if they see anything suspicious.

Cars have been reported entering and leaving Springfield Lane at unusual hours and PCSO J Astin found signs of drug activity in the area. Also, Scrambler bikes frequent the lane, particularly at weekends. These bikes often have no number plates and their speeding on the lane can be a hazard to pedestrians. PCSO J Astin has recently cautioned two bike riders, using the lane and visits the area regularly. The lane is also being monitored by the police for drug taking.

Flooding

A major flooding incident occurred at Cotton Row over the Christmas period. A number of properties were severely damaged by a torrent of water (from a blocked or broken drain) coming down Nutshaw Lane. This water closed the main road for a time and part of the wall to the reservoir area had to be demolished, to allow it to escape. Several residents have had to leave their homes for a considerable time for repairs to be done. Even now the matter has not been resolved. The owner of the drain, Lancs CC Highways Dept, and United Utilities are involved with this and we hope for the residents, that a solution can be reached as soon as possible. Our County Councillor Marcus Johnstone is assisting the residents with this matter.

Retaining Wall at Burnley Road Clowbridge

A section of the wall bordering the small car park collapsed during the very heavy rain last winter and a resident's car parked behind his house was badly damaged. Burnley Borough Council erected some safety fences and residents had to park at the front of their houses on the footpath, which was difficult because of the work being carried out by United Utilities narrowing the main road at this point. However, the situation has been somewhat alleviated, by the resident affected, removing the fallen stones and erecting a fence across the collapsed section of wall. The residents are now able to use the car park.

However, the problem still remains, in that other sections of the wall are in a dangerous condition, but the owner is still unknown, even after extensive enquiries.

The reservoir

Work presently taking place on the reservoir, by United Utilities has been major. This work has been necessary for safety reasons, in times of high rainfall and flooding.

We initially were informed that it would be complete by the end of March but now this

date has been put forward to the end of June. The Company concerned, has kept our chairman and nearby residents informed of progress and has done its best to keep disruption to a minimum. Even so, we will be pleased when everything is complete and the main road and footpaths are back to normal.

Village Appearance

Thank you very much to anyone who has helped to enhance the appearance of the Parish. What a difference colourful hanging baskets and gardens make.

The display of daffodils has again been magnificent. Mrs. Ann Childs and Mr. A Jones planted daffodils last autumn and also planted up the large planter at Clowbridge. Mr. R. Riley and the Clerk see to the planters opposite Clow Farm gate and Alma Terrace. Jack and Joan Ormerod also planted daffodils near the boundary stone, and Jennifer Baguley and Ann Brannagan planted daffodils for the first time at Dunnockshaw. We would also like to thank Linda Smith for the plants in the planter near the bus stop at Dunnockshaw.

The three tier planters and the single tier planter at Limey Lane have also looked really well and brightened up the area. The Parks Department do an excellent job with their spring and summer displays.

We would be pleased to hear from anyone who is willing to give up a little time to plant some more daffodil bulbs this autumn.

Planning Applications

1. Land rear of Springfield House:-details of landscaping of the site and scheme for the containment and storage of manure.
2. Construction of access off Burnley Road, Clowbridge to the reservoir area for United Utilities.
3. No 22, Cotton Row, Clowbridge:- construction of conservatory. Also, Extension to rear lean-to and retention of detached garage.
4. The Kestrels, Manchester Road, Clowbridge :- Construction of Poly Tunnel.

Children's Playground

The Millennium bench on the children's playground has now been replaced. Mrs. B. Cronshaw her husband Nigel, Mr. R. Riley and the clerk painted the new bench and Mr. S. Counsell transported it to the playground.

Superfast Broadband

Lancashire County Council has initiated a Superfast broadband programme for rural areas in Lancashire and now approximately 97% of the County receives it. Our parish, as many of you will be aware, is not yet covered by the scheme. This matter is still ongoing and we are hopeful we may receive it eventually.

Parish Council Website

The Parish Council now has its own website, with thanks to Mrs Jane Latham who agreed to set it up and keep it up to date, in conjunction with the clerk.

The website information includes minutes of all our meetings including date of the next meeting, the accounts, current planning applications (via Burnley Borough Council), useful contacts, and photographs of the Parish. The website can be accessed by typing in dunnockshawpc.weebly.com

Dog Fouling

The Parish Council asked Street Scene for some new dog fouling signs, last year. These, we have received, but most of them are just plastic signs and not the more permanent metal signs we requested. We try to keep the parish free from dog dirt, especially the grassed area opposite Alma terrace and the grass mounds at Clowbridge.

Please, if you walk your dog in the village, would you ensure you pick up afterwards.

Parish Councillors

Mrs B Cronshaw, **Chairperson**, 7 Manchester Rd, Clowbridge, 01282 422700

Mrs V O'Reilly, 60, Hamer Avenue, Loveclough, 07757975775

Mr R Riley, Clow Cottage, Clowbridge, 01282 411616

Mrs A. Childs, 90 Burnley Road, Clowbridge 01282 832757

Mrs. J. Baguley, 6, Burnley Road, Dunnockshaw 07903955684

Mrs. A. Brannagan, 4 Wilkinson Street, Dunnockshaw. 07531705461

Mr. W. Brindle, 18 Rosehill Mount, Burnley. 01282 931303

Clerk : Mrs O. S. Riley, Clow Cottage, Clowbridge. 01282 411616

Community Beat Manager:, -PC Janet Cowley & PCSO Joe Astin tel: 01282 472107.

District Councillors: Mr G. Birtwistle, (Lib. Dem.), Mrs M. Brindle. (Lib Dem)

County Councillor: Mr. Marcus Johnstone. (Lab)