

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Welcome to this year's Stretton Parish Council Newsletter

We have tried to condense many of the diverse activities the Parish Council has been involved with over the last year into this newsletter and hope you find it an informative and enjoyable read, many thanks

Linda

## VILLAGE NOTICEBOARDS

Residents may be aware that there are currently 3 Parish Council noticeboards located at various sites across the village. These have evolved over time from a single central location initially, then when the construction of the M56 split the village into 2 halves and more latterly when the new houses at Ashford Drive and Henbury Gardens were built

Over time, the condition of the noticeboards in Lower Stretton and on Pewterspear Green Road has deteriorated, despite regular maintenance. It has now reached the point where they need to be replaced but our research has suggested that the costs would be considerable and could not be met from precept income

However, we are pleased to be able to advise residents that Barratt Homes have kindly offered to pay for a replacement notice board to be installed on Pewterspear Green Road and this work will be done later this year. In

the meantime, the Parish Council will continue to seek grant support or sponsorship to cover the costs of a replacement board in Lower Stretton

The third noticeboard located at the Post Office / Beehive will be retained and hard copies of the meeting dates and forthcoming Agenda will continue to be displayed there

Residents are also reminded that details of the Agenda for Parish Council Meetings are available on its website and Facebook page. The website also has a lot information about the Council and the village and the details are given above

## VILLAGE PLANTERS

A few years ago, the Parish Council purchased a number of self-watering planters which are in place at various locations around the village



We pay a local contractor to change the plants twice a year and as you see from the photos it's money well spent, promoting and enhancing the look of our lovely village

## MEET YOUR LOCAL PCSO



My name is Philip Wilkinson, I am married with three children and reside in the local area. I was a Police Officer for Cheshire Constabulary stationed mainly in Warrington and retired as a Sergeant in 2006

Since then I have served as a PCSO for Warrington Town Centre. Since April 2018 I have served the Community of Stretton, Hatton and Walton. My main aim to be seen in the Community in order to reduce the fear of crime, tackle ASB and give reassurance

I am always contactable via email, Facebook or Twitter and carry out weekly PCSO surgeries in the Heritage Café in Walton Park, the times and dates are advertised on the Cheshire Police website or our social media

I am happy to be contacted no matter what the problem is and will endeavour to resolve the issue if I am able

*The Parish Council extends its sincere thanks to Phil for all he has done to date for Stretton*

## THE QUEEN'S GARDEN PARTY

This year our Chair, Linda Jones was picked to attend the Queens Garden Party at Buckingham Palace in May



Linda went along with her husband Bryan

When arriving at one of the gates there was an enormous queue but it went down quickly and on entering the palace grounds, there was plenty of time to explore the beautiful gardens

The food was served in an amazing, large marquee, which was exceptional, with exquisite sandwiches, cakes and various soft drinks on offer

Two bands, the Coldstream Guards and the Parachute Regiment played some really good music, including Bond theme tunes



The Queen, plus other members of the royal family, did their walk to the royal tent mingling and chatting to various members of the public, but it was difficult to get close due to the number of people attending the event

Altogether, it was an amazing day and Linda and Bryan felt very privileged to have been able to attend this event and represent Stretton

## WARRINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL'S LOCAL PLAN AND LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN 4

Public Consultation on the two Warrington Borough Council's (WBC) Strategic Plans ended on the 17th June 2019, and the Parish Council's responses can be viewed on the PC's web site under '**Housing and Planning**', together with the responses from Faisal Rashid MP, South Warrington Parishes Group and the Stretton Neighbourhood Development Group

As members of the South Warrington Parishes Group (a collaboration between Parish Councils in the South of the Town) the Working Group was formed in response to the huge local public reaction to WBC's first stage Local Plan (LP) Preferred Development Option, undertaken in the Summer of 2017

In view of the public's reaction, professional advisors were appointed in order to ensure that opposition to the LP was effectively expressed and stood the greatest chance of shaping the Councils proposals

Going forward WBC's indicative timetable for the Local Plan is;

*\* June 2019 - September 2019: Review Public Representations*

*\* October 2019: Submit Local Plan (including comments) to the Secretary of State*

*\* Early 2020: Examination undertaken by the Secretary of State Examiner*

*\* Summer 2020: Further public consultation on potentially modified Local Plan*

*\* Late 2020: Local Plan adopted*

WBC has also indicated that the proposed Garden Suburb Master Plan will only be made available after the adoption of the Local Plan (late 2020). This document, which could have a significant impact on our Parish, will be subject to a further Public Consultation and we await confirmation from the Council as to when this will happen

The Parish Council will endeavour to keep residents fully informed over the forthcoming months on the future progress of the Local Plan

## DEFIBRILLATORS

Just a reminder to residents that there is a defibrillator situated at the Pewterspear Green Pavilion

The Parish Council is currently investigating the possibility of a second defibrillator at a location in Lower Stretton

## PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Stretton PC are consulted upon any planning applications made to WBC and which fall within Stretton's boundaries

Occasionally, where major developments are proposed in adjacent parishes, the PC will also submit comments if it is felt that our village will be affected

WBC then allocates a reference number to each application, comprising of the year and a case number (e.g. 2019/12345)

WBC Planning informs the PC and residents living in the immediate vicinity of any application received, detailing the case reference

Details of all applications are reported under WBC's online portal located via;

<http://planning.warrington.gov.uk/swiftlg/apas/run/wphappcriteria.display?>

The easiest way to search for an application is to use the reference number allocated

It is the responsibility of the WBC's Planning Department to ensure that any application meets all the necessary regulatory requirements, with any mandatory consultees consulted e.g. Environmental Highways, etc. However, they often rely upon Parish Councils and residents to indicate any local concerns or issues that they may not be aware of

Details of the application will be discussed by Parish Councillors at the next Council Meeting and decide whether any feedback or objections should be raised

**Residents** can reply directly to the Borough Council by email or letter or can ask the Parish Council to raise their concerns on their behalf if they prefer. Responses to each application must normally be submitted within 21 days of the date it was placed on the planning portal

In most instances, involving domestic applications, there are usually either a few or no objections raised and the application will be approved or denied under delegated authority by Planning Officers

However, where an application is more contentious, should the Parish Council and / or more than 10 objections be raised the application has to be referred to the Development Management Committee (DMC) at WBC for consideration. At the DMC both the applicant and anyone who has objected to it will be given the opportunity to present their views to the Committee

Papers that are submitted to the DMC and Minutes of their Meetings are available to the public via the following link:

<https://www.warrington.gov.uk/info/201104/council-committees-and-meetings/647/development-management-committee>

Decisions taken at the DMC are usually final, although where an application is refused the applicant is entitled to appeal to a Central Government Planning Inspector, conversely where an application is approved those objecting to it may also appeal the decision



The annual music festival is not far off again so below is some information we have been advised of so far

For those of you that like the music, the line-up this year is very good with artists Calvin Harris, Deadmau5, Martin Garrix, Swedish House Mafia, Afrojack, Chemical Brothers, Duke Dumont, Above and Beyond, Gorgon City and many more...

### Opening and Closing Times

*Thursday 22nd August*  
Car Park - 12pm to 9pm  
Arena - 5pm to 11pm

*Friday 23rd August*  
Car Park - 12pm to 9pm  
Arena - 3pm to 11pm

*Saturday 24th August*  
Car Park - 10am to 9pm  
Arena - 2pm to 4am

*Sunday 25th August*  
Car Park - 12pm to 9pm  
Arena - 12pm to 11pm

*Monday 26th August*  
Car Park - 6am to 2pm

As in recent years Stretton PC has been liaising with the organisers and neighbouring villages in ensuring the event runs with minimal disruption to the villages

Historically, Stretton has been quite fortunate that we have not had too many problems from the festival (apart from noise levels) but in the event residents have a need to contact the organisers, the details of their helpline will be added to our website and our Beehive/Post Office noticeboard as soon as we receive it

## TWINKLING STRETTON

The Parish Council purchased two Christmas trees a number of years ago to give our lovely village a good feeling at Christmas time

One is situated in Stretton on the PGT land, opposite the Cat and Lion and the other, on Summit Close in Lower Stretton

Each year, usually the first weekend in December, we have tree lighting ceremonies

Saturday has historically been the PGT tree lighting ceremony and after a few carols around the tree we head back to the Pavilion providing mulled wine, soft drinks, mince pies, in addition to sweets and chocolate for the children and big children..... i.e. adults!

The Sunday lighting in Lower Stretton again has a few carols round the tree followed by mince pies and sweets and chocolates in the Ring O Bells pub (unfortunately the Parish Council are unable to provide drinks in the pub and residents have to purchase their own)

The last couple of years has seen a sharp decrease in numbers attending these events which is very sad, as if they are not supported the Parish Council will have to make a decision on whether to cancel them altogether and just have the trees lit without any ceremonies

The Parish Council delivers flyers to all homes about 2 weeks before the events so PLEASE keep your eyes open for them popping through your letterbox and come along and join us

*Welcome!*

Firstly, we would like to extend a warm welcome to new residents who have now moved into homes on Barratt's development at Kings Quarter and Saviours Place

Building work at Pewterspear Green commenced at the end of 2018 and work is expected to be complete by 2021, as this is an accelerated build scheme in association with Homes England

Out of the 180 houses, 54 (30%) will be affordable; 27 will be for rent and managed by Torus and 27 intermediate (discounted) sale, sold at 80% of the Open Market Value

The impact of this development on the local area has not been without its problems. Some of these were probably to be expected but the scale and impact of the construction work on the area was likely underestimated

Barratt's, via their site manager Steve Jordan, has worked with St Matthew's School, Pewterspear Green Trust, residents and the Parish Council when problems and issues have arisen

## NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

As many residents may already be aware, Stretton has an active Neighbourhood Development Plan Group which was initiated in September 2017. The NDP Group remain committed in their aim in influencing WBC's planning objectives within Stretton

Any residents interested in finding out more about the NDP Group please refer to the PC's website under 'Neighbourhood Plan' for details on how to get involved

## AND IN OTHER NEWS....

Stretton Parish Council has also remained very much involved with many other matters, which we haven't been able to include in this year's Newsletter. By way of a very brief update on some the ongoing issues;

Stretton PC's ongoing complaint to WBC relating to all of the £1.6m s106 monies associated with the Barratts Pewterspear housing development being allocated outside Stretton itself, remains very disappointingly unanswered... however, we are committed to pursuing this matter

Speeding remains high priority, especially on Stretton Road with requests for up to date vehicle usage data to be undertaken within term time, increased presence of the PCSO and use of the PC's Speed Indicator Device

Increasing usage by HGV's/ traffic on the A559, the ongoing problems experienced by residents and the lack of an acceptable solution to date

The dangerous condition of the damaged barrier on Junction 10 of the M56 roundabout, despite numerous reports raising concerns about its safety

Parking of HGV's / motorhomes etc on certain roads within the village adversely affecting the everyday lives of residents due to antisocial behaviour and littering

Ongoing monitoring Crime Stats within the village, analysing trends

Increasing number of large-scale planning applications being submitted affecting our village, eradicating our Green Belt and ahead of agreement of WBC's Local Plan