



**Freckleton Parish Council**  
**Newsletter**  
**Issue No. 48 –April 2017**

**The Annual Parish Assembly 10th April, 2017**

The Annual Parish Assembly took place on the 10th April, 2017 in The Methodist Hall where all Councillors were present. The purpose of this meeting is to summarise the year's activities and to invite the public to hear these reports from the Chairman and Chairman of Finance, or any organisation that the Council give significant funding to, along with Financial Statements for the year. The public are provided with an opportunity for participation to express opinions on what the Council are doing.

**Chairman's Report**

1. The Memorial Park Play area has been revamped. Thanks to the Friends of the Memorial park for all the hard work put in to secure the funding. Numerous Organisations gave money towards the £175k cost and the Parish Council donated £20k.
2. A huge congratulations to Freckleton in Bloom and Golden Leaf for:-
  - a) The best small town in Britain awarded by the Royal Horticultural Society.
  - b) A Gold award in the North West in Bloom competition.A lot of planning and hard work goes into winning these awards and I thank the local businesses for their support. In addition, I would point out that this is an initiative that I would encourage all that live in the Village to participate in.
3. Unfortunately, LCC has now closed the Library despite every effort being made to try to keep it open. The Parish Council, with the help of County Councillor Paul Rigby, is trying to ensure the mobile library visits Freckleton on a regular basis.
4. Most of the books donated by the Americans that were in the Library have been destroyed by inconsiderate LCC staff. However, a few have been saved or replaced and these will now be displayed in the Village hall committee room together with trophies won by the Village (e.g. the In Bloom awards).
5. It has been noticed that there has been a considerable reduction in the Policing of the Village, but we have a good working relationship with them and we are making the best of what they can offer.
6. I would like to remind everyone that the Parish Council has provided a dedicated dog exercise area on the southern side of the Rawstone centre car park, where dogs can be

exercised off the lead. Discussions are taking place at Fylde Borough Council with regard to dog exercising and fouling and the Parish Council are pro-active in these discussions.

7. The Parish Council is proud of its sports and community groups of which the Bowling and Cricket clubs sets good examples.
8. Both the horticultural and agricultural allotments, with their own Management committees, are to be proud of and set a good example of how community groups can work together.
9. We have supported the Village hall in keeping it a place and to be proud of and my thanks go to the Management committee.
10. I commend the Parish Council's support for the Freckleton Club day committee and a big thank you in recognition of the great work the committee undertakes in and for the Village.
11. Throughout the year Freckleton has continued to be in good health and all areas are well maintained.
12. The Village has a wonderful Brass band who maintain their status as a *premier* league band. Everyone who is involved with the running of the band should be congratulated and I would like to thank them for supporting the Parish Council with the events that we have held in the past year.
13. Last but not least, Freckleton Parish Council are committed to the care and maintenance of Freckleton's well-being. I would like to thank The Parish Councillors, the Chairman and Vice chairman of all the committees, the Clerk, the Assistant Clerk and my Vice Chairman, who has been a rock this year.

Councillor Tommy Threlfall, Chairman

### **Chairman of Finance Report**

Firstly, a massive thanks to Councillor Shirley Delany, who despite a heavy schedule of her own, stepped in when Councillor Noreen Griffiths was unable to take up the duties of the Vice Chairman of Finance.

To Mr. Ken Armistead, our Clerk, a thank you for all the help and guidance this past year which has been much appreciated.

### **Precept account (including Open Spaces).**

The Councils expenditure for 2016/17 was within the budget of £99,600.

### **Community Development Account**

The interest on the savings, in this account, has been reduced considerably due to the reduction in interest rates. A new bank account has been set up with Nationwide that attracts a better interest rate.

In addition, the Council has sold to United Utilities part of the Bush lane allotment land where they built the overflow tank. This money has been "ring fenced" for future allotment developments, hopefully to include providing additional allotments for people on the waiting list.

### **Capital expenditure**

The following capital expenditure has been completed in 2016/17

Donation towards the new play area in the Memorial park	-£20,000
New Notice board	- £2,000

A new grass pen, on the Bush lane sports field	- £4,866
Additional lights for the Christmas tree display	£ 880
2 new Printers	- £ 210

### **Income**

Interest on the Council's new Savings account	- £534.
Hire of equipment and land	- £850
Sale of Allotment land	-£35,000
FBC Council tax reduction grant	- £8,111
LCC grass cutting contract	- £2,415

### **Proposed Capital Expenditure for 2017/18**

None

COUNCIL FINANCIAL RECORDS ARE KEPT STRICTLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH FINANCIAL REGULATIONS AND ARE AUDITED REGULARLY BY COUNCILLORS AND ANNUALLY BY AN INDEPENDENT AUDITOR.

ACCOUNTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING FROM THE CLERK TO THE COUNCIL

### **Additional Library News**

The Lancashire County Council has offered a full written apology for the loss of the majority of the American Collection Books that were held in the Library.

They did source and return fifty two books so together with those that were lost there are now sixty seven books available. These are now housed in the Memorial Hall in a Cabinet obtained for the purpose. These will be made available for Freckleton residents to access.

### **Club Day Events**

The Annual Club Day Parade and Sports will be held on Saturday 17th June and the Half Marathon on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June. We wish them well with regard to the weather.

### **Hall Cross**

The Hall Cross at the junction of Hillock Lane and Kirkham road has again been damaged and needs repair. The Parish Council has undertaken to have this historic artefact repaired. The origins of the Cross may have been as a boundary marker or is thought to have been the resting place for Funeral Corteges taking the dead from Freckleton to Kirkham for burial as there was no graveyard in Freckleton.

### **Forthcoming events**

#### **May '17**

- 02/05/17- Annual Parish Council meeting - starting 6:30pm
- 02/05/17 - Full Council - starting 7:00pm after the Annual Parish Council meeting
- 08/05/17 – Planning Committee - starting 7:00pm
- 15/05/17 – Open Spaces Committee - starting 6:30pm

#### **June '17**

- 05/06/17– Full Council - starting 7:00pm
- 12/06/17 – Planning Committee - starting 7:00pm
- 19/06/17 – Open Spaces Committee - starting 6:30pm
- 26/06/17 – Fabrics Committee - starting 6:30pm

## **July '17**

03/07/17 – Full Council - starting 7:00pm

10/07/17 – Planning Committee - starting 7:00pm

## **August '17**

07/08/17– Planning Committee - starting 7:00pm

## **September '17**

04/09/17 – Full Council - starting 7:00pm

11/09/17 – Planning Committee - starting 7:00pm

18/09/17 – Open Spaces Committee - starting 6:30pm

## **October '17**

02/10/17 – Full Council - starting 7:00pm

(09/10/17 – Planning Committee - starting 7:00pm

(09/10/17 - Communications Group directly after planning meeting

16/10/17 – Fabrics Committee - starting 6:30pm

## **Communication**

Advance notice of all the Parish Council meetings are published on the council notice board. This is on the footpath opposite The Cenotaph and by The Coach and Horses Car Park. The minutes of all the Parish Council meetings are held on the Council's website [www.freckletonparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.freckletonparishcouncil.org.uk)

Public Participation - There is an opportunity for public participation at full council meetings. The aim is to enable any member of the public to raise issues of local concern or observation and this should be addressed through The Chairman. Unless time permits, questions and statements will be limited to 3 minutes each (the length of time permitted is at the discretion of The Chairman).

Your Parish Councillors and telephone numbers are:-

### **Freckleton East Ward**

Councillor Mrs. S Delany (Vice Chairman) 01772 632349

Councillor Mrs. P Holt 01772 635737

Councillor Mrs. M Whitehead 01772 686436

Councillor T. Threlfall (Chairman) 01772 633964

Councillor St. J Greenhough 01772 634638

Councillor Mr K Mc Kay 01772 634345

### **Freckleton West Ward**

Councillor Mrs N Griffiths 01772 631870

Councillor T.J. Fiddler 01772 634889

Councillor L. Rigby 01772 634111

Councillor Mrs J Cartmell 01772 631853

Councillor P. Walton 01772 632110

Councillor Mrs E Willis 01772632777

## **Contact point**

The Clerk to the Council is Mr. K. M. Armistead

**Tel: 01253 738951**

**The office is open between 9:00am &12 noon, Monday to Friday**

**Email: [clerk@freckletonparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@freckletonparishcouncil.org.uk).**