



Freckleton Parish Council Newsletter

Issue No. 60 – May 2025

The Annual Parish Assembly Meeting 7th April, 2025

The Annual Parish Assembly took place on the 7th April, 2025 in The Village Hall where all 12 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. Unfortunately, there were no members of the public present.

Chairman's Annual Report 2025

I am pleased to give the Annual Parish Meeting my Parish Council Chairman's Report.

I intend to keep it brief as the Parish Council noticeboard provides updates on the monthly Parish Council meetings and many local activities throughout the year.

A huge thankyou to all the voluntary community groups we are so lucky to have in Freckleton.

The three churches who always assist and dream up new events.

Thank you to our Parish Contractors D&C Gardening and John Rhodes.

To my vice chair Liz Willis, fellow councillors, and Ken Armistead and Nigel Bibby our Parish clerks, thank you for your support.

To Paul Rigby our LCC representative we wish a happy and healthy retirement.

Councillor Mrs N Griffiths.

Chairman of the Parish Council.

Chairman of Finance's report 2025

- Thank you to Mr. Ken Armistead, our Clerk, for all the help and guidance this past year which has been much appreciated.
- **Precept account (including Open Spaces).**
 - The Councils expenditure for 2024/25 was over spent by £11,503 due to the increase in energy & fuel costs and repairs to the Buildings, Open Spaces areas & machinery. This will be paid for from the Council's Reserves.
 - The Precept for 2025/26 has been set with an increase of 4.24%.
 - Thanks go to all the Councillors for keeping a tight control on the budgets and ensuring it receives best value for the money being spent.

- **Community Development Account**

Interest rates have increased on the Council's savings Accounts. See below

- **Capital expenditure**

Lights for car park	£1,925
New Roof – Rawstorne Centre	£23,540
New Laptop	£557
Plaques	£400
Sunflowers for park bench	£246
Trees & equipment for Orchard	£641
SPID Machine	£2,340

- **Income**

Interest on the Council's Savings accounts	£915
Rent from Hire of land	£805
Donation for Bench	£700
FBC – Donation towards RC roof	£30,000
LCC – Donation towards Orchard	£538
LCC grass cutting contract	£4,302

- **Proposed Capital Expenditure for 2024/25 (The amount of expenditure to be agreed)**

Donation towards Play-zone (£225,00)	£5,000
Solicitors' fees for Morecambe & Morgan Project	£10,000
Drains for Bush Lane allotments	£29,000

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.

Upcoming and On-Going Events.

Club Day & Half Marathon

The Annual Club Day Parade and Sports events will be held on Saturday 21st June and the Half Marathon will run on Sunday 22nd June. **Please note the start time change to 10.30am.**

Freckleton Library

The library has recently undergone extensive refurbishment which is now complete and back up and running as normal. The Library Services are provided by LCC in Freckleton and it is supported by the local Friends Group, Love Freckleton Library. Also, there is a village history group which is one of the library sub sections.

More details are available at <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/libraries-and-archives/libraries/library-services/borrowing-renewals-and-reservations/>

Remember that our Digital Library is always open for eBooks and eResources

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/libraries-and-archives/libraries/digital-library/>

The Library Staff provide a range of facilities, including access the British Library Resources and computer facilities for use by Library Users. Special activities are run by both the Library Service and by the Friends Group. Details are available on webpages and social media.

Freckleton History Group

The Freckleton History Group, which meets regularly at the library, in conjunction with Freckleton in Bloom, has established a Heritage Trail, available via an interactive map. The objective is to provide guidance to places of historical significance in the bounds of Freckleton and create a walking route around these. A copy will be made available on the Freckleton Parish web site. General access will be available by accessing a QR code on a mobile device. It is planned to go live with this in the summer.

Over 60's

We are actively seeking new members to come along and join us at our get togethers in the village Hall every 3rd Tuesday of the month from March to December (excluding August). Food and entertainment are supplied. Please keep your eye on the Village notice boards for details of what is happening or you can contact Mrs Liz Willis on Telephone 01772 632777 email: ejwillis88@gmail.com or Mrs Jill Atherton on 07766104074 email: jill@waltonscoaches.co.uk

Rawstorne Centre

We would like to make you all aware of the facilities and activities available at the Rawstorne Sports Centre:- Adult Football, Junior Football, Netball, Youth Club Wednesday 7.00pm and 9.00pm, Community Event's.

Cricket when in season.

There is an All-Weather Surface that is available for hire, for tennis, football or other sports @ £12.00 per hour. The function room is available for private parties and family functions.

Room hires: - £50 For all hires. Please note there are no bar facilities but people are welcome to bring their own drinks. For further information please contact Mrs Carol Thomas Tel: 07966831660. Or email carolthomas23@hotmail.com.

Ribble Vehicle Preservation Trust Ltd

Ribble vehicle preservation trust based on Naze Lane in the village are actively seeking new members and volunteers to help with the restoration and preservation of classic Ribble vehicles.

For more information, please contact Jill Atherton on Mob: 07766104074 email: jill@waltonscoaches.co.uk

Environmental Biodiversity and Sustainability Plan and Biodiversity Grants

In 2024 Freckleton Parish Council published an Environmental Biodiversity and Sustainability Plan, now available to read on our website.

Further to this plan, Lancashire County Council offered Biodiversity Grants for community benefit. The Parish Council applied for and received two grants:



- The Orchard Grant which has enabled us to plant an additional 12 fruit trees on open space land at Balderstone Road.

- The Biodiversity Grant which has been used to purchase wildflower seeds to be sown around the newly planted fruit trees.

The Parish Council Chairman and Vice Chairman also visited Freckleton Primary Schools to connect with their Eco Councils, and part of the Biodiversity Grant has been used to provide:

Two new large bug hotels, a bat box and a frog log as requested by Strike Lane School Eco Council
New bird feeders, a bat box and a frog log as requested by Freckleton C of E School.

Contacting the Police

We would like to remind residents' that if they have an issue which is not an emergency, they should contact the Police on 101. We are assured that dialling 101 will not only get a response but each report helps the Police to build a picture of events that are of a repeat nature and help them to deal with offenders more effectively.

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

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 telephone numbers and email addresses are:-

Freckleton Village

Councillor Mrs P Mulholland	01772 437732	shadowholt@hotmail.co.uk
Councillor Mrs C Thomas	07966831660	carolthomas23@hotmail.com
Councillor Mr K McKay	01772 634345	keithmckay140@btinternet.com
Councillor Mrs N Griffiths	01772 631870	noreen.griff8@tiscali.co.uk
Councillor Mr T.J. Fiddler	01772 634889	drtfiddler@gmail.com
Councillor Mrs E Willis	01772 632777	ejwillis88@gmail.com
Councillor Mrs F Craig-Wilson	01772 632119	mail@fabianwilson14.plus.com
Councillor Mrs N Whalley	07715359451	norma57@outlook.com
Councillor Mrs Jill Atherton	07766104074	jill@waltonscoaches.co.uk
Councillor Mr A Smith		andrew.psmithba@outlook.com
Councillor Mrs D Dickinson		dickinsons@blueyonder.co

Outer Freckleton

Councillor Mr T Threlfall	01772 633964	Cllr.threlfall@fylde.gov.uk
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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