



## **Freckleton Parish Council Newsletter Issue No. 58 – May 2024**

### **The Annual Parish Assembly Meeting 8th April, 2024**

The Annual Parish Assembly took place on the 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2024 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 2024**

Freckleton in Bloom pulled out all the stops again this year and won Gold in the small-town category. Congratulations Freckleton in Bloom. A big thank you to the Contractors D & C Gardening and John Rhodes.

I would also like to thank David Taylor who, due to ill health, was forced to retire. The Parish Council send him their best wishes.

A big thank you goes out to Janice our volunteer litter picker. All weathers will see her pounding our streets.

I would like to thank the Club Day Committee for their continued hard work in making the Club Day weekend such a success. This year 2024 sees the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Freckleton Half Marathon.

The Rawstone Sports Centre is becoming a popular venue for private functions. I would like to thank the management committee for their input and a special thanks to the Chairman Mrs Carol Thomas. The sporting activities at the Centre are going strong with the Netball, Cricket, and Football teams, senior, junior and veteran in full swing, competing with the wet weather issues has been more difficult than the opposing teams at times. I would like to thank the management of these teams for their contributions in keeping these sporting activities going.

Unfortunately, the Christmas Eve firework display was cancelled due to bad weather. This was very disappointing as it is such a good start to the Christmas celebrations. I must thank Mr Peter Walton and his family for all the hard work organising the display that did not happen.

There was an excellent turnout this year for the Christmas Tree lighting. The tree stood proud, a beautiful tree carefully chosen for the village by Thomas Threlfall. I would like to thank the team of people that it takes to position the tree and set it up. David Kirby, Thomas Garlick, Dean Wilson and Thomas Threlfall.

The Coach and Horses hosted a Christmas market after the tree lighting ceremony and I thank them for co-operating with the Parish Council. The event was a great success.

I would like to thank Freckleton Band for their support at the Christmas tree lighting and the Remembrance Sunday service.

The Blue Plaque has been installed to mark the first Police house/station in the village on Kirkham Road.

County Councillor Paul Rigby has loyally turned up to our full council meetings and taken on board all our requests for LCC assistance for Freckleton. I would like to thank him for his support.

The rainfall this last year has had a bad effect on the animal allotments. It is flooding badly and excessive water is not draining away. As soon as it is possible, a dryer climate, the drainage of the allotments is being addressed.

This year sees the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Freckleton Air disaster. A Church service is being arranged and it is hoped that the Americans will attend.

I share the concerns of the villagers about the intentions of Morgan and Morecambe with regard to the Offshore Wind farms project. A Parliamentary Petition has been presented in the House of Commons and 10 Downing Street on behalf of Freckleton, Kirkham and Newton with Clifton. A statement is eagerly awaited from Dalclow McClaren on their reflections from the consultations with regard to the opposition against the cable corridor. It has been observed that the National Grid is responsible for the siting of the Sub Stations.

To end my year as Chairman I would like to thank the Council for their support. Ken Armistead and Nigel Bibby for their professional management of Council business. I must not forget my Vice Chairman Trevor Fiddler who has supported me throughout this year.

## **Councillor Mrs P Mulholland, Chairman**

### **Chairman of Finance's report 2024**

- 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 Council's expenditure for 2023/24 was over spent by £12,587 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 2024/25 has been set with an increase of 2.4%. This is the first increase in 9 years.
  - 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**

Repair to Electrics in Bowling Pavilion	£880
Work on the Bowling Pavilion after flood	£650
Kings Coronation Celebrations Expenditure	£2,116
Install new sink & hot water system	£1,042
Blue Plaque for Kirkham Road	£483
New Plaque for C Robb's seat	£114
Replace /repair toilets at the Rawstone Centre	£12,800
Repair in front of green waste pen	£1,701

- **Income**

Interest on the Council's Savings accounts	£970	
Rent from Hire of land		£955
FBC - Donation King's Coronation		£880
George Blackburn Trust – Donation towards RC roof		£6,580
Donation towards Queen's Jubilee		£491
LCC grass cutting contract		£3,951
Donations for Bench & SPID		£487
- **Proposed Capital Expenditure for 2024/25 (The amount of expenditure to be agreed)**

SPID machine	£3,500	
New Roof for Rawstone Centre	£35,000	
Lights for car park	£1,500	
New Laptop	£600	
Drains for Bush Lane allotments	£10,000	

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 15<sup>th</sup> June and the Half Marathon will run on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June. **Please note the start time change to 10.30am.**

#### **Freckleton Library**

LCC provide Library Services at the Freckleton Library, supported by the local Friends Group, Love Freckleton 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.

LCC Councillor Paul Rigby has informed the Parish Council that repair of the library building roof and electrics are being scheduled by LCC, hopefully to be completed during this summer. This will require temporary closure, but dates are not yet available. Consideration is being given as to how to maintain a level of service during this period, whenever the closure happens. Details will be posted in advance of this work.

#### **Freckleton History Group**

The Freckleton History Group, which meets regularly at the library, in conjunction with Freckleton in Bloom, is establishing a Heritage Trail to be made 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:ejwillis88@gmail.com) or Mrs Jill Atherton on 07766104074 email: [jill@waltoniscoaches.co.uk](mailto:jill@waltoniscoaches.co.uk)

## Rawstone Centre

We would like to make you all aware of the facilities and activities available at the Rawstone 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 and bar are also available for private parties and family functions.

Room hires: - £40 with bar facilities for all hires.

For further information please contact Mrs Carol Thomas tele: 07966831660.

Or email [carolthomas23@hotmail.com](mailto:carolthomas23@hotmail.com).

## 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](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 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	<a href="mailto:keithmckay140@btinternet.com">keithmckay140@btinternet.com</a>
Councillor Mrs N Griffiths	01772 631870	<a href="mailto:noreen.griff8@tiscali.co.uk">noreen.griff8@tiscali.co.uk</a>
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.uk

### Outer Freckleton

Councillor Mr T Threlfall	01772 633964	<a href="mailto:Cllr.tthrelfall@fylde.gov.uk">Cllr.tthrelfall@fylde.gov.uk</a>
---------------------------	--------------	--

## 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)