



Upton by Chester & District Parish Council
COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



THE PHOENIX RISING FROM THE ASHES!

QUEEN ELIZABETH II PLAYING FIELDS PAVILION.

You may have noticed that the old pavilion has now been demolished and the new building is now underway. There is a feeling of great hope, expectation and excitement for the new pavilion.

A number of subtle changes have been made as part of the design review process to ensure that the Parish Council delivers an excellent new community facility that is good value for Upton residents.

An air source heat pump will be installed; compared to more conventional heating methods, capital costs are much the same and it should mean that ongoing running costs are lower than conventional fuels.



External landscaping including a patio and an access ramp was removed from the contract save costs, however, these are still considered to be important features and with the help of Upton Tennis Club, we have applied for a grant from WREN and if successful, will complete this work at a later date. Money raised at the Upton Golf Club fundraising event will be used to make the required 11% contribution from the grant applying body (in this case the Parish Council).



The popular 'Sponsor a Brick' scheme will continue to give residents the opportunity to contribute by purchasing a 'brick' for £1 – this will be used to buy additional non essential items to enhance the building. Please contact the clerk if you are holding an event at which we could attend to sell our 'bricks'.

If you are an individual or community group who may like to make use of either the new pavilion or the adjacent Queen Elizabeth II playing field, please contact the clerk.

The expected completion date of the new building is early July – everyone will be welcome to the grand opening.





PARKED CARS ON PAVEMENTS

A good many residents have been complaining about the problems caused by inconsiderate parking on pavements. There are roads where it is difficult to avoid using the pavement to park but we ask motorists to please remember that they should leave ample room for wheelchairs and buggies to get through without resorting to using the road. If you see examples of vehicles parked in a way that is obstructive, let the police or your local councillor know.

FINANCIAL CONSULTATION.

Following the recent consultation with residents over the funding of the new pavilion, the Parish Council Finance Committee took into account the wishes of Upton residents who responded to the financial consultation and it was agreed that the new pavilion would be funded by a combination of a loan of not more than £200,000 from Cheshire West and Chester Council and an increase in the precept of £20,000.

This course of action was unanimously agreed by the committee which resulted in a recommendation to the Full Parish Council which was accepted.

The provision of a new pavilion that will both maintain and improve current facilities and offer much more for Upton residents has meant an increase in the parish precept of just £6.10.

The Parish Council considers that this is excellent value for residents who will benefit from a quality community facility; the loan will be repaid within four years and it is expected that the precept will be reduced next time.

This year's precept would have remained at the same level without the additional sum for the pavilion.

NOTICE BOARDS.

Upton residents may have seen four new Parish Council notice boards located at Upton Lane, Long Lane, Newhall Road and on the wall at Upton Library. The Parish Council has invested in the new notice boards in response to comments received from the CW&C Community Governance Review that indicated some residents felt there was a lack of information available regarding meetings.

A list of your Councillors and their contact details are also on display.

JUBILEE FLORAL DISPLAY.

This year the Parish Council has invited Chester Zoo to design the floral display at Wealstone Lane.

The zoo has kindly agreed to create a design that will reflect the highly anticipated 'Islands Project' which is due to open later this year.

The zoo's Horticultural Department will grow appropriate plants and create the display – for this we are very grateful.



COMPLIMENTARY ZOO TICKET.

You may have noticed that, in co-operation with Chester Zoo, the annual residents' complimentary zoo ticket was included in the last newsletter. Of over 4,000 households in the parish, residents missed out on the ticket, replacement newsletters were hand delivered personally in each case.

Following on from a previously unsatisfactory distribution method, it was agreed that the Zoo tickets are now by and large getting to the right people and it is hoped that the Parish Council and Chester Zoo will work in partnership in the future. Please read and look after your Community Newsletter – you never know what may be inside!

UPTON NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN – ‘YOUR UPTON 2030’.

Last year the Parish Council resolved to produce a Neighbourhood Development Plan; once complete and then approved and adopted by the Borough Council, this document will be a statutory consideration in all planning matters related to Upton.

A series of meetings have taken place with Councillors, residents and local businesses to identify what is important about Upton and how we would like it to develop in the next 15 years.

A small but determined group is now ready to commence the very important stage of consultation; this is your opportunity to have a say on how you would like Upton to look over the next few years – it is not just about building houses, it includes improving economic prospects, the protection of open spaces and appropriate and fitting housing development.

Please take part, look out for more information on ‘Your Upton 2030’ – coming shortly.



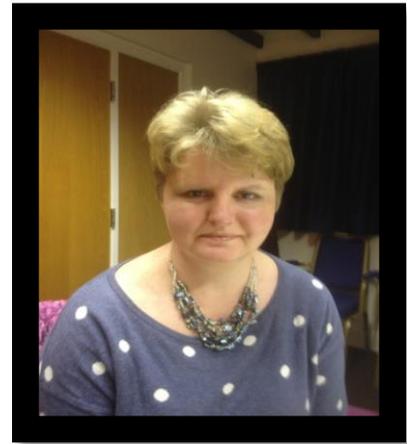
TREE PLANTING AT MARL HEYS – UPDATE.

Fifteen months ago members of Upton by Chester and District Parish Council along with several members of the community, enjoyed a tree planting morning at Marl Heys.

105 saplings were provided by the Woodlands Trust.

A recent visit to see how the trees were progressing showed that all seems well; it is hoped that in time they will improve the appearance of the area and enhance the natural environment.

INTRODUCING YOUR NEW COUNCILLORS: Cllr Helen Kelly.

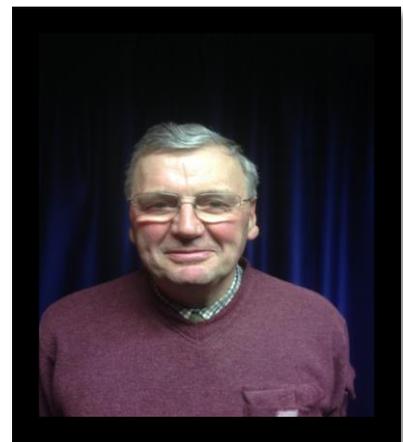


Cllr Helen Kelly has lived in Upton for 12 years and works in Chester as a ‘Change and Project Manager’ for a major bank.

Helen enjoys a range of outdoor activities from hill walking to simply enjoying time in her garden; spending quality time with family and friends is also a key priority.

Helen feels privileged to be asked by her fellow councillors to fill the casual vacancy prior to the elections in May and looks forward to doing all she can to represent the best interests of Upton residents.

Cllr Frank Samuel.



Cllr Frank Samuel has lived in Upton with his family for the past 30 years. He has been a member of many Upton organisations. Retired from the milk industry last year, Cllr Samuel would now like to add his contribution to the life of Upton.

ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY.

Upton Annual Parish Assembly will take place on Wednesday 29th April – see next page for more details – please join us to have your say on Parish issues.

**UPTON BY CHESTER & DISTRICT PARISH
COUNCIL**

**ANNUAL PARISH
ASSEMBLY**

**The Chairman Invites You To the Upton
Annual Meeting.**

.....
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
.....

SPEAKERS:

**THE DALE CAMP WELFARE OFFICER
WILL REPORT ON THE LIVES OF THE
SOLDIERS AT THE DALE CAMP.**

**LOCAL HISTORIAN/AUTHOR AND EX
PSYCHIATRIC NURSE, MR STAN MURPHY
COMES TO THE MEETING WITH 'TALES FROM
THE DEVA' – HISTORY, STORIES AND
ANECDOTES OF CHESTER MENTAL HEALTH
SERVICE PAST AND PRESENT.**

.....
**REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE ALONG WITH
THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS PARISH
MATTERS WITH YOUR COUNCILLORS.**
.....

**7.30pm on Wednesday 29th April 2015
At Upton Village Hall, Heath Road,
Upton, Chester.**

ALL WELCOME

For further information contact the clerk.

LOCAL COUNCIL AWARD SCHEME.

The Quality Parish Council Scheme is to be replaced by the new Local Council Award Scheme; significant changes have taken place. Upton Parish Council's current status as a 'Quality Parish Council' is protected by having registered for the 'Foundation Stage' of the new scheme and there will be a period of time for re-assessment.

The new scheme will celebrate the successes of the very best local councils, and provide a framework to support all local councils to improve and develop to meet their full potential. It encourages progression by including three award levels: Foundation, Quality and Quality Gold, and offers councils the opportunity to show that they meet the standards set by the sector, assessed by their peers, and to put in place the conditions for continued improvement. One aspect of the

achievement criteria is points earned by the parish clerk by way of continued professional development attendance on training courses, information forums and the study of relevant text books.

It is expected that after the Parish Council elections in May, the new council will review the new scheme in more detail and work towards meeting the required criteria.

JOB VACANCY.

The Parish Council is looking to appoint a part time Pavilion Supervisor to manage, maintain and market the new pavilion. If you are interested, please contact the clerk.

YOUR COUNCILLORS.

Upton Heath

Nigel Banks (VCh) 10 Longfield Ave 380755.
Theresa Bartliff 66 Cross Green 348467.
Ian Gibson 105 Long Lane 380909.
Gerald Grant 16 Tintern Ave 312825
Pat Lott (Ch) 47 Appleton Road 344837.
Tom Parry 100 Upton Grange 07789615246.
Liz Squire 49 Appleton Road 348993.

Upton Grange

Alison Bennion 25 Oakfield Drive 372342.
Jill Houlbrook 1 Western Approach, Newton,
07825997275.
Mary Lloyd 18 Rosewood Avenue 383811.
Stuart Lloyd – as above.
Hilarie McNae 16 Caughall Road 380433.

Upton Park

Jean Evans 26 Alpraham Crescent 377200.
Helen Kelly, 66 Heath Lane.

Moston

John Butler 109 Long Lane 383703.

Bache

Frank Samuel 21 Alpraham Crescent 382673.

Clerk to the Council:

Mrs Suzi Pollard,
18 Gladstone Road, Chester CH1 4BY.
01244 398966.

Suzi.a.pollard@btinternet.com.

All meetings of the Parish Council are open to members of the public; agendas are displayed in the pavilion, in the notice boards at the library, Long Lane, Newhall Road and Upton Lane and at www.uptonbychester.org.uk

**TOWN AND PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS
WILL TAKE PLACE ON MAY 7TH 2015 –
CONTACT THE CLERK FOR MORE DETAILS.**