



# Upton by Chester & District Parish Council COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Inside this issue:  
QE II Playground  
improvements.  
Parish Council grant  
award scheme



SPRING 2019

## INVESTING IN OUR LOCAL FACILITIES

Upton-by-Chester and District Parish Council is committed to delivering value for money and has once again ensured local residents won't have to pay more for local facilities and services, by freezing the parish council precept for this year.

Over the last four years, the Parish Council has used existing reserves and ring fenced funds to invest in projects across the community. Repairing the path at Chemistry Pits, converting space at Upton Pavilion to create a new meeting room and installing a new Bowling Green shelter are just some of the projects we have delivered.

The Parish Council's annual "fun day" is a firm fixture in the calendar with more residents and local businesses and organisations getting involved each year to make it an exciting and successful community event.

Last year we worked with local churches to collect items for Christmas gift boxes, and collected Christmas trees and decorations for new families at the Dale Camp.



We are now working on a long term improvement and refurbishment project at the QE II Playing Field – more details can be found inside this newsletter.

The Parish Council will continue to invest in local amenities and we welcome feedback from residents, including ideas for future projects and investment across Upton.

Please visit our Facebook page at [fb.com/UPCNow/](https://fb.com/UPCNow/) or [fb.com/UptonPavilion](https://fb.com/UptonPavilion) to keep up to date with projects and events.

## CHRISTMAS CAROL SINGING

A Christmas carol singing event took place once again at Upton Pavilion.

We were lucky to have members of the Royal Buckley Town Band to accompany the singing.

Three of our local schools took part, with pupils from The Firs, Upton Mill View and Upton Westlea attending to sing traditional carols; the school children were very polite and well behaved.

It was a most enjoyable evening, well attended by local residents who all enjoyed mulled wine, hot chocolate and mince pies, provided by the Parish Council.



## QUEEN ELIZABETH II PLAYING FIELD PROJECT

The QE II Sub-committee has been hard at work gathering the opinion of the community, written a five Year Improvement Plan and prioritised the work into smaller phases (available on the parish council website).

Phase one concentrates on the children's playground, along with a new multi-use circuit for walking, running and cycling, to encourage exercise for all generations and abilities. The 400m circuit will include four 'waiting stations' to the side of the track for stretching, resting or other exercises.

The refurbishment of the playground will focus on replacing the playground surface, installation of new and additional equipment and an extension for some larger pieces.

Consultation indicated the need for more climbing and imaginative play, balance and sensory equipment and most importantly – a zip wire!

A Project Manager with many years' experience in playground development has been appointed; plans will be drawn up and made available for you to see shortly.

The Parish Council has some ring-fenced funds available to assist with this project but in addition applications for grant funding will be submitted to the Big Lottery 'Reaching Communities' fund and other providers.



## UPTON 2030 – NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN PROGRESS.

The plan has now reached its third draft and is taking shape as a viable way to keep what is best in our neighbourhood, while making improvements to keep it a pleasant and desirable place to live.

Our vision of Upton is summed up in the phrase 'A clean green, caring community'. We hope everyone will agree with this vision of what we would like our community to be.

In order to achieve this, parish councillors and residents have been working hard to consult with residents, businesses, schools and planners and have looked at examples of neighbourhood plans completed by other groups.

There is a range of aspects to consider, such as:

- Existing facilities and whether they need updating and improving;
- Allocating sites for specific development, taking into account design and sustainability;
- Use of open space;
- Heritage and conservation;
- Provision of appropriate housing in appropriate places, with accessibility to local services;
- Encouraging a healthy, low carbon way of life, with walk ways and cycle ways to residents to places within Upton and beyond, safely and practically.

Upton Parish Council is spearheading the plan and one of the aims is to promote a further conservation area based around the junction of Mill Lane, Heath Road, Church Lane and Wealstone Lane, including the War Memorial, the Cockpit, Lodge Gardens and the church, close to the Pavilion, library and Queen Elizabeth II Playing Field.

If you would like to get involved, please contact the Parish Council at [clerk@uptonbychester.org.uk](mailto:clerk@uptonbychester.org.uk)

## PAVILION AND FACILITIES CHARGES

### Room Hire

Function room £17 per hour (inc setting up and clearing)

Charities and non-profit organisations £16 per hour

Meeting room £22 per hour

### Tennis

Per hour per court – adults £6.25, children £3.25

Annual membership – family £90, adult £45, student £20 and junior £15

Rackets hire £1.25

### Crown Green Bowling

Per game – adults £3.75, children £2.50

Annual membership £15

Bowls hire £1.25

### Football Pitch Hire

Adult pitch £27.50 (full size), junior (9v9) £22.50

## UPTON BOWLING GREEN.

The bowling green is under a new maintenance regime with the Parish Council investing in some new equipment for use by the pavilion staff along with appointing a new contractor with specialist knowledge of bowling green care.

The new season starts at the beginning of April – do come and try it out.

## PARISH COUNCIL GRANT AWARD SCHEME

The Parish Council has a small budget to allocate for grants to local people and organisations.

Who may apply:

Voluntary and community groups and organisations within the Upton by Chester and District area.

What the grant may be used for:

- To enable local people to participate in voluntary groups and activities
- To help the voluntary and community groups in the Upton area to improve the impact on the community
- To ensure the provision of services, needed by the residents of the Upton area, via the voluntary sector
- To support organisations which meet the needs of people experiencing social and economic difficulties
- To ensure that there is equality of access and opportunity for all Upton area residents to the services it provides and funds
- To improve or enhance the local environment

For more information or for an application form please visit [www.uptonbychester.org.uk](http://www.uptonbychester.org.uk). or contact the clerk at [clerk@uptonbychester.org.uk](mailto:clerk@uptonbychester.org.uk) or on 07584 415343

## CHRISTMAS MARKET

By the time you read this, Christmas will be a distant memory and we will be thinking about Easter.

However, for those of us who attended, we can agree that Upton's first Christmas Market was very enjoyable and well received by residents.

This has set the foundations for an annual event the Parish Council will be able to build on and improve in future years.

A wonderful Christmas spirit, lovely atmosphere, interesting stalls and seasonal food and drink along with musical entertainment – a great time was had by all.

Thanks to all the Parish Councillors and staff who due to venue changes at the last minute, stepped up to help organise the event.

If you would like to be involved in next year's event in any way or have any comments or suggestions, please contact the clerk.



## WATER

As you may know the Parish Council runs a small shop from the Pavilion, providing hot and cold drinks, snacks and ice creams.

The Council is mindful of the unnecessary use of plastic and intends to stop selling products packaged in single use plastic containers as soon as possible.

However, for people taking part in activities such as tennis and football or just keeping the children hydrated in the summer water is vital and one of the best-selling items in the shop.

It has been decided to install a water re-fill station to be located inside the Pavilion where visitors may fill up reusable water containers free of charge.

## CHESTER ZOO

Like many people, Upton Parish Council was shocked and deeply saddened about the recent fire at Chester Zoo.

The Parish Council understands that many Upton residents came forward on the day with offers of help and local shops were on hand with refreshments for members of the emergency services.

We think all involved should be commended and hope the zoo has recovered quickly from its ordeal.

## RECYCLING BINS

Members of the Parish Council and residents can often be seen litter picking in Upton.

Unfortunately this is necessary in part due to litter being blown about on bin collection day where people have failed to place the lid on their recycling bin.

If you require a new lid or recycling bin they are available on request from Cheshire West and Chester Council on 0300 123 7026 or at [www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk).

### PAVILION OPENING HOURS:

Monday – Sunday 9am to 5pm, until 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 then Monday – Sunday 10am to 9pm.

### CONTACT DETAILS:

For pavilion room hire, playing fields, tennis courts and bowling please call the office on 01244 374054 or email [uptonbychesterpavilion@hotmail.com](mailto:uptonbychesterpavilion@hotmail.com).

## YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS:

### BACHE

Cllr Frank Samuel, 01244 382673.

[frank.samuel@uptonbychester.org.uk](mailto:frank.samuel@uptonbychester.org.uk)

### MOSTON

Cllr Kate Vaughan, 07738 184089.

[kate.vaughan@uptonbychester.org.uk](mailto:kate.vaughan@uptonbychester.org.uk)

### UPTON GRANGE

Cllr Matt Bryan, 07982 090451.

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Cllr David Ford, 07975 726797.

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Cllr Jill Houlbrook, 01244 344318.

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Cllr Hilarie McNae, 01244 380433.

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Cllr Stuart Lloyd, 01244 383811

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Cllr Brenda Southward, 01244 380654.

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### UPTON HEATH

Cllr Theresa Bartliff, 01244 348467.

Cllr Alison Bennion, 07984 726878.

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Cllr Simon Eardley, 07738 184101.

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Cllr Jeffrey Lee, 01244 372458.

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Cllr Mary Lloyd, 01244 383811.

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Cllr Alan Paddock, 07836 626638.

[alan.paddock@uptonbychester.org.uk](mailto:alan.paddock@uptonbychester.org.uk)

### UPTON PARK

Cllr Jean Evans, 01244 377200.

[jean.evans@uptonbychester.org.uk](mailto:jean.evans@uptonbychester.org.uk)

Cllr Adrian Walmsley (Chairman), 07710 583513.

[adrian.walmsley@uptonbychester.org.uk](mailto:adrian.walmsley@uptonbychester.org.uk)



Upton by Chester Parish Council wants your views; we are always keen to consult with residents on any aspects of Parish Council business. Do you have any suggestions, comments or information you would like us to consider? Please get in touch by completing this tear off slip and return to: Upton Pavilion, Wealstone Lane, Upton, CH2 1HB for the attention of the clerk, alternatively contact the clerk directly on 07584 415343.

Name

Address

Phone number

Email address

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