



Upton by Chester & District Parish Council COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



AUTUMN 2015

UPTON PAVILION GRAND OPENING

On Saturday 12th September the Parish Council was finally able to celebrate the grand opening of the new pavilion at the Queen Elizabeth II Playing Fields. The day was a celebration of many months of discussion, consultation and planning and we hope you agree that the new building and facilities are a welcome improvement, which will become the hub and heartbeat of the local community

The success of the day was due to the combined effort of many of our Upton groups and residents; special thanks goes to Upton Scouts and Guides, Upton WI, PCSO Jenna Smith, the North West Ambulance Service and the Cheshire Fire Service.

Many positive comments have been received from Upton residents, suggesting that this would be a wonderful annual community event – please let us know what you think using the feedback form on the reverse of this newsletter.



MEET THE UPTON PAVILION STAFF

Darren is the new pavilion supervisor. He is an Upton resident who used to have his childhood birthday parties in the pavilion! Darren took up his post in May this year and is responsible for the marketing, care and maintenance of the pavilion and facilities. Darren works Monday to Friday and if you haven't already done so do pop into the pavilion to say hello and get a guided tour!

Pete also lives in Upton and was previously a Parish Councillor. Pete works at the pavilion on Saturday and Sunday, overseeing the football teams, looking after the pavilion and cleaning up the muddy footprints! Pete also serves tea, coffee and refreshments to the football supporters.

Above right: Darren Flaherty (centre) with members of the Cheshire Mercian Regiment.

Right: Pete Griffiths carrying out repairs to the children's playground surface.



LOCAL POLICE WORKING FOR UPTON



Upton PCSO Jenna Smith is our local police officer. You will see Jenna round the parish and at Upton pavilion where she often calls in to write up her police log and take time to talk to Upton residents. Jenna is keen to engage with young people and is working on some exciting and innovative new projects for Upton. Watch this space!

The Parish Council attends regular meetings with the Police & Crime Commissioner John Dwyer, which is an opportunity to raise local issues. Chairman Helen Kelly recently spoke to Commissioner Dwyer about issues that local people have raised with the Parish Council, including speed limits and community safety.



If there are any issues you'd like us to raise, get in touch using the feedback form.

DOG FOULING UPDATE

Many thanks to all who clean up after their dog.

It is an offence not to clean up, with a maximum penalty of £1,000. The Parish Council is working closely with the Dog Warden who will patrol areas where persistent dog fouling occurs and may issue a fixed penalty notice on the spot. Dog waste bins or multi use bins are in place around the parish but please let us know if more are required – or if the one by you requires emptying.

Dog walkers at the Queen Elizabeth II playing fields will know that the pavilion staff are very keen that the area is kept clear of dog mess – for the health and safety of all. You may have met Darren or Pete who are always happy to issue free dog waste bags. Alternatively please pop into the pavilion and ask for one!

CAR PARKING ON THE PAVEMENT

In a recent newsletter it was reported that several complaints had been received regarding cars parking inconsiderately on the pavements. The good news is that this appears to have improved slightly, however, there are still various 'hot spots' around Upton, including Long Lane shopping area where cars often block the pavements or park too close to the shop windows – this makes it impossible for people in wheelchairs or mobility scooters to pass. It is also an offence to not leave enough space for people to pass safely.

The Parish Council would respectfully remind you to please park thoughtfully and bear in mind that pavements should be left clear for the safe use of all residents – thank you ☺



KEEP SAFE THIS WINTER

As the nights draw in and temperatures drop, winter can leave some people feeling vulnerable. With a little preparation we can help ourselves to stay healthy and safe. Here are a few tips to help you prepare:

- Make sure your smoke alarm works – Cheshire Fire and Rescue can check your smoke alarms free of charge and you may be eligible for a free smoke alarm to be fitted
- Get your boiler and heating system serviced and your chimney swept
- Watch out for slippery steps and paths – keep a mixture of salt and sand handy for icy weather
- Wear plenty of layers and make sure you have warm shoes or boots with non-slip soles
- Turn off electric heaters before going out
- Keep basic food in the cupboard or freezer
- Eat healthily and keep as active as possible
- Keep a battery operated radio, torch and batteries handy in case of a power cut
- Bring pets inside – they feel the cold too!
- Clear ice and snow off car windows and mirrors and keep screen wash topped up
- Drive slowly and keep a safe distance from the car ahead
- Keep an ice scraper, shovel, jump leads and tow rope in your boot along with extra clothing, blankets, food, bottled water and a first aid kit
- Tell someone where you are going and when you expect to arrive
- Ensure your mobile phone is fully charged
- Check on family, friends and neighbours, especially if they live alone
- Offer to clear ice and snow or to help with grocery shopping or other essential tasks
- Keep a list of emergency phone numbers readily available

