



Upton by Chester & District Parish Council COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



UPTON-BY-CHESTER AND DISTRICT ANNUAL ASSEMBLY
PRESENTATION: Dr Christian Dunn — 'Chester Wetlands Project'
PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
OPEN FORUM
6th APRIL 2020, 6.30pm, UPTON PAVILION

All Welcome

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED



PARISH COUNCILLORS SPEAK UP ON STREET CARE

Parish Councillors raised a wide range of street care issues on behalf of local residents when Mark Brazil, Senior Manager in charge of environmental services at Cheshire West and Chester Borough Council attended the Parish Council meeting in February.

Mr Brazil is responsible for the commissioning and delivery of several services including street cleansing, grounds maintenance and waste collection. He advised that he was taking steps to improve the availability of information to local residents, monitor the delivery and quality of services in 'real time' and drive up performance of his services.

A lively discussion saw Mr Brazil take note of a number of matters to be resolved which included cleanliness of public waste bins, the condition of grass verges and litter hotspots. Some members raised concerns regarding weed control practices and potential risk of harm from chemicals used by grounds maintenance staff. Mr Brazil assured parish councillors that there was a very low risk of harm.

A senior manager from the Borough Council highways service will be invited to a future meeting of the parish council as members and residents alike are increasingly concerned about the condition of roads and pavements in Upton, the Bache and Moston.

Residents can report issues by telephoning 0300 123 7026 or online via the "Your Streets Portal" <http://westcheshireyourstreets.co.uk/> once on the home page, select Street Care and follow the links.

NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

In recent months, a lot of work has gone into the plan.

There is a need to improve and extend housing, but not at the expense of other amenities and open space.

A Housing Needs Assessment has been completed and shown that what Upton needs in particular is more accommodation for the less well off in our society and more smaller dwellings. These conclusions will be reflected in the final plan, which it is hoped will be available for residents to vote on in mid 2021.

The housing need could be met to a large extent by making use of the Dale Barracks site, which the army intend to leave during the plan period and where a number of people are already resident in an area which is spacious and with an attractive landscape, near enough to the rest of Upton to be joined without too much disruption.

Another key area the NDP group has been concentrating on is transport, in particular cycling routes and how they can be improved to make them both more extensive, safer and above all, sustainable, with particular focus on young people making use of climate-friendly transport.

Upton is unusual in having three significant large facilities serving the community well beyond Upton itself: the Zoo, the Countess of Chester Hospital and the Dale Barracks, as mentioned above. We believe it is very important to ensure that changes are effected in a way that makes the most of these assets by focusing on good planning and attractive style.

We have already undertaken a great deal of consultation with local groups and individuals, but if you would like to help us by contributing your views, please contact the Parish Council via the Clerk.

PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

COUNCILLOR Alison Bennion is shortly set to fly out to Cyprus as part of the British Army's contribution to the United Nations' peacekeeping mission on the beautiful, but still divided, eastern Mediterranean island.

Alison has served in the Army Reserve for 13 years and is currently attached to the Berkshire-based 7th Battalion, The Rifles: a regiment whose forebears were made famous in the fictional adventures of the author Bernard Cornwell's Richard Sharpe.



Although Alison is expected to wield a rifle herself as part of her annual training, her day-to-day duties as the battalion's Regimental Administration Warrant Officer – RAWO for short – includes ensuring that the troops are well administered, correctly paid, and have everything they need to perform their duties competently and professionally.

'I am looking forward to heading out to Cyprus in March,' Alison said, 'and it is a privilege to be part of the single largest deployment of the Army Reserve on what is a diplomatically sensitive and important tour of duty.'

Alison will be away until October, when she will return to receive her operational medal at a parade in London.

UPTON'S NEW PCSO

New Police Community Support Officer Cain Jones will be making regular visits to Upton Pavilion to hold police surgeries.

Please check the police notice board on the front of the building for details.

If you have any non-urgent police business you would like to discuss with Cain, please call in.

The Parish Council continues to work in partnership with local police to make our community feel safer.

UPTON YOUTH CLUB

Much has changed since an update was last given to the Parish Council regarding the upcoming youth centre/club. There now exists an official name for the centre: THE HEATH.

A constitution has been drawn up with an application for charitable status submitted. Trustees, including but not limited to members of the youth council committee (parish councillors and members of Upton United Reformed Church and Cheshire West Communities Together), have been appointed.

Funding sources for the youth centre are to be identified, channels are being explored; such as Airbus who host a community award scheme to 'support local groups' (youth clubs, schools and environmental groups), with prize money ranging from £1,000 to £7,000.

The youth centre 'brand' is yet to be agreed. In order to encourage interest in the scheme, a competition to design the youth centre logo has been launched to local schools and groups.

Once a logo design has been chosen it will be professionally created by one of our own councillors.



PLAYING FIELD DRAINAGE

The Parish Council's plan to drain the playing field and to install an activity track has unfortunately been stopped in its tracks.

A recent professional survey has revealed that it is untenable as there is no feasible way to remove surface water from the field, which is disappointing.

In order to alleviate the problem with water logging, the Parish Council held a well attended tree planting session.

The Parish Council will continue to develop and update the play equipment and maintain the tennis courts and bowling green.

SAVE THE DATE

Upton-by-Chester

FUN DAY

Saturday 12th

September.

If you would like a stall or to take part please call Darren on 01244 374054



At the request of our neighbours work has been carried out on the lovely old oak tree at Chemistry Pits.

Dead wood removed, crown lifted and lightened with the spread of the tree balanced and over-hanging branches trimmed.



PAVILION OPENING HOURS:

Monday – Sunday 9am to 5pm, until 1st 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.

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 the tear off slip below and return to: Upton Pavilion, Wealstone Lane, Upton, CH2 1HB for the attention of the clerk, alternatively contact the clerk directly on 07584 415343.

YOUR COUNCILLORS

Bache

Clr Frank Samuel

Moston

Clr Jodie Egerton-Parry

Upton Grange

Clr Alison Bennion (Chairman)

Clr Suzanne Booth

Clr Peter Greenhalgh

Clr Jill Houlbrook

Clr Gary Hulmes

Upton Heath

Clr Matt Bryan

Clr Matt Carter

Clr Mike Keenan

Clr Jakub Schmidt

Clr Nicki Poulton

Clr Brenda Southward

Clr Ben Walker

Upton Park

Clr Tom Egerton-Parry (Chairman)

Clr Jean Evans

@uptonbychester.org.uk

(use the name of the councillor with whom you wish to correspond).

www.uptonbychester.org.uk

Facebook - @upcnw

Tweet us – @uptonbychester

CLERK AND PROPER OFFICER:

Ms Suzi Bull - 07584 415343

clerk@uptonbychester.org.uk

Name Address
Phone number Email address

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