

## South Area Neighbourhood Board

Area Boards exist throughout Warrington to give residents local democracy.

The new system for getting appointments at Stockton Heath Medical Centre came up a recent South Board meeting. It seems there is significant dissatisfaction which the Board are going to follow up, but they want more evidence. If you want to add comments, contact Barbara Parrett

The **South Area Fund** is available for community projects in South Warrington and may provide grants from £50 to £2000. The **Community Chest** grant is also available for community groups. They can apply for up to £400 but must provide 25% match funding.

For information about these or any other activities in South Warrington, please contact: Barbara Parratt, Area Manager, on 01925 443187 or 07827 232562 or by e-mailing [bajratt@warrington.gov.uk](mailto:bajratt@warrington.gov.uk)

## Police and other Community Alerts

The Parish Council receives alerts from the Police on a variety of issues some of which are relevant to Walton. It would be possible to forward these to individuals if we had an email list of those interested. If you would like to part of this, email Malcolm Eldridge with the request to be on the list. There are already about 50 households involved.

## Vacancy for Parish Councillor

There is at the time of writing, a vacancy on the Parish Council. Details of how to apply are on the Parish Notice Boards and the website, or contact the Clerk direct.

The vacancy is caused by the departure of Viv Lacey whose talents we have appreciated, but other organisations with more pulling power occupy too much of her time now. Many thanks to Viv for all her work and wise counsel.

[www.waltonpc.org.uk](http://www.waltonpc.org.uk)

## Problems around the Parish

We all see problems but perhaps do nothing about it. There is a system for reporting to Warrington BC and it covers over 15 types of problem, for example overgrown vegetation, holes in the road and poor drainage. Go to the Warrington BC website and on the home page find the box **Problem**. Fill in the form and keep your fingers crossed.

We do understand that not everyone has access to the internet so the next best thing is to report the problem to a Parish Councillor or to the Clerk.

[www.warrington.gov.uk/report](http://www.warrington.gov.uk/report)

We seem to be under siege with road works. To see details of what and why and when our roads have problems, refer to

[www.warrington.gov.uk/elgin](http://www.warrington.gov.uk/elgin)

## Parish Council Meeting Dates

The PC will meet at 7.30 on the first Thursday of each month, except August in the Church Community Hall, Old Chester Road. A full set of the agendas and minutes can be seen at the Public Library, Alexandra Rd, Stockton Heath and on the website

## Contact Details

Clerk	Mr Ray Hallam	01925 264201
	<a href="mailto:waltonpcclerk@yahoo.co.uk">waltonpcclerk@yahoo.co.uk</a>	
Editor	Cllr Malcolm Eldridge	01925 266288
	<a href="mailto:malcolmdeldridge@gmail.com">malcolmdeldridge@gmail.com</a>	
Borough Cllr	Paul Kennedy	07827258024
	<a href="mailto:pzkennedy@warrington.gov.uk">pzkennedy@warrington.gov.uk</a>	

Contact details for all other Parish Councillors are on the website and the two Parish notice boards, one on Hill Cliffe Road and the other on Old Chester Road in Higher Walton

[www.waltonpc.org.uk](http://www.waltonpc.org.uk)



Your Parish Councillors deal with a wide range of issues and sometimes residents are unaware of matters of interest or concern. By changing the format of the bi-annual newsletter we hope to interest and involve more people. It will add to the Parish Website which is the place to find information about the Parish Council and its activities

## Parish Website and photos

We are pleased to see that over 300 visits are made to the site each month. Some of these visits have been to see old pictures of the Parish. Have you any we could copy? You would of course retain the original. Have you any suggestions for additional features? Contact the Clerk.

## Dementia Friends

Dementia Friends is an Alzheimers Society initiative aimed at raising awareness of dementia within the community. Councillors attended a dementia awareness training meeting at Stag Inn, run by Steve Hammersley, the manager. There will be further training opportunities

[www.waltonpc.org.uk](http://www.waltonpc.org.uk)

## Red K6 Phone Box

The Parish Council has purchased, for £1, the dis-used phone box near the Stag. The intention is to relocate it near the Walton Arms and to renovate it. It would be really good if we could find a volunteer to take on the task. Its likely use would be for parish notices but feel free to make other suggestions.



## Friends of Walton

### Hall Music

This popular music society requested and was granted financial help from the Parish Council as it was faced with substantially increased costs. For details of the society and its programme, see

[www.warrington.gov.uk/homepage/280/friends\\_of\\_walton\\_hall\\_music](http://www.warrington.gov.uk/homepage/280/friends_of_walton_hall_music)

## The Friends of Walton Estate

This group of volunteers work hard to enhance the

Estate. Recent developments funded substantially by the group include the Stable Gallery, the new gate leading from the Heritage Yard, a new dovecote for the Childrens Zoo, money for new beds of perennials.

• i Adopt-a-Tree scheme



[www.fowe.btck.co.uk](http://www.fowe.btck.co.uk)

dition to the  
•popular Adopt-an Animal scheme

## Walton Hall Estate Development

Warrington BC submitted an application for a Heritage Lottery Grant to facilitate a £6m redevelopment of the whole Conservatory area. This bid failed. There will now be a £3m bid for a smaller project which will still refurbish the main conservatory but will use existing accommodation for the planned teaching areas.

The cafe os proving very popular and the new toilets have made a visit to the Gardens more civilised.

[www.warrington.gov.uk/info/200994/walton\\_hall\\_and\\_gardens](http://www.warrington.gov.uk/info/200994/walton_hall_and_gardens)

## Two Acre Caravan Site

An application to make the site permanent, to increase the number of families and remove any limits on the size of vans was turned down by WBC. A revised application is expected. The Parish Council wrote to object as did many local residents. The Parish Council has consistently objected to inappropriate development in the Green Belt which is only granted if there are Very special circumstances'. One issue is the Warrington Borough Council has not provided sites for travellers.

## Future Projects

The PC received another donation from the organisers of Creamfields. We have money to invest in worthwhile schemes. We would be delighted if residents would make sensible and preferably costed suggestions on how to make the Parish better

## Mersey Forest

There is also a new

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The Mersey Forest is all around us. There are many interesting ongoing projects. Their Plans shows the scope of the project. Look at their website to see how it affects our area, and perhaps get inspired by some of the ideas. The Parish Council has money to help with projects.

[www.merseyforest.org.uk/](http://www.merseyforest.org.uk/)

## Village Betterment

The flower tubs need refurbishing and will be emptied to dry them out and do any repairs necessary. They will then be replanted.

We are aware that residents water some of our tubs and look after the small flower beds. It would be good to know who is involved so please contact Cllr Ann Hardie on 01925 268559. And if anyone else is able to share the work load, we would be grateful. Again, inform Ann

**Hedges.** In a number of places around the Parish, hedges are getting too wide

for easy use of the footpath. If you find such places please get in touch with Warrington BC or one of the Parish Councillors for action. If you have a hedge, do look at it and ensure that it does not obstruct public paths. Any cutting should be done outside the bird nesting season between 1 March and 31 July.



The hedge in the photo belongs to WBC and it took a lot of effort to persuade them to cut it! But WBC does acknowledge that it responds to persistent

## Cheshire and Warrington

### LEADER Programme

ED LEADER is a fund, which would bring significant benefit to small businesses and communities in the Cheshire and Warrington rural area by making rural settlements more sustainable. It provides usually around 50% of the cost of projects. If this sounds relevant to you, follow it up at

<http://www.cheshireaction.org.uk/our-services/>