

The Wavertonian

November 2020

Parish Councillors

Jeffrey Smith (Chair)
Gavin Ritson
Richard Simm
Geoff Hughes
John Meredith
Philip Morrey
Dave Clarke (vice-Chair)
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Waverton’s Web Site:

www.wavertonparishcouncil.co.uk

Twitter: @wavertonvillage

Report from the Chairman:

Autumn is an appropriate time of year for reflection but also to look forward and despite the situation we face as a Nation to report on various activities that continue in Waverton.

Firstly, the Parish Council would like to acknowledge some great things that have happened in Waverton so far this year.

The COVID-19 situation as it emerged was met by much spirit within the community by organisations such as the initiatives by our Churches and individuals such as Kim Crowe to set up support groups together with all the individual acts of kindness from neighbours to help and look out for each other. The shops and Pharmacy have played a big part in this as well, and we thank them for their support and in turn hope they feel supported and valued by the community. Covid continues to test us all, and the resilience of all in our Community.

It has been good to see many villagers taking pride in their neighbourhood by regularly cutting verges and tidying many of the common grass areas and even roadside gutters around the estates. This has made a big difference, especially as the Chester Council services have been challenged with the lockdowns.

VE day celebrations and decorations were good to see as was the scarecrow trail – giving people a good excuse for a wander around the village. The Village Fete was sadly missed but we sincerely hope it will be a return to form next year.

The Village Hall team have been making various improvements within the Hall, and the Parish Council arranged for some windows to be replaced and the car park repaired, resurfaced and the drainage improved.

Our Road Safety team has continued to play an active part in many village-based issues and increasingly as part of the network amongst the surrounding villages. The scope of this group has now widened to consider various cycling initiatives as well.

It has been great to see our PCSO Linda on a regular basis and we welcome the great efforts she has made to be highly visible and engage with so many aspects of the community and be highly active on monitoring various speeding hotspots.

Cheshire West & Chester Council issues regular COVID-19 updates which are posted on our website (www.wavertonparishcouncil.co.uk) as they are issued – (Key messages to share with communities). If you would like these updates or more information please contact Clerk to the Council (jill.windsor@btinternet.com).



Following two years of fund raising and planning, we are delighted to have recently opened “Phase 3” of the ‘play area master plan’, a **new BMX Pump Track** on the Queen’s Field in Waverton. This is a fantastic outdoor facility which will be enjoyed by Waverton residents for the years to come. The track is located on the Queen’s Field next to the play areas, and is designed for: BMX bikes, BMX cruisers, mountain bikes, skateboards, micro scooters, rollerblades. The track offers scope for the beginner and the expert rider alike.

The funding for the track has come from several sources for which we are incredibly appreciative. Our principal funder is FCC Communities Foundation (formerly called Wren). We have also received generous contributions from local organisations: Grosvenor Westminster fund; The Crocky Trail and its local customers. We would like to thank the contractors - Clark & Kent - for their excellent work, and care and attention whilst undergoing the building works. Thanks also to Gethin from Stiwdio Owens for his support and expertise in helping us to apply for funding and carry out the tender for works.

We have conducted a “virtual” opening with an experienced BMX rider from the Clark & Kent team showing us his skills on track; we will be posting a video on twitter and on the website soon, look out for it! (Twitter: @wavertonvillage). Before the opening we passed the ROSPA safety test, with the Inspector commending the “very good design and installation”. There is a prominent sign at the entrance showing the safety instructions, including a visual illustration of the personal safety equipment all track users should be wearing (e.g BMX helmet with face shield)

We hope you enjoy riding the ‘berms’ and flying over the ‘tabletop’ as you negotiate the track for the first time! And finally, the message to Wavertonians and friends is “*This is your track. Please use it responsibly, enjoy it, and help us to look after it*”

Dave Clarke and Phil Goodall

A ONCE IN A LIFETIME OPPORTUNITY FOR CYCLISTS IN WAVERTON AND OTHER PARTS OF SE CHESTER?

The 6 Parish Councils that comprise SE Chester (Great Boughton, Huntington, Littleton, Christleton, Rowton and Waverton) are eligible to submit proposals for funds to improve active travel to the Community Infrastructure Levy. This was created by the residential housing development in Huntington. A significant part of this £4.5 million fund is still available. The main purpose of the fund is to create new cycling and pedestrian facilities/infrastructure for residents that increase active travel as opposed to travel by car within this area.

Great Boughton, Huntington, Littleton, Christleton, and Waverton Parish Councils have set up a group and worked closely with members of Cycling UK to produce an integrated, summary cycling infrastructure plan for SE Chester that focuses on improving the main cycling routes to schools, to work and to shops and to/from the centre of Chester. This plan is based on the cycling infrastructure plans for each Parish Council and provides a much-improved cycle route network.

As a result, we have 16 potential improvement projects for discussion with CWAC Highways and local councillors in October, prior to submitting applications for funds.

You can read the Waverton and summary plans here.

<https://www.wavertonparishcouncil.co.uk/latest-news>