

ABOUT YOUR COUNCIL

Tarvin Parish Council is comprised of the following 11 Councillors - their contact telephone numbers, all dial code 01829, are in brackets:



Cllr. David Cotgreave (740231)

Cllr. Clare Jones (740186)



Cllr. Rob Ford (740371)

Cllr. Ted Lush (741468)



Cllr. Mike Lloyd (741748)

Cllr. Peter Ryan (740576)



Cllr. Matthew Pochin (741136)

Cllr. Steve Wiley (740737)



Cllr. Pet Twigg (740509)

Cllr. Ben Dean (07789 278827)



Cllr. Helen Flynn (309300)

To Contact Us via the Clerk:

Mike Hassall, Clerk to Tarvin Parish Council, Roy Cottage, Townfield Lane, Tarvin CH3 8EG
e-mail: miketarvinparish@aol.com - telephone 01829 741075

Your Cheshire West Councillors:

Cllr Hugo Deynem (01829 751830)
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Cllr John Leather (01829 752558)
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Autumn 2018

Newsletter No. 13

NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Following an informal consultation with residents on the draft plan in the Spring, the steering group overseeing the production of the plan on behalf of the parish council (PC) has considered your comments, amended the plan in some areas and is now ready to undertake the statutory consultation. This includes bodies such as the National Grid, utility companies, Cheshire Police, Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWaC), relevant NHS bodies, Historic England, Sports England, Highways England, and the Environment Agency. Other local stakeholders including landowners will also be consulted.

The statutory consultation started on 8th August and will end on 26th September. This is slightly longer than the statutory 6-week period as we are now in the holiday season.

As with the informal consultation, all households will receive a letter describing the consultation process. Some hard copies of the draft plan will be placed in prominent locations in Tarvin and the plan has been placed on the parish council website and on Tarvin Online.

Two public meetings will be held in the Edna Rose Room at the Community Centre. The first is on Wednesday 12th September at 2.00 pm and the second is on Friday 14th September at 7.30pm.

EDUCATION

Residents may remember that on the 2018 secondary school offer date (1st March) not all Tarvin children were allocated their first preference choice, which was in the main Tarporley High School (THS). Thankfully, after the normal back-filling process was completed, all Tarvin resident pupils who made on-time first preferences did get a place at THS.

Given that 2019 is likely to see even higher demand for places at THS, the parish council has been concerned to find out what action should be taken to reduce the risk of Tarvin pupils failing to secure a place. A group of councillors therefore met with CWaC education officials in July to discuss the issue. A summary of their findings is as follows:

Admissions criteria are set by the school, not by CWaC. However, the school has to review its criteria at least every seven years and any changes must be the subject of consultation. At the next review all Tarvin parents and guardians should be encouraged to comment and challenge the criteria if necessary.

Although Tarvin is a long-standing feeder school for THS, being in its catchment area is not a guarantee of an offer of a place (in 2018 the furthest place offered was in catchment at a straight-line distance of 4.961 miles from the school). It is therefore vital that parents and guardians, when asked to express their secondary school preferences, use all their preferences, otherwise their child may end up with a school place that is some distance away.

We were told that CWaC's admissions team intends to work with primary schools, to ensure they are equipped to give good advice regarding what happens on offer day and what needs to be done if a child is not allocated their first preference.

CWaC had also been in discussions with THS over school capacity. Although THS has an official published admissions number of 180, it has, by hiring temporary accommodation, been able to operate at 210 for the last few years. It has been agreed that this higher number is the right one given the demand and, importantly, site constraints, which mitigate against a higher permanent intake. The forecast demand for places in 2019 is higher than 210 pupils, before falling back again in later years. The school has therefore been asked to consider an additional temporary increase and to identify the shortfall in permanent accommodation for an intake of 210, together with a plan for how the larger "bulge" cohort(s) could be taken through the school. Assuming this work is done and delivers the objective, CWaC capital resources could be earmarked for the school. Although the timescale would be tight, the investment could be in place by September 2019. This would still mean some temporary accommodation would be in use for the duration of the bulge cohort(s) passing through the school but overall, councillors felt this was a really positive plan.

KING GEORGE V PLAYING FIELD

Work on the car park to improve the drainage and stop run-off onto the field was done in June. Field users will see the benefit of this work come the winter. Work to improve the grass, vertidrainage and spraying had been planned for July but has been postponed until the ground is softer.

When the Saxon Heath development was given planning permission, £30,500 was deposited with CWaC by the developer as a contribution towards a skateboarding facility in the village. The parish council has been unable to identify a suitable site for this and would not have the money to complete such a scheme in any event. To avoid losing the contribution, the council has asked the developer and CWaC if the money could be used for outdoor gym equipment on the playing field and this has now been agreed. As a result, the money will still be used for outdoor physical activities within the parish. It is hoped the gym will be installed in the autumn.

OVERGROWN HEDGES

The PC has received complaints about overhanging hedges and trees in recent weeks. This makes life particularly difficult for pedestrians. Please inspect the hedges and trees on your property and check that they have encroached onto the footway. If they have, please arrange for them to be cut back. Thank you.

HEATH DRIVE

Concerns have been raised by residents regarding the speed of traffic along Heath Drive and a reduction in speed limit has been requested. As a result, speed surveys and a draft speed limit assessment report have been prepared by CWaC to assess the suitability of a 20mph speed limit in the area. The next step in the process will be a validation meeting with a representative from Cheshire Police.

TARVIN EDUCATION TRUST

This is a Charity established to manage the endowment of the old Tarvin Grammar School. Its purpose is to assist the educational needs of students of secondary school age and older who live in the Ancient Parish of Tarvin. This assistance may take the form of financial assistance for tuition fees, books, musical instruments, and travel on approved courses.

The next round of applications should be made no later than 3rd September 2018 to the Clerk to the Governors, Mr D H Cotgreave, Brown Heath Farm, Tarvin, Chester CH3 8NE. Telephone 01829 740231 or e-mail to dhcotgreave@btinternet.com

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Our next full Council Meetings will be held on Mondays 20th August, 24th September, and 22nd October. All will commence at 7.15pm and will be held in the Edna Rose room at the Community Centre.

Everyone is welcome to attend Council meetings – there is an open forum at the beginning of every meeting for you to have your say on any subject relevant to the Parish. You don't have to stay for the whole meeting. Feel free to come/go as is convenient to you.