



TARVIN TIMES - The Newsletter of Tarvin Parish Council
Autumn 2023 *Newsletter No.31*

CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS

We welcome our three new councillors, Neil Poole, Arnie Sheppard, and Margaret Williams who were co-opted onto the Council at an extraordinary council meeting in June. All three will serve until the next election which is expected to be in May 2027.

APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL (PC).

The following have been appointed for the coming year:

Planning Committee

All Councillors

Finance Working Party

Councillors M Butler, R Ford, E Lush, A Sheppard, M Williams

King George V Playing Field Day to Day Management

Councillor P Twigg and the Clerk.

Streetcare Working Party

Councillors R Ford and P Ryan

Public Footpath Working Party

Councillors P Buckley and P Ryan

Grants for Local Organisations Working Party

Councillors M Butler, S Dutton, R Ford, and P Ryan

APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

The PC will be represented by the following Councillors during the coming year:

Tarvin Community Centre Management Committee

Councillor N Poole

Tarvin Educational Foundation

Councillor P Twigg

PARISH AUTUMN CLEAN

Each year, the PC organises two community activities which help to keep the area looking tidy by litter-picking the streets and hedgerows. The next clean is scheduled for Saturday 21st October 2023 and the Spring 2024 clean will be held on 16th March.

Each will start at 9:30am and finish no later than 12:30pm. More details will be posted nearer the time on Tarvin Online and the PC website.

KING GEORGE V PLAYING FIELD UPDATE

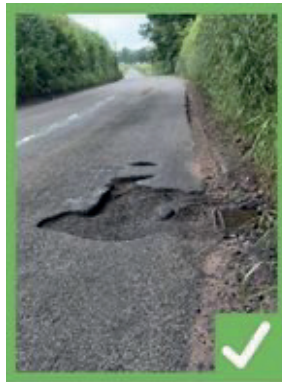
The climbing frame and rocking horse in the children's play area have been repaired at a cost of £494.45 and since then a power wash of the play area has been carried out. Regular checks of all the equipment on the field are carried out by an appropriately qualified councillor on a weekly basis and an annual external independent inspection and risk assessment is undertaken in August each year.

It is hoped to replace the football goal posts with new ones during the next three months, but this work is dependent on the PC being successful in obtaining grants for both the goal posts and their installation.

POTHOLES

We must all be aware of the gradual deterioration of road surfaces in Tarvin and the surrounding district. Although some patching work has recently taken place on Church Street and Rycroft Lane, there are many other examples in our area which need to be addressed. The PC are working with other parishes in the area to make Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWaC) accountable for the generally unacceptable state of roads and footpaths in the borough.

The CWaC website contains a reporting tool which residents can use to report individual potholes. The PC encourage residents to use this as a means of highlighting their concerns. It is very easy to use. First go onto the website, halfway down the home page on the right-hand-side you find "Report it" - select this option. The next screen gives you various options, click "potholes and road faults"



which is top left. The next screen gives you information on the criteria for reporting potholes. The website tells you that potholes will be investigated if they are at least 4cm deep on the road, (this is about 1.5 inches) or 2.5 cm on a pavement, (this about 1 inch).

Unlike the Department for Transport, it is their guidance CWaC are following, the PC DOES NOT expect you to carry a tape measure nor put your life at risk by measuring potholes in the road! Please be sensible and report what you see. You will receive a reference number and CWaC will respond. The more reports that are made, the more likely is there will be action or, at the very least, clear information on what will be done (and hopefully when) or what will not be done (and hopefully why). Please give it a try.

GUTTERS AND GULLIES

As we walk around it's wonderful to see the diversity of colourful plants, shrubs, and trees in the gardens. Unfortunately, the road gutters and gullies are exhibiting many varieties of plants and grasses too! Not only do they make this lovely village look very uncared for but the weeds and grasses cause problems with the drains as they decay, become detached and fill up the gullies. The weeds block the areas around the gullies too which leads to flooding in some areas and the quality of the tarmac and concrete along the edges of roads deteriorates at a more rapid rate as a result. Is it time for us all to tackle the short stretch of guttering that front our houses? Perhaps not everyone can manage to do this but, if we all took pride in our little bits of our Parish and helped neighbours who can't, it would benefit everyone and show Tarvin Parish for what it is, a beautiful and well-loved area!



OVERGROWN HEDGES

The PC continues to receive numerous complaints regarding overhanging hedges preventing local residents from walking past without stepping onto the road. If you have responsibility for a hedge, please ensure that it is always cut back sufficiently for those walking past to do so without either having to duck or walk on the road. Thank you.

TRAFFIC ISSUES - LOWER HIGH STREET AND CHURCH STREET

The PC recently met with a CWaC Highways engineer to discuss parking, congestion and speeding complaints on Lower High Street and Church Street. Despite the 20 mph signs, some motorists ignore the limit which increases the risk of accidents and damage to parked vehicles on Lower High Street. Church Street can be very congested at times, not least due to inconsiderately parked vehicles on double yellow lines or impeding entry to properties. CWaC have agreed to visibly enforce parking regulations and will also conduct speed monitoring on Lower High Street.

PLANNING PERMISSION

Plans to alter or extend premises more often than not require planning permission to be obtained from the local authority before works start. There have been a number of instances recently when this has not been the case, with potentially expensive consequences if a retrospective application is subsequently refused. Please, if you are considering improvements to your property, check the Planning and Building Control section of the CWaC website which explains where permission is or is not required.

DOG FOULING – THE LAW

The Cheshire West and Chester Council (Fouling of Land by Dogs) (General) Order 2017 makes it an offence not to remove any faeces deposited by your dog. This removal must be done without delay. The Order applies to all open-air areas in the borough and where the public have access, even if warning signs are not displayed. The exception to this is Forestry Commission land or other land where the owner has given permission that faeces need not be removed. The Order does not apply to people who are blind and those with other trained assistance dogs for specific disabilities.

The offence carries a maximum penalty of £1,000. You may be given the option of paying a £80 fixed penalty notice if paid within 14 days or £50 if paid within 7 days. If a fixed penalty notice is accepted you also avoid a subsequent criminal record, if found guilty.

If you have seen anyone who has failed to pick up after their dog, please ensure to make a note of the following if possible:

- the day, date, and time
- what you have seen
- the location
- any information about the dog (breed, colour etc.)

and then report the issue to CWaC using their website.

First go onto the website, halfway down the home page on the right-hand-side you find “Report it” click this. The next screen gives you various options click “dog and animal fouling”. The next screen gives you information on the criteria for reporting the foul.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Our next full Council Meetings will be held on Mondays 21st August, 25th September, 23rd October, 27th November and 18th December.

All meetings will commence at 7.15pm and all 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 normal monthly meeting, for members of the public to have their say on any subject relevant to the Parish. You don't have to stay for the whole meeting. Feel free to come and go as is convenient to you.

YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Margaret Williams (740486)	Cllr. Neil Poole (740153)	Cllr. Arnie Sheppard (740759)
Cllr. Rob Ford (740371)	Cllr. Mark Butler (309129)	Cllr. Pet Twiggs (740509)
Cllr. Ted Lush (741468)	Cllr. Peter Ryan (740576)	
Cllr. Peter Buckley (07771 967 664)	Cllr. Sarah Dutton (07722 853120)	
Cllr. Duncan Howorth (07974 438758)		

To Contact Us via the Clerk:

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