

TARVIN TIMES - The Newsletter of Tarvin Parish Council Spring 2025 Newsletter No.36

2025-26 PARISH PRECEPT

The Parish Council (PC) precept forms part of your Council Tax bill and in 2025/26 will increase by 3.7%. This means that for a Band D property you will pay for Parish services £1.67 per week. The Council regrets it has to increase its demand on your precious money but even very small changes in our finances have quite significant consequences.

In 2025/26 we are planning to take the site of the War Memorial into our ownership to ensure that it continues to be properly maintained. In addition, we will improve the Christmas decorations on the High Street and ensure that the £200,000 worth of equipment on the King George V Playing Field is maintained, plus replacing any equipment that reaches the end of its economic life. To achieve this the Council did establish, some years ago, a fund for replacing equipment.

The budget will be used to support the Council's other important areas of work including commenting on all planning applications, lobbying Cheshire West and Chester Council to deal with the day-to-day problems that impact your lives including potholes, weeds in gutters, flooding, over-grown hedges, planning applications not implemented correctly, and speeding.

CHANGES TO PLANNING

The Government are making significant changes to planning both to speed up and increase the number of houses built. It is likely that these changes will impact on parishes like Tarvin which are very attractive places to live. The Council working with other Parish Councils, if necessary, will do its best to ensure that any proposals to build more houses are not to the detriment of our community and bring with them meaningful investment in community assets such as utility infrastructure, recreation and parking.

CONSERVATION AREA

Part of Tarvin Parish is in the Conservation Area. If you live in or have a business in the Conservation Area there are restrictions on what work you can do to your property which may affect its appearance – such as installing plastic windows or inappropriate advertising signs whether temporary or permanent. The PC wants residents to be proud of their Conservation Areas and to ensure they are protected and if possible enhanced. If you want to make changes to your property you can get advice from the Cheshire West and Chester Council Planning Department. If you are not sure whether your property is in a Conservation Area please either study the leaflet on the Notice Board on High Street Tarvin or go to the PC Website where it can be found under the heading "Your Parish".

COMMUNITY GRANT AID

The PC allocates a small amount of its precept each year to provide grants to voluntary organisations based in the Parish who are in need of financial support. The amount available during the coming year will be £4,000.

There are a number of conditions for organisations to meet. For example, grants will only be given where the groups membership or activities are open to all of Tarvin Parish. Also grants will not be given for purposes which are commonly considered as the work or responsibility of businesses or bodies funded by any Government Department.

Voluntary Organisations within the Parish wishing to be considered for grant aid during the coming year should contact the Clerk requesting further details, including an application form.

Completed Application Forms must be received by the Clerk no later than the end of May 2025. Applications will then be considered at the June Council meeting and the approved grants distributed at the end of June.

CO-OP LOCAL COMMUNITY FUND - KING GEORGE V PLAYING FIELD

In the winter newsletter, we reported that £1,735.20 had been raised via a Co-op community scheme to purchase a "Happy to Chat" seat for the Playing Field. This money has now been received and two seats have been ordered with delivery expected late March. One will be positioned part way down the field, in front of the tennis courts, and the other at the bottom of the field in front of the children's play area.



Again, a big thank you to all who have supported the cause, it has been very much appreciated.

CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR

There is a vacancy for one Councillor.

If you are interested in how your Parish is looked after and how it develops then why not consider becoming a Councillor?

The positions are voluntary and take up as much time as you are prepared to give. The minimum commitment is at least to attend the monthly Parish Council meeting held on a Monday evening (normally the fourth Monday in the month). Councillors represent the views and concerns of the residents of the Parish to the Parish Council and, through it, to the Borough Council.

You must be over 18 and qualify under one of the provisions of Section 79 of the Local Government Act 1972 below:

- 1. Be on the Electoral Register for the Parish, or
- 2. Have owned or rented land in the Parish for 12 months, or
- 3. Have worked in the Parish for 12 months, or
- 4. Have lived in the Parish or within 3 miles thereof during the whole of the 12 months preceding appointment.

If you have views on what goes on or should be happening within our Parish and think that you would enjoy being a Councillor, please let the Parish Clerk know. He will then provide you will a form to be completed and returned along with a letter of application which should explain why you are interested in applying and any relevant experience you think you can bring to the role of Parish Councillor and providing some information regarding yourself. Applications received will be considered at the first PC meeting held after they are received.

DEALING WITH HIGHWAY ISSUES

It would be very helpful if residents could use the Cheshire West and Chester Council online "Report It" facility to flag potholes (and there is no shortage of them), blocked drains, streetlights out and other road defects.

CWaC have reduced staff and finance to correct these issues and much of what they do is driven by reports from the public.

TARVIN ONLINE IN JEOPARDY

The following has been received from the remaining editor at Tarvinonline'

The Tarvin Online webpage provides business and community directories, a community calendar, and regular information about events and news in the Tarvin Parish and surrounding areas. It has been running for 12 years and aims to upload a new article every day of the year--Christmas excepted. Now it faces closure and needs at least three volunteers to ensure it can carry on.

If the Website closes, we will lose a valuable legacy of photos, information and history about the village, and this would be such a shame. A meeting is planned for 16th April at 7 pm to 9 pm in Tarvin Community Centre. Please send an email to editor@tarvinonline.org if you are interested in volunteering, and come along on 16th April. The editor will be more than happy to provide more information on what the role entails (e-mail address above).

GARDEN WASTE COLLECTION

A reminder that residents can subscribe to have their garden waste collected in 2025, with collections having just started.

The service operates on an opt-in basis and costs £52.50 per bin per calendar year for 2025. Residents can subscribe for as many bins as they need, but each will be subject to a £52.50 charge. If a resident is in receipt of full council tax reduction at the time of applying for the permit there is a £10 reduction on the cost of one garden waste bin permit.

For more information or to subscribe to the service, please visit the CWaC website www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

USE YOUR LOCAL SHOPS AND BUSINESSES

Tarvin is very fortunate that it has a full range of shops and businesses. Communities that do not have a Post Office, chemist, supermarkets, petrol filling station probably look with envy at what we are fortunate to have.

Our vibrant local economy will only continue to flourish if we, who live in the community, use what we have as much as we can. Of course, we all want, and have, a choice where we shop and that is how it should be. However, in these difficult economic times when you need something please think ask yourself "can I get what I need in Tarvin?".

Please support Tarvin business and therefore your community.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Our next full Council Meetings will be held on Mondays 24th March, 28th April, 19th May and 23rd June. 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.

E-MAIL ADDRESS

A reminder that the Parish Clerk has the following new e-mail address. clerk@tarvinparishcouncil.gov.uk

YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Margaret Williams (07917 356445) Cllr. Neil Poole (740153) Cllr. Arnie Sheppard (740759) Cllr. Rob Ford (740371) Cllr. Mark Butler (309129) Cllr. Pet Twigg (740509)

Clir. Ted Lush (741468) Clir. Peter Ryan (740576)

Cllr. Peter Buckley (07771 967 664) Cllr. Sarah Dutton (07722 853120)

To Contact Us via the Clerk:

Mike Hassall, Clerk to Tarvin Parish Council, Roy Cottage, Townfield Lane, Tarvin CH3 8EG e-mail: clerk@tarvinparishcouncil.org.uk telephone 01829 741075