

CUDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman's Report 2018/19

Since becoming Chairman of Cuddington Parish Council in May 2017 I have encouraged the Council to think about its role in the local community. In July 2018 the Parish Council approved an important document "Here is what we do" which is published on the village website. As well as describing what we do it sets out a range of environmental improvements and ways of supporting people. Many of these issues are actions recommended in the Village Plan following extensive surveys completed in 2014/2015 which the Parish Council have agreed to take on. The document also talks about our role to engage, represent and promote. The Parish Council is often a consultee to outside bodies such as Cheshire West and Chester Council and acts to represent and promote the local area. The Parish Council undertakes to be open and transparent in all we do, to strive to do more and at the same time to provide value for money and keep any Parish Precept to within the cost of living unless there are exceptional circumstances. You can view this document candsonline.org > Councils > Parish Council.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN: Voters approved the Neighbourhood Plan in the Referendum on 24th January. The Plan was "made" in February and is now a planning document used with others to determine all planning applications in the area. This was a mammoth task and I am very grateful to John and Eileen Kerrigan and their team for all their hard work.

VILLAGE IMPROVEMENTS: The new play equipment at Norley Road is proving very popular. The Parish Council continues to maintain the Boundary Lane Play Area. The car park at the Village Hall has been re-tarmaced using Borough Council New Homes Bonus, Borough Councillor's contributions. Entry signs on main roads into the village have been purchased and erected. Flower boxes have been installed which will be maintained by the Parish Council. The Soldier silhouette outside the Library has been purchased and installed. The Mere Lane car park extension appears to be working well. There have been one or two concerns that at times it is full and that restrictions might be appropriate. The Parish Council has considered this and has decided that intervention is not necessary at present. However we have undertaken to review as necessary.

ALLOTMENTS: These were expected (after many delays) to be available early 2019. It is certain that this latest time frame will be missed. The Parish Council are assisting the self- management company in putting pressure on Taylor Wimpey, the developer at Eden Grange to complete the allotments and announce a hand over date.

PLANNING: The Parish Council as consultee to the Planning Authority continues to review all planning applications. A number of these are referred to the Parish Council, the remainder being considered by the Planning Committee. My thanks to Councillor Tim Vincent and Councillor Sarah Shepherd for their excellent work.

FLEA MOSS PIT: The Parish Council is in negotiation to sell this land for restricted development.

GORSTAGE CEMETERY: This is run by a joint committee consisting of representatives of Acton Bridge, Cuddington and Weaverham Parish Councils. On the recommendation of the external auditor governance issues have been updated.

PARISH PRECEPT: The precept for 2018/19 was reduced by 1.4% compared with 2017/18. The precept for 2019/20 is the same as 2018/19 (nil increase) which will result in a small increase in income for the Parish Council bearing in mind the net increase in housing in the Parish during the year.

I would like to thank all Parish Councillors for their work during the last 4 years. In addition I would like to place on record my appreciation of Julie Chrimes' services as an efficient and conscientious Parish Clerk.

Councillor John Faulkner

Chairman

April 2019