

SAUGHALL & SHOTWICK PARK PARISH COUNCIL

Feb'20 – Apr'20

www.saughall.gov.uk

Meetings during this time:

Feb 3rd, Mar 2nd, April 6th

Annual General Meeting: April 20th

From the Chairman, Alan Bailey

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2020. In February the Parish Council's budget is submitted to Cheshire West & Chester Council (CWaC) for inclusion in the Council Tax for the 2020/21 period. For three years the Parish Council has collected £56.20 p.a. from each Band D property in the village (the precept). However, in this next financial year we have decided to increase the precept by 3.3% taking it up to £58.05, increasing the amount we collect by approx. £1,900. Please see the end of the newsletter for further details.

Virgin Media We have received enquiries about the number of residents who have signed up for Virgin Media services. As of 1st Jan 2020, one in five households who have the potential to be connected have taken advantage of the packages on offer,

approx. 250 households.

Chairman's Awards

Subject to approval at February's meeting, the Council has agreed to open the Chairman's Awards programme for 2020, inviting applications from Saughall-based voluntary and community groups within the Saughall area to apply for funding from the Parish Council. Applications are invited for projects / activities up to the value of £2,000, though much smaller amounts are most welcome. A budget of £4,000 has been set aside for this purpose. Funding is intended to benefit the community so applications that only benefit one individual are not suitable. Eligible organisations / projects include:

- Voluntary or community groups or faith groups
- Local environmental projects

In addition, groups / projects must:

- Be active in the Saughall area

Defibrillators in Saughall

1. Outside the Co-op (available 24/7)
2. Inside the Vernon Institute kitchen
3. Inside the Uniform Groups Kitchen (Golden Jubilee Fields)
4. Saughall Medical Centre - when open – ask at reception

- Show how the project/activity makes a difference in the local area
- Show how the project will provide value for money
- Indicate who is likely to benefit
- Indicate when the project is likely to start and be completed
- Representatives from the group/project must attend the Annual Parish meeting on Mon 20th April when the award winners are announced

Application forms are available from Alan Bailey (contact details at end of newsletter.) Completed applications must be submitted to Alan by email, post, or hand by Fri 20th March. Photo left shows last year's successful applicants.



Shotwick Park Estate Project

Many were unable to attend the two public meetings facilitated by the Parish Council in December and have asked for a short description of the project. This is not a Parish Council initiative - a private individual, Mr Lex Greensill, has approached CWaC to purchase 550 acres of land in the Shotwick Park area of the village. Mr Greensill contacted the Parish Council some time ago to introduce us to his project and we are supportive of such a far-reaching and beneficial venture for the village and its residents. Although there are many hurdles, we will back Lex in any way that we can.

The Vision is to create a natural sanctuary for

Shotwick Park to address the growing threat of wildlife decline and climate change. The project will offer a wide range of community benefits including access, education and place of research – a local scheme for a global issue. It centres around four main 'Statements and Aims'

Natural Environment and Wildlife – An opportunity to create a habitat mosaic which will restore a more naturally functioning ecosystem to Shotwick Park. **Develop** existing key habitats; parkland, mixed native woodland, field margins and hedgerows **Restore & Improve** the ecosystem services provided through features such as ponds, watercourses and low-lying meadows.

Establish grasslands rich in flowers and herbs, providing wildlife corridors and super-highways for pollinating insects.

Community and Social Benefits – Landscape benefits will be significantly enhanced with the visual

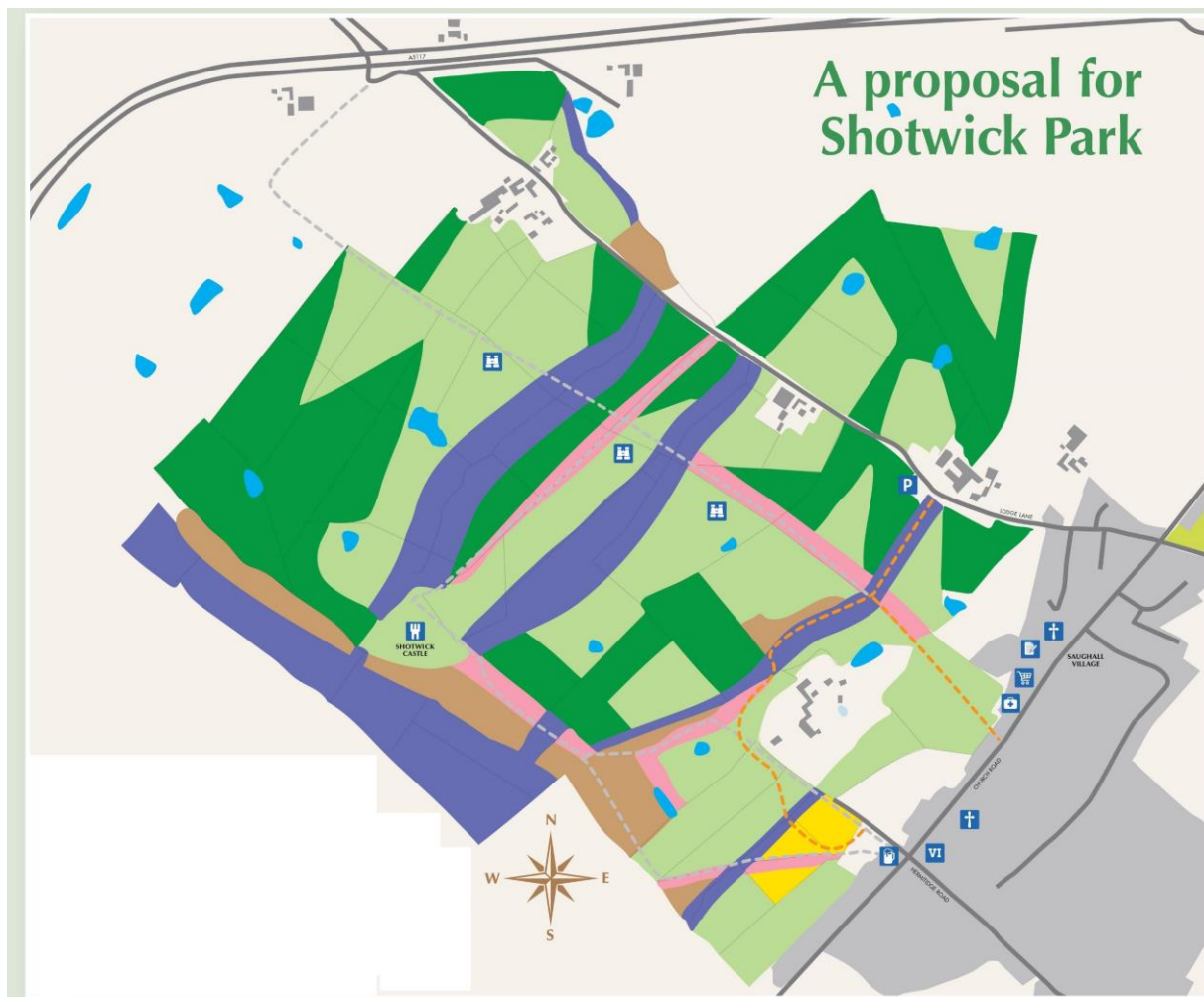
Below is a map of how the project may look and includes the following headings:

Watercourses (Blue);

Native woodland creation (dark green);

Community Orchard (Yellow);

Grassland restoration (Light Green)



impacts of wildflower meadows and woodland creation, whilst protecting iconic viewpoints of the Welsh Hills.

Create a community orchard leading to an edible pathway.

Maintain employment opportunities through environmental, educational and agricultural enterprises.

Restore more natural function to our countryside, allowing our flora and fauna to flourish.

Land Management in a Changing Climate – Creating new woodlands not only absorbs carbon, but also improves biodiversity and will connect fragmented habitats.

Improve soil health by creating a stable structure, building levels of organic matter and reducing both erosion and compaction.

Plant native woodland with the tree mix carefully considered, accounting for both habitat provision and the ability to mitigate climate change.

Research climate mitigation via the delivery, valuation and financing of carbon sequestration.

Access & Education – An opportunity to encourage more members of our community to enjoy the recreational health and wellbeing benefits derived from the natural environment.

Enhance access by maintaining the network of public rights of way and creating an all ability path to benefit **all** members of the community.

Provide for an increase in visitor numbers, by considering the requirements for signage, car parking and accessible toilets.

Establish educational opportunities for all members of our community from toddler groups to academic institutions.

Our Community



If you are finding it hard to manage on

your own, or know of someone in the village who could do with some help, then please contact Anna Manning (ammauthorship500@gmail.com, 880 675) and she will do her best to link you with support. People often become isolated due to illness, bereavement and many other issues. There may be organisations and local people who can provide assistance.

The Council is trialling dog walking in the Golden Jubilee Park from 1 January until 30 June 2020 and if successful it may continue indefinitely.

Dogs must be kept on a lead at all times and you must always pick up after them and take it home.

Dogs are allowed to walk around the perimeter path and must not be taken onto the Cricket Pitch, BMX Track or the Younger Children's Play Areas.



Dog Walking

Dog Walking on GJP

Dog-walkers would like to walk their dogs on Golden Jubilee Park which is not normally permitted. We feel we should open up the use of this lovely area to as many residents as possible. A decision was taken for a trial for six months. (See above)

Next Issue: May 2020

If you would like anything of community interest included in the next issue, please contact newsletter.editor@saughall.gov.uk or Alan Bailey (details at end of newsletter) by April 15th 2020.

Christmas Lights

Many residents have expressed their delight at the expansion of the Christmas lights along Hermitage Rd. We are now asking residents whether they would like to see a further expansion along Church Rd from the junction with Saughall Hey to the Fiddlers Lane junction. Currently the annual rental cost is £4,400. The approximate cost for the extension would be a one-off payment for 12 lamp posts to be fitted

with the necessary switch gear and plugs of £1,000 and the annual rental of the actual Christmas garlands at £1,500, taking the annual rental up to approx. **£6,000**. If this is shared by every household in Saughall it means the annual cost of all Christmas lights would be approx. £5.00 each. Do you think that this is good value for money? Please send comments to clerk@saughall.gov.uk or post a comment on Facebook @saughallparishcouncil

School Buses Update

Parent representatives, Simon Eardley (our Borough Councillor), & Members the Parish Council have met with representatives of CWaC, Arriva and Stagecoach on various occasions in an attempt to resolve the problems of children travelling to and from Upton High School in both a safe and timely manner. Hopefully, these discussions may lead to the resumption of a dedicated school bus, but this appears to be untenable at present. We will keep you informed.

Making Contact with the Parish Council

Surgeries are usually held on the Saturday before each Council meeting. Residents can talk directly with Councillors. Their timing is up for discussion at the present time.

Council Meetings take

place on the first Monday of every month (Tuesday in the case of a Bank Holiday), usually in the Vernon Institute, 7-9pm. They are open to the public with a public forum. Dates at the top of this newsletter.

A Parish Meeting is held in April each year giving the public and local

organisations an opportunity to participate. The Chairman presents a report on the work carried out during the year. Residents can offer views on any matter which affects the community. The Parish Meeting also includes the Chairman's Awards.

Working Groups

Most Councillors belong to specific working groups and may have more knowledge about your query.

Golden Jubilee Park Group Jenny Young, Andrew Warrington, Peter Young

Highways Group Brian Kerr, Mike Johnson,

Howard Jennings, Jeanne Storrar

Communications and Marketing Group Dennis Holman, Alan Bailey, Rachel Lowe, Lynda Rutter, Andrew Warrington
Business Group Alan Bailey, Howard Jennings, Brian Kerr, Andrew Warrington, Peter Young

HIGHWAYS ISSUES

To report potholes, flooding etc. to CWaC go online: <https://maps.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/cwac/faultreporting/> or phone: **0300 123 7036 or the Street Scene Team on 0300 123 7035**

Parish Councillors: Chairman Alan Bailey, Vice Chairman Peter Young

Email addresses all take the form [firstname].[surname]@saughall.gov.uk
For example: alan.bailey@saughall.gov.uk, peter.young@saughall.gov.uk

Alan Bailey

01244 880 453

182 Hermitage Rd, CH1 6AF

Peter Young

01244 880 685

62 Hermitage Rd, CH1 6AQ

Kathleen Evans

43 Hermitage Rd, CH1 6AQ

Dennis Holman 01244 881593 28 The Ridings, CH1 6AX	Howard Jennings 07949 377 943 Copperfield, Church Rd, CH1 6EN	Mike Johnson 07778 016 792 11 Fox Lea, CH1 6EE
Brian Kerr OBE 01244 880 347 33 Greenway, CH1 6EG	Rachel Lowe Newlyn, Parkgate Rd, CH1 6JS	Lynda Rutter Holly Cottage, Seahill Rd, CH1 6BJ
Jeanne Storrar 01244 880 226 Hey House Farm, Fiddlers Ln, CH1 6DH	Andrew Warrington 01244 880 418 6 Worsley Avenue, CH1 6BG	Jenny Young 01244 881133 212 Hermitage Road, CH1 6AE
Parish Council Clerk: Shirley Hudspeth clerk@saughall.gov.uk		
Cheshire West & Chester Councillor – Simon Eardley: Simon.Eardley@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk , 07738 184101		

Parish Council Budget 2020/21 At a meeting in January 2020 your Council met to consider its budget for the forthcoming financial year starting in April 2020. Before doing so, we thought that it would be useful to list community spending 2019/20 (over £1,000)

Golden Jubilee Park – New BMX Track & Play Equipment	£23,300
Golden Jubilee Park – Loan repayment and maintenance	£10,000
Saughall Christmas Lights, 12 new installations and rental	£ 6,900
Chairman Awards 2019	£ 4,000
Parish Council Election Charges	£ 2,200
Flower Tubs for village	£ 1,700

Parish Precept: This is a charge on each household for the running of the Council collected from each household in Saughall & Shotwick Park. Last year we collected £56.20 based on a Band D equivalent property, and this figure had been frozen since 2016. After due consideration the Council decided to increase the precept to **£58.05**, (£1.11 per week) which represents a 3.3% increase. The total budget for 2020/21 will be £95,688. For more detail please visit the website on www.saughall.gov.uk

Budget Heads 2020/21: Grand Total £95,688

