



Newsletter - September 2013

Railway Electrification Update

Road Closures

Network Rail have confirmed that the three major railway bridges in our area will need to be rebuilt to provide sufficient clearance for the overhead wires. These roads are: Railway Road, Adlington, and Rawlinson Lane and Chorley Road in Heath Charnock. While they will maintain pedestrian access, the roads will be closed to vehicles for a lengthy period.

In their initial proposals, Network Rail were planning to work on the Railway Road and Chorley Road bridges at the same time, thus leaving Rawlinson Lane as the only route connecting Upper and Lower Adlington. The Parish Council, along with other councils in the area, have made representations to Network Rail, as we do not think it practical to have both Railway Road and Chorley Road closed. Network Rail have promised that there will be lots of consultation, drop-in sessions, and meetings with councillors later this year, so we will aim to get their plans changed.

The actual construction work is unlikely to take place before Autumn 2014, and will take about 18 weeks for the main bridges. The electrification should be completed by December 2016.

Rail Disruption

It is not just the overbridges where major work is needed to give the necessary clearance. Tunnels on the line also present problems and work needs to be undertaken at Chorley tunnel, scheduled for summer 2014, and bore of the Farnworth tunnel which carries trains from Manchester to Bolton and on to Chorley, which is scheduled for 2015.

Re-routed Services

The first stage of the north west electrification programme, the line from Manchester to the West Coast main line at Newton-le-Willows will open later this year, and most of the current Manchester to Glasgow and Edinburgh trains will be diverted to run via this route, calling at Wigan, with the current diesel multiple trains being replaced by electric ones as they are introduced up to May 2014, when 15 services each way will run on the route, alternate trains serving Glasgow and Edinburgh.

Dog Fouling

Tackling dog fouling is a very important issue, as it is one of the biggest concerns among residents, and this was reflected in the recently distributed parish council questionnaire. Don't be a Dirty Dog is a new campaign aimed at educating dog walkers. You may well have noticed the new posters that have been strategically placed throughout the parish. The campaign will focus on education and enforcement. This will involve high visibility patrols handing out poop bags to dog walkers, and issuing fixed penalty notices to people who don't clean up after their dog. The campaign is brought about quite simply due to the fact that despite the metal notices placed on lamp posts, despite the parish council placing leaflets on our notice boards, and despite numerous reminders in newsletters etc this disgusting habit still persists. The message is simple - bag it and bin it! Remember street litter bins can be used for the disposal of bagged dog dirt.

Whilst it is appreciated that the majority of owners are responsible, we want all dog walkers to clear up any dog fouling. Here are a few simple tips:

- Be prepared and take enough bags with you
- Clean up after the dog
- Put the waste in a dog bin, an ordinary litter bin or take it home with you
- If you spot someone not cleaning up after their dog report it to Chorley Council confidentially as detailed below

We urge residents to be the eyes and ears of our community and to report irresponsible dog owners who aren't cleaning up after their pet by contacting the council in confidence on 01257 515151, so offenders can be tracked down and action can be taken. Also Chorley Council will remove reported dog dirt within one working day, Monday to Friday, but this also can only be achieved with help of residents so if you see any dog dirt that needs to be removed please ring the same telephone number.

Remember - It is a criminal offence not to clean up after a dog in your control. Offenders will be issued with a fixed penalty notice for £75 - failure to pay may lead to a prosecution with a fine of up to £1,000, a criminal record and court costs oh and no doubt a mention in the local press!

Heath Charnock Parish Council Chairman's Report

Welcome to the second Parish Newsletter of the year. I hope you will find it both enjoyable and interesting. Can I begin by thanking all those of you who contacted Councillors to say how much you appreciated the previous Newsletter and also by thanking those who suggested ways in which we could improve the format of future editions.

It is appropriate at this point to pen a few words of gratitude for the long period of service given to the Parish by former Councillor **Pat Case C.B.E** who has retired from local politics.

Over the past 30 plus years Pat has represented the area as both Ward Councillor for Heath Charnock and Rivington and County Councillor for Chorley Rural East. Pat was also Mayor of Chorley after 19 years of service as a Borough Councillor. She has always had the best interests of Heath Charnock at heart and over the past years has been of great help to the Parish Council, whenever we have sought her advice. We wish her well in her retirement!

It is equally appropriate to give our best wishes to Councillor **Kim Snape** who has taken over both of the roles previously occupied by Pat. I am sure that Kim's association with the Parish and Parish Council will be as equally beneficial as our previous association with Pat.

While Pat and Kim represent different political parties, it is perhaps worthwhile bringing to your attention the fact that the Parish Council is a non-political organisation, all our decisions being based solely upon what is in the best interests of the Parish.

Parish Plan

During the coming months the Parish Council will be discussing the possible production of a Parish Plan covering a period of either three or five years.

This Plan will enable the Council to take a long-term look at what we are seeking to achieve for the benefit of the Parish as a whole together with the long-term financial implications.

Some of the topics covered by the plan could be;

Law and Order including speeding and parking; Environmental Issues; Highways and Public Transport; Housing and others.

If the Parish Council decides to go ahead with the Plan, we will publicise this via the Notice Boards. We will also consider your responses to the Questionnaire and ask you to inform us of any concerns which may have arisen since the Questionnaire was produced.

Village Sign

We are investigating the possibility of purchasing a Village Sign which will be much more individualistic than the bland and boring County signs which surround the village. The areas to be resolved are a) cost b) design and c) siting of the sign. Keep your eyes on either the Notice Boards or the Parish Council website for developments,

Enjoy the rest of the Newsletter.

Ian Oakes (Chairman)

Rogue Traders

Rogue traders, bogus workmen or cold callers - all are not welcome and while incidents of this nature are relatively low, there have been a couple of incidents recently that have caused concern in Lower Adlington. So it is a good time to remind residents of the need to be aware and vigilante. Bogus callers often pose as water, electricity or gas-board workers, council workers or even police officers. They do this so as they can appear to be bone fide with the aim to gain the householders confidence, in order to enter your home with a view to stealing money or other property.

Residents can prevent this type of crime and take precautions by following these three steps:

Stop - before opening the door

Chain - if you have one put it on, use it

Check - ask the caller for their identification and check it by phoning the company they say they are from before letting them in. Use the phone number in the phone book, not on an identity card that is shown by the caller.

If you are in any doubt do not let them in, keep everything locked, dial 999 and ask for the police.

Heath Charnock Parish Council

Councillors as at February 2013

All Council correspondence should be sent to the Parish Clerk:

Mrs E Woodrow
99 Rawlinson Lane
Heath Charnock
Chorley
PR7 4DE

Tel: 01257 480515

Name	Address	Telephone
Ian Oakes	49 The Asshawes, Heath Charnock (Chair)	480047
Graham Ashworth	4 Springfield Mews, Heath Charnock (Vice Chair)	480338
Elaine Adams	4 Factory Lane, Heath Charnock.	482311
Robert Davison	Springfield Farm, Babylon Lane, Heath Charnock	474037
Judith Hendrickson	99 Rawlinson Lane, Heath Charnock	480515
Alan Styles	Woodlands, Westthoughton Road, Heath Charnock	482689
Paul Williams	3 Chorley Road, Heath Charnock	485604

Members of the public are welcome to attend parish council meetings which are held in the Adlington and District Community Centre. See the council notice boards or the web site www.heathcharnock.org.uk for dates and times.

Heath Charnock WI

Heath Charnock Womens Institute was established in June 1937 and is an active part of the Anglezarke Group of WI's, which also includes Belmont and White Coppice. The WI is proud to be the biggest voluntary womens organisation within the UK, and actively enables its members to, amongst a host of other things, develop new skills, campaign on local and national issues, socialise and meet new friends.

The Heath Charnock WI meets in Rivington Church Hall, Horrobin Lane at 7.30pm, on the second Wednesday in each month, except July. The meetings usually take the form of a speaker, discussions, demonstrations and the like, always with refreshments supplied. New or returning members are always welcome to come along to meetings.

Every year the group go on outings, such as to the theatre, dinner cruises, and other places of interest. Recent visits have been to Slatterys, Chester, Stone and Roses Gardens at White Coppice, and Bolton Little Theatre.

The group take an active role in the local community and each year raise funds for a nominated local charity.

Heath Charnock WI can be contacted on 01257 481816. Anyone can take a look at the website <https://sites.google.com/heathcharnockwi/home> and find out about the group, or on Facebook search Heath Charnock WI (Womens Institute).

Neighbourhood Watch in Heath Charnock

Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) is alive and well in Heath Charnock. Whilst times have changed with cutbacks in Police funding, NHW continues to function with the massive support of our volunteers. For those of you who are not familiar with the local structure of NHW in the Chorley area, the following is a brief description of who we are. Chorley and the surrounding villages are supported by the Chorley & District Neighbourhood Watch Association (CADNWA), a constituted body which oversees all NHW activities in the area.

Committee members for the forthcoming year are elected at the AGM in March, and meet every 2 to 3 months to discuss progress on NHW issues and projects. Underpinning the work of the Committee are the NHW Coordinators, volunteers who provide the link between NHW/Police and the local Watch members. The Coordinator is the most important person in any group because it is his/her task to manage its activities – you do not need any particular qualifications, but you do need commitment.

A Registered Watch is where the Coordinator's details are held on the Lancashire Constabulary's database. Lynn Wareing, Watch Liaison Officer at Chorley Police Station, is the interface between the Coordinator and the Constabulary on NHW issues. One significant advantage of being a member of a Registered Watch is that many Home Insurers will give a reduction in premiums.

The role of a coordinator can be outlined as follows:

- Keeping members interested in Neighbourhood Watch
- Informing members about local crime, but not becoming a vigilante
- Liaising with Police
- Organising local meetings, if and when necessary
- Responding to Police requests for help.

If you are interested to know if there is an established Watch local to where you live, wish to know more about NHW, or would like to set up a new Watch, please contact Lynn Wareing on 01257 246384 or by email to lynn.wareing@lancashire.pnn.police.uk

Adlington & District In Bloom

Working to improve Adlington, Anderton and Heath Charnock

Since the last newsletter, we have had a late, cold spring, which meant that the tulips and daffodils had barely finished flowering when, by the calendar, summer bedding should have been following on. The weather is never right for gardeners – at the time of writing we are in the middle of a heatwave and watering daily, which ought to make us perhaps think more about conservation in all its forms. Some of our planters do have a reservoir of water to minimise waste.

The two logroll planters were planted up this year with over 500 French marigolds and petunia "Black Cherry". These were grown from seed and plugs. In other places residents may have noticed our wild flowers. These are annual seed mixtures, purchased by the Bloom Group from the charity Landlife at the National Wildflower Centre in Liverpool, and include chamomile, cornflower, corncockle and poppy. There are wildflower patches at the junction of Wigan Lane and

Bolton Road, and on the motorway bridge between Babylon Lane and New Road, at various sites in Adlington and Anderton.

Judging for North West in Bloom took place on 17 July, and we are grateful to Chorley Council for the extra litterpicking and roadsweeping of the route beforehand. Good environmental quality is one of the core criteria of the competition. The results will be announced in October.

The Boundary Stone at Limbrick



In the highly charged atmosphere of 1940, there was a genuine fear of enemy invasion throughout the country. In our area, although the scenario seems to have come straight out of *Dad's Army* or 'Allo 'Allo, the fear was that German troops would parachute in over the West Pennine Moors – probably disguised as nuns – and set off the invasion.

Countrywide, all signposts and markers showing locations were obliterated to confuse the enemy. One such stone, already more than 50 years old, marked the boundary between Chorley and Heath Charnock at Limbrick. After the war, the stone, with its legend gouged out, stood uselessly between the Cowling Road and Weavers' Brow nameplates, and so remained until 2012, when the parish council decided that the renovation of the stone would be a fitting commemoration of both the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, and the retirement of Roy Howard, long-serving councillor and past Chair of Heath Charnock Parish Council. Roy is also a Limbrick resident.

Chorley Council readily agreed that the stone belonged at least equally to them, and arranged for the lettering to be engraved. The Milestone Society took an interest and was most helpful in determining the orientation of the original legend. One of their members, Bishop Michael Wilson, Titular Bishop of Lindisfarne, undertook the repainting of the stone, and the parish council made the surrounding flower bed.

We hope that you will agree that the restoration now makes an attractive gateway marker to the parish.



Going to University this Autumn? Then read on!

Shaw's Charity

Shaw's Charity is one of the 80 oldest charities still existing in the country. It was founded according to the terms of the will of John Shaw in 1627. John Shaw lived at High Bulhaugh, now called Manor House, Moor Road, Anglezarke, and at Castle Bytham in Lincolnshire. He bequeathed all of his lands in Lincolnshire to trustees, to sell and invest, the income from the investment being used for ever to give to the poorest of Anglezarke, Heath Charnock, Anderton and Rivington, twice-yearly at Advent and Good Friday.

The property purchased, for £100, was the Sutton House estate in Adlington.

The investment was supplemented by a bequest from John Shaw's brother, George, in 1650.

The brothers are buried in Rivington Church.

At the beginning of the 20th century, the Shaw's Educational Endowment was created out of the original charity. This provides a modest grant (the Senior Exhibition) to undergraduates from the same four townships of Anderton, Heath Charnock, Rivington and Anglezarke for the purchase of textbooks.

For this, and for the Shaw's Charity, applicants need to be resident in one of the four parishes - for five years for the Charity and two years for the Senior Exhibition.

For an application form please contact

Mrs E. Woodrow, 99 Rawlinson Lane, Heath Charnock, Chorley, PR7 4DE. 01257 480515, Woodrows@tinyworld.co.uk

If you have any ideas for future articles, you can contact the editorial team by email at newsletter@heathcharnock.org.uk