

# **Adlington Town Council - Annual Report to Electors**

## **2009-2010**

### **Finance**

At £17,500 the precept requested in 2009 was slightly lower than in the previous year, a move intended to reduce the level of reserve funds held by the Council. £1300 of reserve funds have been used during the year, specifically to purchase new computer equipment and software and a new memorial planter on Windsor Avenue. In addition grants totalling £1680 were awarded to local organisations who applied through the Community Awards scheme.

### **Councillors**

The Council has accepted the resignations of Cllrs Sally Rimmer and Robert Yates during the year, and co-opted Cllrs Clive Hart and David Snape onto the Council.

### **Village Matters**

The Council continues to investigate options relating to the future of the **Ridgway Arms**, requesting a Highways Investigation into the status of the road directly in front of the building and pursuing Listed status for the building itself.

Representatives from Northern Rail and First Trans Pennine were invited to November's meeting of the Town Council to explain the changes to the timetabling of **trains from Adlington** to Preston and Manchester. Following on from this, a request has been sent to Northern Rail to consider increasing the number of trains which stop at Adlington at peak times.

**Hanging baskets** were provided in central areas of the village over the summer, and additional funding was allocated to the provision of bulbs and plants for planters around the village. A **new planter** was installed on Windsor Avenue and dedicated in December to the memory of Cllr Bert Scott who died in 2008.

The Council continues to respond to problems reported by residents, and has addressed problems relating to **dog fouling, litter, parking, footpaths and renovation of council-owned property** by bringing these to the attention of the relevant authorities.

Additionally, the need for **yellow lines, traffic calming measures, street repairs, lighting and speed monitoring** has been under scrutiny, with requests for investigation of these problems addressed to the Highways authority during the year. Following the **adverse winter weather conditions**, the Council contacted them to express its concern at the time taken to clear main access routes through the village.

A full list of **Tree Preservation Orders** in Adlington was requested and received from the legal department at Chorley Council, to enable monitoring of these village landmarks. The importance of the natural environment of the village was highlighted by the loss last summer of the ancient but unsafe beech tree at the entrance to the Fairview estate.

The village was once again entered for the **Lancashire Best Kept Village** competition, with Higher Adlington achieving “Highly Commended” and “Most Improved” ratings in the Large Village category. In addition some village amenities were awarded individual Certificates of Merit. The Council hopes that this improvement will continue in future years.

## **Planning**

Several major planning applications have been considered by the Council this year and objections and comments raised with the planning authority. These include the affordable housing initially agreed ten years ago as being an essential element of the **Fairview** estate, and the **Children’s Centre** adjoining the Library, which are both now in progress; the proposed development of the sites at **Grove Farm, The Grove** and the old **Ambulance Hall** for which the applications have now been withdrawn; and alterations to **St Paul’s Church** and continuation of the **Paintballing** activity at the edge of the village, which are still under consideration. The Council continues to monitor Planning Applications which affect the residents of Adlington, and welcomes representations from all interested parties

## **Meetings**

The Council meets every month and the meetings are well-attended. Visitors are welcomed and have this year included many residents with issues and problems they wished to bring to the Council's attention. Other visitors have included representatives from Chorley Planning Department, Trading Standards, Places for People, Northern Rail, First Trans Pennine and local developers. The meetings have also been attended by Janice Chamberlain, the local Police volunteer.

## **Events**

This year's Remembrance Day service and procession was well-supported by local groups and individuals. The annual Carol Concert with Rivington & Adlington Brass Band had a good attendance despite the cold weather.

## **Representation**

The Town Council has been represented throughout the year on several external bodies: the Lancashire Association of Local Councils, Adlington & District Community Association, Chorley Council Parish Liaison, Adlington in Bloom and Lancashire Locals.

**Adlington Town Council continues to address local issues and local problems and welcomes the involvement of all members of the local community in ensuring a positive future for the village.**