

Adlington Town Council - Annual Report to Electors

2011-12

Mayor's Report

There have been some changes over the year on the council: several Councillors have stepped down and I would like to thank Katie Ellison, Jim Taylor, and Nigel Holt for their service and contribution during the year. Welcomes are extended to Councillors Graham Dunn and Stephen Higgins.

This has been an eventful year in the development of Adlington. The Council participated in the 'Sites for Chorley' planning process, noting the potential for housing development that this presented. These changes were not long in coming, with construction work already having begun on the Grove Farm development and the former Ridgway Arms, soon to be a retail unit.

The Council were pleased to welcome many concerned citizens of the town at meetings following the consultation and subsequent planning application by Fox Developments for the construction of 300 houses on the Huyton Fields site. The Council has submitted its responses to the application and expressed concern over the over the application process. This application is still pending and we await the outcome.

The Council welcomed the building of affordable rented housing on the Cottonfields site.

The Council are well aware of the concerns that sustained development could change the character of Adlington and this will be borne in mind during future deliberations.

The Delta Force paintballing planning appeal has been turned down and the Council expects a resolution of this matter during the coming year.

This year has also seen the introduction of 20 mph zones in the town and it is to be hoped that these contribute to road safety.

As Mayor, it has been my honour and privilege to represent the Council at several local events although it is a source of some regret that I have been unable to attend any of the excellent local productions staged throughout the year.

It was a pleasure to welcome a new vicar at St Paul's Church, the Reverend David Arnold, to whom best wishes are extended from myself and the Council. The thanks of the Council are extended to the Adlington and District in Bloom group for their work in the Lancashire Best Kept Village competition and North West in Bloom and more specifically for their work around the War Memorial which is a substantial improvement.

The Christmas Carol concert was well attended and £117.38 was raised by collection for the Luncheon Club. The Remembrance Day service was also well attended, and I would like to thank all those whose efforts made the day run smoothly.

Lastly I would like to thank the Deputy Mayor Councillor Jeanette Lowe for her support and advice, and the Town Clerk Linda Crouch for her sterling work and support to both myself and Adlington Town Council.

Clerk's Report

Finance

At £17,500 the precept requested in 2011 was the same as in 2010. Grants totalling £1000 were awarded to local organisations who applied through the Community Awards scheme. Expenditure in 2011-12 was lower than the budget projections, mainly because money was set aside to cover the possible additional costs of a contested election in May 2011. In the event, the election was uncontested, with only ten Town Councillors standing for re-election. The £1573 remaining from the current year will be carried forward into 2012-13 as reserve funding, although it was resolved in December 2011 to use some of this money to re-gild the Town Mayor's Chain in preparation for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee year events. The Appendix gives more details of the 2011/12 income and expenditure.

Councillors

2011 was an election year, and ten serving Town Councillors stood for re-election to the Council and were successful. The remaining two places on the Council were filled in June 2011 by the co-option of Councillors Nigel Holt and Jim Taylor, both of whom have since left the Council. Councillor Katie Ellison also resigned from the Council in January 2012, after nine years' service. Councillor Graham Dunn was co-opted to the Council in December 2011 and Councillor Stephen Higgins in March 2012. Mr Jon Smethurst will be co-opted to the current vacancy on the Council at its Annual Meeting in May 2012.

Village Matters

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. The number of baskets will be increased this summer and will be provided by a different supplier.

The Council continues to respond to problems reported by residents, and has addressed problems relating to access by construction traffic to the Fairview "Cotton Fields" development, problem parking on Westhoughton Road and in other areas of the village, the safety of the Fairview railway crossing, a water leak on the pavement of Bolton Road which has been causing problems for many years, a route change for the 3A bus service, the reduction in local Youth Court provision, possible sightings of

mink on the canal bank and the closure of the local Police Station, by submitting comments, objections and requests for information to the relevant authorities.

Additionally, the need for *traffic control measures, street repairs and speed monitoring* has been under scrutiny, with requests for investigation of these problems addressed to the Highways authority during the year.

Some repairs to the village **notice boards** have been done free of charge by local businesses. Naylor & Walkden Ltd replaced the lock on the notice board outside the library when this failed and Barlow Construction & Renovation Ltd replaced the damaged backing in the notice board close to Adlington Primary School.

The village was once again entered for the **Lancashire Best Kept Village** competition, but unfortunately did not win awards this year in any category.

The **Update** newsletter is produced and distributed in Adlington three times a year, in April, August and December, and contains contact details for the Council and information about the local community. The **website** www.adlingtontowncouncil.co.uk is now up and running and in addition to contact information gives access to an archive of minutes and newsletters for the past year and links to other websites of local interest.

Planning

Several major planning applications have been considered by the Council this year and objections and comments raised with the planning authority. These include a response to the **Sites for Chorley** consultation which will affect the allocation of land for housing and other purposes in the coming years, and specific applications relating to the building of housing on the **Grove Farm** site, now approved after appeal and renovations to the **Ridgway Arms**, also approved although the future use of the building is still unclear. Ongoing planning applications for which the Council has submitted comments and objections include the proposal to build housing on the site known locally as "**Huyton Fields**", the provision of **allotments** on The Common and an application to temporarily sort, crush and screen excavated soil waste and demolition materials at **Sandons Farm**.

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, particularly in relation to the Huyton Fields housing proposals. Other visitors have included representatives from Fox Land and Property, the development company who have submitted the Huyton Fields application; representatives of the Housing and Planning departments at Chorley Council; Chorley Borough Councillor Dennis Edgerley; members of the Adlington Carnival Committee; representatives from Places for People (Fairview) and local residents who wanted to start Tea Dance and Cycling activities in the village and who received support and advice from the Council. The meetings have also been regularly attended by 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 was very well attended.

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 and Adlington & District in Bloom.

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.

Adlington Town Council Members 2012/15

Councillor	Address	Phone	Ward
Stephen Higgins	50 Westhoughton Road, Adlington, PR7 4ET	01257 482322	Central
June Molyneaux	36 Westhoughton Road, Adlington, PR7 4ET	01257 481184	Central
Kimberley Snape	14 The Avenue, Adlington, PR6 9RX	01257 483981	Central
Clive Hart	10, Ollerton Street, Adlington, PR6 9LF	01257 483194	North
Jeanette Lowe	10 Nightingale Street, Adlington, PR6 9LR	01257 481415	North
Florence Molyneaux	36 Westhoughton Road, Adlington, PR7 4ET	01257 481184	North
Graham Dunn	6 Highfield Close, Adlington, PR6 9RL	01257 480048	West
Douglas Hoyle	Tryfaen, Daisy Hill Drive, Adlington, PR6 9NE	01257 481999	West
Barry Lee	18 St Paul's Close, Adlington, PR6 9RS	01257 481540	East
Elizabeth Sumner	24 Lancaster Close, Adlington, PR6 9RA	01257 480043	East
Tony Wilson	1 Highfield Close, Adlington, PR6 9RL	01257 481776	East
There is currently one vacancy in the West Ward of Adlington			

Town Clerk Linda Crouch, 6 Coniston Avenue, Adlington, PR6 9QH,
telephone 07896 729646

Website address www.adlingtontowncouncil.co.uk

Prepared by Linda Crouch, Clerk to Adlington Town Council

8 May 2012

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Appendix - Financial Summary 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012

Expenditure	
Clerk's Salary	4367.16
Administrative & Telephone Costs	176.66
Mayor's Allowance	750.00
Insurance	747.46
Audit	185.00
Election Expenses	984.96
Mayor's Inauguration	75.93
Hanging Baskets	4742.00
RBL Wreath	17.00
Subscriptions	606.87
Newsletter – Printing & Production	1,230.00
Newsletter - Distribution	600.00
Neighbourhood Watch	48.00
Community Awards Scheme	1000.00
Remembrance Sunday	393.95
Carol Service	431.45
Plants for Planters	49.65
VAT	50.74
TOTAL	16456.83
Income	
Precept	17500.00
Advertising Income	140.00
Training Bursary	100.00
Bank Interest	7.08
VAT reclaimed	72.78
Donation from Heath Charnock PC	110.00
Donation from Anderton PC	100.00
TOTAL	18029.86