

Adlington Town Council - Annual Report to Electors

2017-18

Mayor's Report

When I took over as Mayor last year my predecessor explained that although the short term future of Adlington Library had been secured by the intervention of Chorley Council the longer term was still uncertain and so support was pledged to the Friends of Adlington Library in their bid and desire to build a community library. I'm very pleased that Lancashire County Council decided to reverse the decision to close the library, and with the continued presence and support of FoAL we hope the library will never be put in jeopardy again. Along with the community centres in the village, this provides a great hub of events and opportunities open to all.

We have many great and diverse community and voluntary groups in Adlington. This year has seen the setting up of the "Friends for You" group here in the village, this is something which I've been very happy to support and I wish the service every success in its aim of supporting and providing company and companionship to those who need it.

I've attended many great events both in and out of the village. There are too many to list but I have enjoyed them all, a personal highlight was a Christmas Dinner at the kind invitation of Adlington Luncheon Club. Speaking of Christmas, one of the most frequently asked questions is the lack of a Christmas tree – well if you take a look outside the health centre this is no longer the case, thank you to Pincroft for donating the tree and I hope that this can grow and be enjoyed for many many years to come.

Moving back to more seasonally appropriate news as we come to the time of year that summer bedding plants will appear, I'm very proud that both Higher and Lower Adlington won awards in 2017's Lancashire's Best Kept Village competition! Well done to Lower Adlington for winning the most improved village and congratulations to Higher Adlington for being the runner up in the Large Village Class. Fingers crossed we can maintain or improve on that for this year.

Thanks to the donations received from residents, Councillors, groups and businesses through fundraising over the year including Christmas Concert donations and the Charity Bingo & Hotpot raffle the Mayor's Charity has raised £1500.00. Donations will go to FoAL, Adlington Luncheon Club & Friends for You Adlington.

Regards

Alan Robinson

Clerk's Report

Finance

The precept requested in 2017 was £18,500, the same amount as in previous year. Chorley Council provided additional grant funding for the Town Council as in previous years so that the charge to individual residents remained at a similar level. Grants totalling £2000 were awarded by the Town Council to local organisations who applied through the Community Awards scheme. Expenditure in 2017-18 included the replacement of two of the Town Council notice boards, one located in Lower Adlington and one in Higher Adlington. It had been intended to replace only one of the Council's four boards this year, but the one at the corner of Park Road and Bond's Lane was knocked over by a delivery vehicle and damaged beyond repair. The Council agreed to replace this with a stronger metal notice board and the replacement was therefore only partially covered by the insurance claim.

Additional Community Infrastructure Funding received in 2017/18 has been earmarked for the King George V recreation ground improvements planned by Chorley Council, although no date has yet been set for these to commence.

The Appendix gives more details of the 2017/18 income and expenditure.

Councillors

Cllr Barry Lee resigned from the Council in April 2017 after over twenty years of service and Cllr Beverley Speers was co-opted in September 2017.

Village Matters

Hanging baskets were provided in central areas of the village over the summer, and funding was allocated to the provision of bulbs and plants for planters around the village. The contractor chosen to provide the hanging baskets was Chorley Council and it has been agreed to continue this arrangement for summer 2018.

The Council continues to respond to **problems** reported by residents, and has addressed problems relating to footpaths, litter on the recreation grounds, damage to a bridge on the Adlington Circular Walk route, repeated flooding on Westhoughton Road and speeding on Babylon Lane by submitting comments, objections and requests for information to the relevant authorities. The Council has also investigated methods of improving pedestrian access through the village after a complaint from a wheelchair user that on Babylon Lane pavements were often inaccessible due to parked vehicles. The Council contacted the local Police who agreed to monitor the situation and take action if

residents report specific problem locations. In addition, the Town Council distributed leaflets raising awareness of the issue.

The Council continues to lobby for the improvement of the Adlington **rail service** and to ask for additional rail services to stop at Adlington station following the completion of the electrification work. The Council has also contacted Northern to report problems with the stairway, shelters and signage at Adlington Station. In addition the Council has reported problems with pavements, rubbish, dog fouling, damage to walls and unauthorised advertising banners on railings in both Higher and Lower Adlington to Lancashire County Council and Chorley Council as appropriate.

The Council has submitted responses this year to **consultations** relating to the Ironman event, Northern Railway's provisional timetable and the Department for Communities "Planning for the Right Homes in the Right Places". It has also responded to the Lancashire County Council School Place Provision Strategy which predicted a shortfall of school places in Adlington & Rivington, now increased to 74 places in the next five years, although no indication has yet been given as to how this shortfall will be addressed. The Council continues to submit proposed Neighbourhood Priorities to Chorley Council. This year it was agreed that priority should be given to previously requested improvements which have not yet been actioned, including the proposed improvements to the King George V recreation ground and extension of the paved footpath.

The Council has kept in touch with the developers of the new **Chorley Inspire Youth Zone** and is keen to ensure that local young people are encouraged and enabled to use the facility when it opens shortly, and representatives will be attending the Supporters Open Day which takes place before the official opening date.

The independent **Friends of Adlington Circular Walk** support group was disbanded during the year and the Council hopes to continue some of the work done over the years by the group to promote the walk and to report any problems along its route to Lancashire County Council. Any help or suggestions from local residents to promote and keep the walk open are welcomed.

The Council continues to monitor and check the three **Automated External Defibrillators** which are in place around the village, and it is hoped that a fourth unit, located on the building previously occupied by the Fairpoint company, can be brought back into service.

The village was once again entered for the **Lancashire Best Kept Village** competition in 2017. Higher Adlington received the Runner-Up award in the Large Village category, and Lower Adlington was named as the "Most Improved" Large Village.

The **Update** newsletter is produced and distributed in Adlington three times a year, in early April, August and December, and contains contact details for the Council and information about events in the local community. The **website** www.adlingtontowncouncil.co.uk also gives access to an archive of minutes and newsletters for the past year and links to other websites of local interest. It is hoped that a new and improved website will be available shortly. In addition the Town Council is also on **twitter** with regular updates on Council matters available at [@AdlingtonTC](http://www.twitter.co.uk)

Planning

Several **planning applications** have been considered by the Council this year and objections and comments raised with the planning authority. These have included a plan to build 25 houses on land off Carrington Road, which was refused and the proposal to build a detached house on land adjacent to Church Street which has been given outline planning permission by Chorley Council.

In many cases planning permission is granted, but the Council suggests changes or conditions to be considered for the benefit of existing residents. 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. All meetings take place in Adlington Library. Visitors are welcomed and have this year included many residents with issues and problems they wished to bring to the Council's attention, including a proposal to build houses on land off Carrington Road, which was eventually refused by Chorley Council Development Control, and alleyway issues on Chorley Road which have now been addressed by Chorley Council.

Other visitors have included the local County Councillor Kim Snape, local PCSO Ben Pilling, Ian Pilkington who provides liaison between the public and Northern Railway, and Simon Charnock, the Customer Transformation officer from Chorley Council who came along to talk about digital inclusion and to publicise the courses he runs. The newly appointed Police Inspector Julian Ormiston came to the June meeting with Police Constable Anthony Burgess to talk about measures being taken to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour in the area. Ryan Powell and Phil Marsh from the Chorley Youth Zone attended the December meeting to update Councillors on the progress of the project.

Events

Civic Sunday was held in June 2017 and was well-supported by local groups and individuals, as was November's **Remembrance Sunday** service and procession. Plans are being made to meet with other local councils, churches, schools and youth groups to finalise arrangements for the next Remembrance Sunday which will commemorate 100 years since the end of the First World War. The 2017 **Carol Concert** with Rivington & Adlington Brass Band was as always very well attended.

Representation

The Town Council has been represented throughout the year on several external bodies: the Chorley Council Neighbourhood Area meetings, Lancashire Association of Local Councils, Adlington & District Community Association, Chorley 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 2015/19

Councillor	Address	Phone	Ward
Ainsley Ball	20 Babylon Lane, Adlington, PR6 9NN	01257 485007	Central
June Molyneaux	36 Westhoughton Road, Adlington, PR7 4ET	01257 481184	Central
Kevin O'Donnell	7 Crawford Avenue, Adlington, PR7 4DY	01257 482107	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
Alison Evans	12 Outterside Street, Adlington, PR7 4HS	01257 475610	West
Timothy Summers	5 Fairclough Place, Adlington, PR7 4AN	01257 483543	West
Alan Robinson	4 Grove Farm Drive, Adlington, PR6 9QS	01257 752112	West
Beverley Speers	43 Bolton Road, Anderton, PR6 9ST	01257 481321	East
Tony Wilson	1 Highfield Close, Adlington, PR6 9RL	07902 441704	East
Peter Walkden	102 Railway Road, Adlington, PR6 9QT	07777 606726	East

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

www.adlingtontowncouncil.co.uk and on twitter @AdlingtonTC

Appendix - Financial Summary 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018

Expenditure	
Clerk's Salary	£4850.64
Administrative & Telephone Costs	£352.40
Mayor's Allowance	£750.00
Civic Sunday	£400.00
Audit	£170.00
Mayor's Inauguration	£149.14
Streetscene Enhancement (hanging baskets/planters/notice boards)	£5515.01
RBL Wreath	£20.00
Subscriptions	£642.75
Training costs	£88.00
Newsletter – Printing & Production	£605.00
Newsletter - Distribution	£400.00
Community Awards Scheme	£2000.00
Remembrance Sunday	£457.20
Carol Concert	£445.00
Room Hire Charges	£262.00
Community Asset & Service Support – additional notice board	£1200.00
Community Infrastructure Levy	£943.66
Other Projects & Contingencies – Stephen Higgins Young Person Citizen Award plaques	£126.55
VAT (to be reclaimed)	£1373.27
TOTAL	£20750.62
Income	
Precept	£16684.00
Precept Top-Up Grant	£1816.00
Bank Interest	£4.86
Credit Union Dividend	£51.09
VAT reclaimed	£1181.18
Contributions from other parishes for Remembrance Sunday	£200.00
Refund from Friends of Adlington Circular Walk group	£15.00
Community Infrastructure Levy	£1692.67
Insurance Claim for Notice Board	£950.00
TOTAL	£22594.80