

Adlington Town Council - Annual Report to Electors

2018-19

Mayor's Report

When I took over as Mayor of this village this past year, little did I know how busy it might be from the beginning up until March this year. It has been really interesting and I have thoroughly enjoyed it.

I have attended many functions and events in and outside of the village but on a personal note I was delighted to put on a concert to celebrate the Centenary of the Armistice and the end of the First World War

St Paul's church gave us permission to use the church for which I am really grateful. There was a massive response and everyone including the choir and the band seemed to enjoy it. The band and choir performed for free and my thanks go to both of them. We made a massive £770 from which we gave the church a donation and also a cheque will be given to the Royal British Legion. The rest of the money went to the Mayor's Charity fund which this year was split between The Adlington & District Luncheon Club and Friends For You.

Adlington has always been a caring and friendly place to live and this was shown just recently when everybody came together when a fire broke out at the Fairport site. The Bridge Pub, St Paul's Church and the Salvation Army pulled out all the stops to help, making me proud to live in Adlington and to be its Mayor.

I would like to thank residents from the village and nearby for their donations and help with the charity Bingo and hotpot supper and raffle and tombola. The charities supported this year were Adlington Luncheon Club, Friends for You, a donation to St Paul's Church and a cheque to the Royal British Legion. The total amount raised so far is £1510.00.

I would also like to thank our Deputy Mayor Cllr Peter Walkden for all his support this year and wish him well for next year as Mayor.

Cllr Timothy Summers

Mayor of Adlington 2018/19

Clerk's Report

Finance

The precept requested in 2018 was £18,500, the same amount as in previous years. Chorley Council provided additional grant funding for the Town Council as in previous years so that the charge to individual residents was in fact reduced due to an increase in the "tax base" for the area due to the building of additional properties. Grants totalling £2000 were awarded by the Town Council to local organisations who applied through the Community Awards scheme. Expenditure in 2018-19 included the purchase of lamp post poppies on Railway Road and elsewhere in the village and a "silent soldier" placed at the war memorial to commemorate the one hundred year anniversary of the end of the First World War

Additional Community Infrastructure Funding received in 2017/18 was brought forward with the intention of contributing towards 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 2018/19 income and expenditure.

Councillors

The Council has had its full complement of 12 Councillors during 2018/19 with no changes during the year.

The recent Adlington Town Council election was uncontested with 9 Councillors standing. This leaves 3 vacancies on the Town Council which will be filled by co-option as soon as possible.

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 2019.

The Council continues to respond to **problems** reported by residents, and has addressed problems relating to damage to a bridge on the Adlington Circular Walk route, the need for reinstatement of the one-way traffic system outside Tesco Express, damage to the road surface of an alleyway on Park Road and reports of anti-social behaviour on Acresfield and Windsor Avenue by submitting comments, objections and requests for information to the relevant authorities. The Council has also looked into improving road safety on Church Street following a complaint from a visually impaired resident user who struggles to cross the road safely as it is unclear whether drivers are fully aware of the pedestrian crossings. The Council suggested to Lancashire County Council that visibility could be improved by the installation of "halo" LED lights similar to those used in neighbouring authorities and offered a financial contribution to the installation of these. Unfortunately it appears these are unavailable for installation in Lancashire.

Following the terrible accident at this location on New Year's Eve, the Council repeated its request for improvements and LCC agreed to improve the road markings and clean the existing beacons.

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 contacted Northern Railway this year to express its concern that the promised improvements to the rail service have not happened and that Adlington has been experiencing a worse service than ever recently due to Preston bound trains terminating at Buckshaw Parkway necessitating a change of train. Northern have responded assuring the Council that the disruption is temporary, however the Council has contacted LCC Cabinet to ask when the promised improvements to the Adlington service will be in place.

The Council has considered and submitted responses where appropriate this year to **consultations** relating to the provision of local A&E services, the Local Government Boundary Commission review of electoral boundaries and the Central Lancashire Plan Call for Sites. It responded to the Lancashire County Council review of Household Recycling Centres to express concern that their reduction in opening hours is regrettable at a time when recycling is more important than ever. Last year the Council responded to the Lancashire County Council School Place Provision Strategy which predicted a shortfall of school places in Adlington & Rivington, now increased to 94 places in the next five years. The Council has continued to address this with LCC whose most recent response indicates that currently children from out of the area are being accepted at Adlington schools and that less available places will push this demand back. The Council continues to submit proposed Neighbourhood Priorities to Chorley Council. This year it was agreed that priority should be given to providing permanent lighting at the War Memorial, a gateway marker on the A6 at the Adlington border, and a replacement for the closed Senior Citizens' Group.

The Council has recently contacted both Stagecoach and Lancashire County Council to ask for improvements to the bus service from Lower Adlington which is currently served only by the infrequent 8A service. Stagecoach have responded to say that attempts to do this in the past have been loss-making and that any additional service would need to be subsidised by LCC. The Council has not yet received a response to this from LCC.

The Council has also responded to concerns raised by residents following the fire in February at the Fairport site, specifically regarding the clean up of asbestos waste, by contacting Chorley Council for updates and providing a link to the latest information on its website.

The Council continues to monitor and check the three **Automated External Defibrillators** which are in place around the village, which this year needed replacement consumables as these have a limited use period even when the AED has not been deployed.

The village was once again entered for the **Lancashire Best Kept Village** competition in 2018. Lower Adlington won four awards. These were for the Notice Board on Park Road, the Retreat (best pub/restaurant), the Leonard Fairclough Memorial Garden and a "highly commended" for the Jubilee Recreation Ground.

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 resubmission of the plan to build 25 houses on land off Carrington Road, which was refused, an application to build 7 houses on land to the rear of Westhoughton Road which has been approved, the proposal to convert the newsagent on Chorley Road to a funeral parlour, which has been approved, and applications to create two new “micro-pubs” in the village, one on Church Street and one on Babylon Lane. The former was subsequently given permission, the latter was refused because of the potential noise impact on neighbouring properties.

The Council has been in contact with the Empty Properties Officer at Chorley Council to explore options for the derelict property located next to Adlington Primary School. The owners have now submitted an application for a Certificate of Lawfulness for existing residential use, which is currently being considered 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 questions of how social housing is allocated in Adlington, and concerns raised when the Co-op in Lower Adlington closed. One of the Town Councillors has been in touch with the Co-op organisation and has been told that the shop was not commercially viable. The Council is aware that small towns and villages around the country are losing retail outlets and welcomes any suggestions which would help to prevent this. The future of the Co-op site is not yet known, the Council is looking at ways of improving access for residents to alternative shops.

Other visitors have included the local County Councillor Kim Snape, Ryan Powell from Chorley Youth Zone, the volunteer who provides “station support” for Adlington and Chief Inspector Sewart from the Lancashire Volunteer Partnership who invited the Council to take part in a pilot scheme to recruit volunteers who would assist at public events. After some consideration the

Council declined the invitation as it was unable to see a clear role for the volunteers who would have no Police powers, but will be interested to know how the pilot scheme progresses.

Events

Civic Sunday was held in June 2018 and was well-supported by local groups and individuals, as was November's **Remembrance Sunday** service and procession which commemorated 100 years since the end of the First World War. It is hoped that a Working Group composed of Adlington Town Council representatives, other local councils, churches, schools and youth groups will make plans for this year's Remembrance Sunday and for future events. The 2018 **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. The Council has a website and is on twitter, and hopes shortly to include Facebook in its information and contact options.

Adlington Town Council Members 2019/23

Councillor	Phone	Ward
Ainsley Ball	01257 485007	Central
June Molyneaux	01257 481184	Central
Kevin O'Donnell	01257 482107	Central
Clive Hart	01257 483194	North
Jeanette Lowe	01257 481415	North
Timothy Summers	01257 483543	West
Alan Robinson	01257 752112	West
Beverley Speers	01257 481321	East
Peter Walkden	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 2018 to 31 March 2019

Expenditure	
Clerk's Salary	£4996.92
Administrative & Telephone Costs	£400.00
Insurance (2 years)	£929.11
Audit	£50.00
Subscriptions	£625.65
Mayor's Allowance	£750.00
Civic Sunday	£400.00
Mayor's Inauguration	£149.86
Remembrance Sunday	£500.00
RBL Wreath	£20.00
Streetscene Enhancement (hanging baskets/planters/notice boards)	£3864.31
Training costs	£40.50
Newsletter – Printing & Production	£885.00
Newsletter - Distribution	£505.00
Community Awards Scheme	£2000.00
Carol Concert	£493.46
Automated External Defibrillators - consumables	£153.00
Room Hire Charges	£262.00
Other Projects & Contingencies – includes Silent Soldier, lamp-post poppies and supplies for residents evacuated from their homes	£421.98
VAT (to be reclaimed)	£819.98
TOTAL	£18266.77
Income	
Precept	£16684.00
Precept Top-Up Grant	£1816.00
Bank Interest	£26.19
Credit Union Dividend	£25.80
VAT reclaimed	£1373.27
Contributions from other parishes for Remembrance Sunday	£204.00
TOTAL	£20129.26