



# Ulnes Walton Parish Council

**NEWSFLASH — April 2007**

## **NOTICE of the PARISH ASSEMBLY to be held in the OLD SCHOOL on MONDAY 14th MAY 2007 AT 7 P.M.**

### **Agenda**

1. Minutes of the Last Meeting
2. Presentation by Duncan Thomas, Wildlife Liaison Officer for Lancashire Constabulary
3. Report on Activities of the Parish Council over the last 12 months
4. Parish Council Accounts 2006/2007
5. Public Forum. Members of the public may put forward items for discussion at future Parish Council meetings.

### **Refreshments**

The Assembly will be followed at approx. 8.00 p.m. by the Annual Parish Council Meeting

Lynne Rowett,  
Clerk to the Council

## **ULNES WALTON PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2006/2007**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The past twelve months has been a period of some notable achievements, but also some disappointments. However there has been continued success in addressing residents concerns. The report that follows is a brief summary of the main activities undertaken by the Parish Council during 2006/2007.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

The Membership of the Council remained constant throughout the year and Cllr Derek Ormerod was re-elected as Chairman at the Annual Meeting in May 2006.

### **ULNES WALTON ROAD SAFETY GROUP**

The beginning of the year saw the formation of the Ulnes Walton Road Safety Group, Chaired by Brendon Pickthall. The Group has been meeting on a regular basis to discuss road safety issues in the parish and in particular Ulnes Walton Lane. Following the Group's intensive lobbying of Lancashire County Council it is hoped some initiatives will be introduced soon to improve road safety. Funds received from the Lanca-

shire Partnership for Road Safety also allowed the Group to design and produce a road safety leaflet which has been distributed widely amongst residents, employees at the prisons etc..

### **ROAD SAFETY**

Following representations from residents of Leyland Lane concerned over road safety a meeting was held with representatives of Lancashire County Council to discuss the matter further. A report has been prepared containing recommendations to improve the situation which has been put forward by LCC for consideration for funding. We expect action in this area soon.

### **ULNES WALTON TRAIL**

The Parish Council has been working for some considerable time on this project with the Home Office and Lancashire County Council. The trail will create a number of safe off road tracks for pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders. Progress has been slow in moving this project forward due to changes in staff and difficulties arranging meetings. Planning consent is currently on hold pending a wildlife survey to determine whether any disturbance will be caused to the resident Great Crested Newts. Funding is now being sought to enable this project to be brought to fruition.

### **WYMOTT PARK**

Following meetings with Officers from Chorley Borough a bid was made to the Big Lottery Fund to develop the play facilities on Wymott Park. Disappointingly, for reasons which remain unclear, the application was rejected so other options will now have to be considered. It is not too late to become involved with this project just contact the Par-

**Come along on May 14th. and hear about  
Wildlife Protection  
In Lancashire**



**QUALITY  
PARISH  
COUNCIL**

ish Council Clerk. We can achieve much more with the support of the community.

### **QUALITY PARISH STATUS**

April 2006 saw representatives of the Parish meeting with the new Chief Executive of Chorley Council - Donna Hall and other senior Officers to discuss Quality Parish Status. The meeting proved very useful as a forum for discussing parish issues and establish new links of communication. The Chairman and Clerk were also invited recently to participate in a Witness Session to discuss neighbourhood working within Chorley. The Ulnes Walton Trail project is being used as an example of what can be achieved.

### **CHORLEY BOROUGH AREA FORUM**

The Parish Council took part in a pilot scheme for Lostock Ward, the aim of the Forums was to allow the Borough Council and partner organisations such as the appropriate Parish Councils, Police, Primary Care Trust, and voluntary and community groups, to get together with people to discuss any issues that directly affect the community. The pilot scheme proved successful and the initiative has now been introduced throughout the Borough as Community Forums. The new forums cover a much wider area with Ulnes Walton as well as the other Lostock Parishes being linked with Euxton, Eccleston, Mawdesley and Heskin. We have some reservations as to whether this system will work as there is a danger of the individuality of parishes being lost in the much larger areas now involved.

### **DONATIONS**

Two donations were made during the year to charitable organisations - £25 to the North West Air Ambulance and £25 to the Lancashire Wildlife Trust.

### **PARISH PLAN REVIEW**

The Parish Plan was published in May 2004 so it is coming up to its third birthday it was always intended to be a living document, not something to be put on the shelf and forgotten, so it seems appropriate to review what has been achieved and to think of the future. The Parish Council has been successful in obtaining a grant from Community Futures to undertake a review of the Parish Plan, order to do this support from the community is required. The underlying theme of the review will be Community Wellbeing and will focus on improving access to facilities and services including housing; care of the elderly; NHS facilities; use of land etc. If you can contribute to this exercise in any way please contact the Clerk or Cllr Ormerod.

### **PRECEPT**

Through prudent use of balances and as far as possible accessing external grant aid, the Parish Council has managed to maintain a low level of precept for a considerable number of years. However, the introduction of new initiatives such as working groups; parish plan review and the Ulnes Walton Trail has put pressure on the annual running costs, in addition the possibility of an election had to be budgeted for which Chorley Council levy a charge of approx £900. In order to maintain prudent financial stability, the annual precept has reluctantly been increased by £500 for 2007/08 to £4500 in total. For a Band D property this only equates to an ANNUAL increase of £1.93 which amounts to 4 pence per week.

The Ulnes Walton precept still remains one of the lowest amongst the Chorley Parishes and in the view of the Council represents extremely good value for money. Wherever possible other sources of funding are being sought and it is proposed to seek sponsorship for the newsletter which will generate some additional income.

### **WEBSITE**

During the year Cllr David Williams has continued to work on developing and expanding our website, the latest information on what's happening with the Council can be obtained at –

[www.ulneswaltonpc.co.uk](http://www.ulneswaltonpc.co.uk).

### **OTHER INVOLVEMENT**

Parish Councillors and the Clerk have attended a number of meetings and events during the year including – LCC Lancashire Locals; LAPT Area Committee Meetings; Parish/Borough Liaison Meetings; meetings with the Governors at HMP Wymott and Garth; Parish Cohesion Meetings to name but a few. This demonstrates that we are a small but active Parish Council working for the good of the whole community.

Cllr and Mrs Ormerod were also fortunate enough to be invited to represent the Lancashire Parishes at the Buckingham Palace Garden Party held in July.

### **AND FINALLY**

There are lots of people to thank for their help here are just a few – the team of trusty volunteers who assist in delivering the newsletters; Dominic Rigby the LCC Countryside Officer; Officers at Chorley Borough Council and the committee members of all the community groups and working groups with whom we have worked, these people have assisted in helping the Parish Council achieve some of its goals.

### **SUMMARY**

The Parish Council has had another successful year with some notable achievements and is looking forward to moving ahead with other plans and grant opportunities. In order for the Council to be successful it needs the support of the public if you have any issues of concern please contact one of the Members, the Clerk by telephone, in writing or by email or make your views known at the Residents Surgery which is held prior to the monthly Parish Council meetings..

### **CONTACT DETAILS**

Lynne Rowett – Clerk  
22 Clifton Ave, Leyland  
Tel 01772 435516 or Email [clerk@ulneswaltonpc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@ulneswaltonpc.co.uk)

### **A revision of the Parish Plan is in progress.**

**You could get involved.** A steering group is being set up. Why not join it? There are many practical things to do to help. You can make a real contribution. All Group meetings are open to all residents. Come along –details from the Clerk to the Council.

## Want your message to be heard locally?

*Why not advertise or include a flyer in our next Newsletter?*

Sample rates:

1/4 page black and white £15

1/2 page ditto £28

**No charge for Parish organisations**

for further details contact the Clerk to the Council on

01772 435516 or

email [clerk@ulneswaltonpc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@ulneswaltonpc.co.uk)

The Council reserves the right to the editorial control of content

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE at [www.ulneswaltonpc.co.uk](http://www.ulneswaltonpc.co.uk)**