

Appleton
Hatton
Walton

Liberal Democrats **FOCUS**

From your Councillors
Brian Axcell 267540
Judith Wheeler 265784
Sharon Harris 740498
and the Lib Dem Team

PEOPLE PROTEST KEEPS SANDY LANE TIP OPEN!

The Council has taken note of the strength of feeling about closing Sandy Lane and leaving the whole of South Warrington with no recycling site. Officers had recommended closure in March for financial reasons but at the Executive Board meeting they were told to try to come up with another solution and report back in May. The numbers responding to the Council's consultation and signing our Focus petition were read out at the meeting. Whether this change of heart was because of concern for the residents of south Warrington or because Labour is anticipating a snap General Election - we could not possibly comment!

It is good news anyway and one thing is certain that it was the strength of local feeling - the 3,900 names on the petition we ran and the high response to the Council's own consultation - which has made Labour take this seriously. Our Focus and the street stalls we ran really paid off in raising people's awareness.

Lib Dem Councillors work for you all year round - not just when there's an election.



Stockton Heath's Liberal Democrat Councillors **Graham Welborn** and **Peter Walker** collect names for the petition at one of our street stalls.

CHRISTMAS IN APPLETON



Cllr Sharon Harris with the Christmas Sleigh

Father Christmas paid a visit to Appleton Parish Hall on December 1st to start the celebrations. Over a hundred people came along and lots of children had a chat and a present from him. Christmas lights were switched on and carols were sung by the Appleton Independent Methodist Church Choir.

"This was a new venture for Appleton Parish Council which I am sure we will be repeating," says Parish Council Chair Sharon Harris.

"Thanks to everyone who helped make it such a success, especially the choir; Cllr Tim Stansfield for the sleigh and inflatable Santa which were a huge attraction; and the Co-op who gave free refreshments - and of course to Father Christmas for coming all that way!"

The Christmas lantern walk on Bridge Lane also took place again after last year's success. The children made lanterns at St Mary Magdalene's Church and sung carols on the walk. We thank the Neighbourhood Team for their help. The Parish Council is helping Christmas come to Appleton.



BIRCHDALE ROAD WHARF SITE

At long last Birchdale Road has been resurfaced and this meant taking up the old cobbles and setts at the London Bridge end. Some people were sad to see them go, as they were the last reminder of the Wharf that used to be on this site. We thank the Highways Officers who enthusiastically took up our request and have made a base for a heritage sign from some of the sets and kept a cobbled strip on road. Appleton Parish is taking this forward and thinking about a heritage trail.



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SEASON'S GREETINGS TO ALL OUR READERS

DEVELOPMENT NEWS UPDATE

LOCAL PLAN DELAYED

Publication of the Warrington Draft Local Plan is not now expected till March. This is because of proposed changes to the way the Government calculates housing need. We hope this may reduce the number required. You will remember that the Council's preferred option, published last year, was for another 24,000 dwellings, 8,000 of them in Warrington South and 381 hectares of employment land, with much of the development in Green Belt.

The Council's willingness to sacrifice Green Belt for housing and industrial use has already encouraged developers to jump the gun and pressure is likely to continue.

More houses threat for Stretton

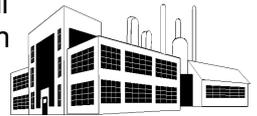
An Environmental Impact Assessment has been requested on proposals for a residential development of 592 - 1036 dwellings between the A49 and Spark Hall Close and east of Spark Hall Close north of the M56. Proposed access for this very large

development is opposite Fir Tree Close on the A49. The traffic implications at the Cat and Lion junction don't bear thinking about.



Eddie Stobart Distribution Centre

We are relieved that the Council has turned down this application for a huge warehouse development expected to generate 768 vehicle movements a day.



Refusal was largely as a result of strong, reasoned arguments made at Committee by local Lib Dem councillors and residents. Stobarts have six months in which to appeal and may wait to see what the Local Plan recommends.

Six56 Logistics/ Manufacturing site

This proposal from Langtree has not yet reached the planning application stage. It is for another massive warehousing development covering 288,000 square metres of open fields at Bradley Hall between the B5356 (Greenall's Mile) and the M6. No new highways appear to be envisaged. The volume of traffic this site would generate on our already choked and dangerous narrow roads and at the Motorway junction is frightening.

Pewterspear Green

Development is now underway and residents are advised to contact Ian Hilliker, Technical Director Barratt Homes with any problems. **0161 872 0161** ian.e.hilliker@barratthomes.co.uk

The plan by WBC to name the new roads after Golf Courses has met with strong protest from Stretton Parish and local groups. Requests for reference to the geography or history of the area made during the planning stage have clearly not been heeded.



Help save our countryside

'Rethinking South Warrington's Future' is an umbrella organisation set up by residents to bring together the various groups and raise funds. Find them on Facebook or just google for information or to join.

Stockton Heath Library

Stockton Heath is ahead of the other Branch Libraries in getting its future sorted, thanks to the wonderfully committed people on the working party chaired by Appleton Cllr Sharon Harris.



Cllrs Peter Walker, Judith Wheeler and Sharon Harris with the Library plans.

A floor plan has been worked out and has been on display at the Library. With no reduction in book space, rooms will be let to the Parish Council and South Warrington News to bring in regular income; and there will be quiet space and a refreshment area.

Broomfields Flats

We are pleased to learn from Torus (Golden Gates) that Broomfields is not going to be closed as was feared, but is to be rebuilt to provide new, up to date sheltered housing for over 55s.

This is going to be an upheaval for existing tenants, who will have to move while the work is done, but there will be better accommodation to come back to. The bungalows are not affected.

"Broomfields Social Committee has now been re-named as the Broomfields Community Group," says Parish Councillor Jane Bilsland who Chairs the Group.

"It is working to open up the social side to residents of the flats and bungalows and the wider community. Christmas events have already been a great and a success newsletter will keep people in touch."

**With this edition the
2019 Calendar
Phone Guide.**

