

FOCUS



Autumn

2018

Lymm

www.warringtonlibdems.org.uk

Lymm Hotel threat again



A second planning application has been submitted for Lymm Hotel after refusal of the first one. Not surprisingly it is marginally better than the previous one. **BUT IT IS STILL GROSS OVER-DEVELOPMENT** and we must do all we can to get it overturned. Cllr Anna Fradgley managed to get an extension of the consultation period to 14 September. We realise that not all of you will see this leaflet before then. **Don't worry, still submit your objections as soon as you can.**

Visit the Neighbours' website lymmhotelplans.co.uk for details of the new plan and the reasons to oppose it. Then email your comments to devcontrol@warrington.gov.uk

Cllr Ian Marks says, "The number of retirement apartments has been reduced from 52 to 45, parking increased from 37 to 47 places, the care home capacity reduced from 72 to 66 beds and the nursery down from 120 places to 90. I feel very strongly that we must retain the core building at the front. It has considerable character and would be a massive loss if it were replaced by the frontage shown below. The scale and mass of buildings is quite unacceptable. Traffic and highway safety are big problems. Noise from the nursery would be unacceptable."



Thanks from Anna

Anna Fradgley won a seat on Warrington Borough Council from the Conservatives last April.

Anna says, "A belated thanks to everyone who voted for me. I am just sorry that Joan Stocker was not able to win a seat on Lymm Parish Council too. I am having a busy year because I am now also Chairman of the Parish Council. I will continue to work hard to serve residents and improve our village."



Wendy is Deputy Mayor

Congratulations to Lymm North and Thelwall Councillor Wendy Johnson on being elected as the Deputy Mayor of Warrington for the current year.



Planning Matters

TANYARD FARM

Bellway Homes have appealed against the refusal by Warrington Council to allow 64 houses on the land behind Sainsburys. Cllrs Anna Fradgley and Bob Barr both spoke at the hearing. Anna says, "There are many reasons for refusing this permission, but the main one is that it is inappropriate development in a Green Belt location despite the mess the site is in."

CADDICKS

The retrospective planning application to grant airport parking on this site just outside the Lymm boundary has been turned down by the Council.

GRAMMAR SCHOOL ROAD

The Inspector has dismissed the appeal against the refusal to grant planning permission for two huge houses on a plot on the bend in Grammar School Road.

Neighbourhood Plan

The Neighbourhood Plan Group is making good progress preparing a plan for Lymm.



Since the last very successful open-day consultation with the public, the group has been summarising the views of residents and considering draft policies. It has attracted grants for professional help.

Cllr Bob Barr says, "Another public consultation is planned for **13 October between 11am and 3pm in the Village Hall**. Several meetings have been held with Warrington's Planning Team to ensure the plans for the town and village work properly together."

Planning Co-operation

The Parish Councils in South Warrington are working together to fight the proposal for a huge number of homes in the south of the Borough. There are many issues in common and they have employed a planning consultant to help prepare our case.

Anti Social behaviour

Most of you know there have been problems with a small group of young people over the summer. There has been anti social behaviour at The Cross and at Ridgway Grundy park in particular. Fires started at the Park were disgraceful and there are no excuses for sheer vandalism.

CCTV

Cllr John Bamforth says, "The Parish Council, working with the police, is determined to do something about these problems. We are intending to increase CCTV coverage so we have a better chance of catching the culprits."



Youth Engagement



Cllr Graham Gowland says, "Working with the police and Livewire we want to find ways of engaging young people in a positive way. We have held eight sessions so far with activities like tennis, table tennis, football, watching the World Cup together and discussions. Some sessions were better attended than others but we have the problem of finding a suitable venue. We want to continue this engagement and find ways of making improvements."

Parish Council changes

CLERK The Parish Council Clerk, Amanda Riley, has had to stand down from her position as Clerk. The Council is currently looking for a successor. Earlier this summer Kerry Duffin joined the Council as the new Deputy Clerk.

ENVIRONMENT GROUP Cllr Ann Johnstone, Chairman of the Parish Environment Committee says, "We have recently set up a new Environment Group under an independent Chairman. This is open to anyone who has an interest in improving the environment in our village."

Lymm Sanctuary Hub gets go-ahead

A new community and business initiative is to open in the Library building this autumn. Cllr Andy Cooper says, "It has taken a while but I am delighted that this scheme now has the go-ahead from LiveWire. The community hub will provide a range of community services to the elderly and vulnerable residents. The business hub will provide support services and a flexible working space for small businesses and home workers."



Keep Lymm Kleen

Now that summer is over, 'Keep Lymm Kleen' is looking to recruit more volunteers. Cllr Anna Fradgley says, "The Group is doing a great job but we need more volunteers. They may be sixth formers looking to enhance their University statements or dog walkers picking up on their walk or anyone else! Please contact me if you are interested."



Sandy Lane tip?

The future of Sandy Lane tip is still undecided. Cllr Wendy Johnson says, "The petition we ran protesting about closure of this site unless another site was provided in South Warrington, reached 3750 names. The response to the Council's consultation was also massive. Many thanks to everyone who filled in the questionnaire.

Whether the Council will listen remains to be seen but we are sure closure is its preferred option and would have gone ahead without a local protest.

Sandy Lane is an unsuitable location and the site is too small to be brought up to modern standards. The Council must consider the future needs of our area, especially with increased house building. Another site will have to be sought in South Warrington but until then Sandy Lane needs to stay open."

What a waste!

The contract to deal with Warrington's waste ends soon. To save money, provide a better service, reduce the distance that refuse lorries travel and lessen air pollution, officers recommended that a Waste Transfer Station should be built centrally in the town. This recommendation was accepted by the Labour Council's Executive Board.

Cllr Bob Barr, Leader of the Liberal Democrats on Warrington Council, says, "The proposed location was on the A49 Winwick Road which is a principal gateway into Warrington. It is Warrington's most congested and polluted road where air quality limits are frequently breached. Local residents, many Labour councillors who are not on the Executive Board and the planning committee were not impressed by this proposed 'solution'. The application was turned down unanimously.

This leaves the Labour administration and the town in a mess. The existing contract may need to be extended at a cost that officers warn could add £1 million to costs and a new location for bulking waste needs to be found. Liberal Democrats warned that this might happen. Winwick Road is not the right place for this facility."

Highway Safety

Barsbank Aqueduct

For reasons best known to themselves, Warrington Council installed priority signs on Barsbank Lane at the aqueduct. This angered local residents who said it would be a safety hazard encouraging vehicles to speed down into Star Lane from the top road. After pressure from Cllr Ian Marks, the Council swiftly removed the signs!

Yellow lines

Consultation with residents is taking place over proposals for yellow lines at the bottom of Pepper Street and the top of Whitbarrow Road. Cllr Anna Fradgley says, "I've been campaigning for both these locations because there are problems with visibility and vehicles blocking the road. On Friday and Saturday evenings I have also asked for increased traffic warden patrols."

Stop the Toll

The Ship Canal Company, owned by Peel, has replaced the toll booth at Warburton which was destroyed in an arson attack.

The new booth will continue the same tolling regime that has caused enormous irritation and congestion when traffic is heavy.

Cllr Bob Barr says, "Peel is discussing plans for the future with the Warburton Bridge Action Group and Trafford and Warrington Councils. It wants to install an Automated Number Plate Recognition system, so that drivers can pay tolls on-line or over the phone. We are concerned about how much they will charge because it is likely to be considerably more than the current 12p. Any change in toll needs approval from Parliament, so it will take time.

We believe that tolling on this important route is wrong and should be stopped completely. When the motorways are congested or closed the queues for the toll bridge bring traffic on the main roads on both sides to a halt, costing motorists a great deal more than the toll in delays and wasted fuel."

Social Care on cliff edge

Councils up and down the country are suffering from severe cutbacks in social care.

Warrington is no exception. The Conservative Government's austerity has gone on far too long and is in severe danger of leading to huge problems in necessary public services. We are on the edge of the cliff.

Cllr Ian Marks, a member of Warrington's Health and Wellbeing Board says, "If we want proper public health prevention, mental health, more GPs and other vital services, we must pay for it. We cannot have more years of misery where the sick, vulnerable and elderly are let down.

Liberal Democrats have long campaigned for better joined up thinking and integration between Social and Care and Health. We support a 'ring-fenced' NHS and Care Tax. Short term fixes by the Government are not the solution.

I support the local initiative to set up 'Warrington Together.' This brings together the main health and care providers in the Borough under a Board with an independent Chairman. It will not solve all our deep-seated problems but it is definitely a step in the right direction."

New Public Toilet for the Dam

Your Councillors firmly believe that Lymm needs a replacement public toilet at the Upper Dam.

Cllr Ann Johnstone says, "There are two options for its location, next to St Mary's Church Hall or on the old site on the main road. Warrington Council is carrying out a feasibility study and we are looking at the costs."



NEWS IN BRIEF

Mini Roundabout

At last, the mini roundabout on Eagle Brow has been repainted white. This should improve safety.



Safety barrier

Following pressure from a local councillor, a safety barrier has been installed on Statham Avenue at the bottom of the path from the Canal.

Higher Oak Farm

The barn at Higher Oak Farm on Higher Lane does have planning permission. Cllr Anna Fradgley says, "We have campaigned against the planning application for a temporary caravan for a manager and I have supported local residents who are unhappy about more crowing cockerels on the site plus bees in a residential area."

Markets in Lymm

The Thursday Market has moved from Henry Street carpark to the Youth and Community Centre carpark. Cllr Graham Gowland says, "The proposed Sunday Artisan Market has been postponed until March 2019 due to Warrington Council's focus on the town centre market.

Paddock Lane

Although in Trafford, potholes by the Saracen's Head were causing problems for Lymm residents. Due to pressure from Cllr Anna Fradgley this has now been resurfaced.

World War 1 Memorial

At last progress is being made on the Parish Council's memorial to World War 1. Cllr Ian Marks says, "We have agreed with the Royal British Legion, this will be sited by the memorial trees in Lime Tree Avenue."

No to HS2 Link

Lymm residents have very differing views about the value of HS2.

There is one aspect that most people agree about - the 'Golborne link' which will cut through the east of Lymm and is a waste of money. It will cost nearly £2 billion and have very limited use. Cllr Andy Cooper says, "It would bring no benefits to Warrington as a whole. Much better to spend the money on upgrading Bank Quay station and on east / west electrification."



Outdoor Gym moving forward

Construction work will start soon on the new Outdoor Gym in Ridgway Grundy Park.

Local activist Denis McAllister says, "This is good news and should be of great benefit to people in the village helping them keep fit."



Your FOCUS Team – can we help?

Warrington Borough Councillors

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Cllr Wendy Johnson	37 Clearwater Quays	637398
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Cllr Ian Marks	80A Whitbarrow Road	753051
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Lymm Parish Councillors & FOCUS Team

Cllr John Bamforth	24 Elm Tree Road	755048
Cllr Andy Cooper	4 The Paddock	756723
Cllr Graham Gowland	32 Wychwood Ave	751599
Cllr Ann Johnstone	3 Lakeside Road	755554
Denis McAllister	32 Rosebank	755073
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