



Parish and Town Council Newsletter

Summer 2021

www.lancashire.gov.uk



Welcome

Firstly, I'd like to begin with a huge thank you to you for the humbling efforts that you are putting in during the current coronavirus pandemic. Whilst I am reflecting on what has been a time of great sadness and loss for many people, I have also felt encouraged by numerous acts of selflessness that help to keep our communities safe and pleasant places to live.



Following on from the local government elections, which were held on May 6th of this year, I am delighted to be able to confirm that I have been selected by the current administration to continue in my role as the Parish and Town Councils Champion for Lancashire. Alongside our new leader and cabinet, I look forward to working with you to achieve the best possible outcomes for the people in our communities.

I am always grateful for the work of the NHS and the emergency services and especially so as the pandemic continues. I'm also very proud of the many ways that our officers here at Lancashire County Council have contributed to saving lives during the pandemic. A new system aimed at ensuring that vulnerable people in all Lancashire's residential care settings have the supplies they need has recently received a national level 'Collaboration Award' from the Institute for Improvement in Public Services (ICiPS). Working collaboratively is clearly one of our strengths in Lancashire and is something I'm aiming to build on during this next chapter.

We can all play our part in keeping ourselves and others safe by breaking the transmission of the coronavirus. I would urge everyone to follow the 'Hands. Face. Space' message, take regular tests and get vaccinated when invited.

Small changes can improve our wellbeing and help our environment, such as walking or cycling for short trips instead of taking the car. We are working hard to improve Lancashire's transport networks and connections to improve safety, health and prosperity in our area. I'm keen to hear your views on how we can work better together.

Please do get in touch with me to share your views and have your say.

Best Regards

Paul

County Councillor Paul Rigby

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Coronavirus: testing and vaccinations



We are continuing to work with colleagues in the NHS, Public Health England and our district councils to do everything we can to delay the spread of coronavirus and ensure the people of Lancashire are protected. There's lots of advice and information (which is constantly updated) on how to support our residents available when you click on our coronavirus webpages [here](#).

Parish Champion Grant Funding

Parish Champion's Grant Funding has now re opened. If you would like to apply for a grant or require any further information, please click [here](#).

We are often asked if there are any other funding sources that Parish and Town Councils can apply to and the good news is that there is! We have a database that enables community groups to search for funding opportunities. You can register free to find out more about grants and bid opportunities when you click on the link [here](#). Once you've registered, you'll receive weekly updates on future grant funding as it becomes available.

Community Safety and Lancashire Talking



Concern about crime is an ongoing issue for our everyone in our communities and so Lancashire Constabulary now has an online platform to support the dialogue on what matters to you in your local area. In the year since Lancashire Talking was launched, fantastic progress has been made - with over **34,000 survey** results being returned about the issues people want to be prioritised locally.

At Lancashire wide level, surveys on Lancashire Talking have shown that issues which concern us most are:

1. Anti-Social Behaviour.
2. Road Safety
3. Drug dealing
4. Drug taking
5. Nuisance motorbikes

Joining this conversation allows your local teams to target their activities on the issues that matter most to our residents. It's quick and easy to sign up to Lancashire Talking and there's just five questions to get started. To register and ensure that your voice is heard, please click [here](#).

Volunteering and help from Our Lancashire



Our Lancashire is helping to make Lancashire an even better place to work, live, and grow! Funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner, **Our Lancashire** is free and available to any not-for-profit groups which are running activities and events for people in our local communities. If you need help and support from volunteers or would like to contribute, you can check out what's available when you click [here](#).

Lancashire Adult Learning



A brand-new adult and community newsletter which celebrates the world of adult learning is out now! You can explore these free courses and download a copy of the adult and community newsletter by clicking [here](#).

Digital Libraries

Check out what you could be reading free of charge by visiting our [Digital Library](#) There's so much available for you and your family without leaving your home with LCC libraries! There's information on everything from researching your family tree to preparing for your driver theory test. There really is something for everyone! To find out more simply click [here](#).

Reading Friends

Lancashire libraries are also working with The Reading Agency to deliver a programme called 'Reading Friends', which aims to tackle loneliness through the power of reading. It brings people together to read, share stories, meet new virtual friends, and have fun. Sessions can cover a range of different topics or interests – it is completely up to the group to decide!

For more information, please contact Amy Niven amy.niven@lancashire.gov.uk or visit www.readingfriends.org.uk

Transport masterplans and highways concerns

We are producing highways and transport masterplans which will include all twelve districts of Lancashire and, where necessary, neighbouring areas.

These plans set out major changes to the highways, public transport, walking and cycling facilities which aim to bring economic benefits across the county. These changes can unlock planned housing developments, create new jobs and provide the network needed to cope with future travel patterns. To view what's in the plan for your local area please click [here](#).

For other specific concerns that you'd like to raise with our Highways teams, please use the following email addresses:

Speeding concerns: speedmanagement@lancashire.gov.uk

Potholes and other highways defects: www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/



Get in touch with us via email: parishcouncils@lancashire.gov.uk