

# Tilston Parish Council Annual Report 2017-2018

## Chairman's Report 2017-2018 Nicola Prince

Well another year has passed where does the time go?

I am extremely proud to announce that Tilston Parish Council has been awarded Quality Status as part of the local council award scheme and are only the second council in the Cheshire West area to have the award! I would like to thank our Parish Clerk for all of her help with this THANK YOU.

There was no Community Pride Competition in 2017 however we have entered it again this year and the judges will be out and about soon. Thank you to everyone who helps to keep this beautiful village clean and tidy although we do still have a problem with dog fouling which is really disappointing PLEASE PICK IT UP AND PUT IT IN THE BIN!

Parish Councillors and volunteers used the SID ( SPEED INDICATOR DEVICE) during April and a list of offending drivers was given to the police so letters could be sent out warning them about the dangers of speeding.

Unfortunately the Information Hub was suspended in May due to lack of use, residents can always get in touch with the Parish Clerk or any Parish Councillor and we will endeavour to do our best to help you with any issues you have.



Once again the street planters looked fabulous "Colourful as you like" was the theme this year thank you to everyone involved and thanks to Mark Bickley for making two planters for Inveresk Road and Greenway and thanks to Thomas Hearn for donating the plants to fill them.

The Ward Walk was cancelled this year due to representatives from key CW&C departments being unable to attend so a "to do" list was sent to the relevant departments for their attention and seemed more affective too!!

The Parish Council and The Tilston War Memorial Hall Committee held their first Film Night which was a great success and I believe there will be another to follow soon.

Tilston Parish Council has given out various grants to help organisations in and around the village and this year we held our first Community Awards during our Annual Parish Evening it was well attended and residents enjoyed watching various members of the village receiving awards from Antoinette Sandbach MP in recognition for work they do in the village WELL DONE.

The Parish Council will soon be owners of the field behind the War Memorial Hall and will be looking at how it can be developed for the benefit of residents. A big project to take on but I'm sure it will be worth it!

Cllr. Nicola Prince

## Meet Your Councillors....

	Mike Hearn 07540 618 920 Michaelhearn1 @hotmail.com		Ron Hints 01829 250 490 Ron.hints @btinternet.com
	Penny Honeyborne Penny honeyborne @hotmail.com		Ian Munro 01829 250 316 ian.munro2013 @gmail.com
	Nicola Prince 01829 250 457 nicola.prince@ tilstonparish council.co.uk		Neil Ritchie 01829 250 223 neil.n.ritchie @hotmail.co.uk
	John Thompson 01829 250 460 Johnthompson0 @btinternet.com		Sue Willett willettwoman @btinternet.com

## Meeting Dates 2018-2019

Thursday 5th July 2018  
Thursday 6th September 2018  
Thursday 1st November 2018  
Thursday 10th January 2019  
Thursday 7th March 2019  
Parish Meeting 4th April 2019  
All meetings start at 7pm and are held in the Tilston War Memorial Hall unless advertised.

## Summary of Accounts 2017-2018

Carried forward ( <i>from 2016-2017</i> )	9,964.00	<b>Payments</b>	
<b>Receipts</b>		Salaries	1946.00
Precept	6502.00	Admin, Room Hire & VAT	1540.00
Council Tax Support Grant	359.00	Broadband	73.00
Grant-Transparency Fund	798.00	Insurance	280.00
Interest	7.00	Laptop & Software	412.00
Vat Rebate	711.00	Legal Costs (Field Transfer)	1000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£8377.00</b>	Grants inc. British Legion	1475.00
		<b>Total</b>	<b>£6726.00</b>
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">           The Council's full accounts can be found at  <a href="http://www.tilstonparishcouncil.co.uk/finances">http://www.tilstonparishcouncil.co.uk/finances</a> </div>		Balance 2018-2019	£11,615.00

## Precept

The majority of Tilston Parish Council's income is raised through the 'Precept' which the Council sets at its January meeting each year based on what money it expects to spend in the coming year taking into account any money which it is carrying forward and is included as part of your Council Tax bill.

For the 2018-2019 financial year the Council agreed a precept of £6621, which is £23.73 per band D property and equates to a 0% increase although will result in a small increase in the money received by the Council as there was an increase in the number of Band D equivalent properties in the parish.

The precept was based a running costs of the Council of approximately £6k per year which includes administration costs, salaries and insurance, plus a large carry forward of just over £12k.

Where possible the Council works to provide good value for money by seeking grants for projects and encouraging volunteers to undertake tasks where possible, Councillors themselves do a lot of the work keeping the village tidy themselves including caring for the garden area at the top of Rookery Road, verge mowing, litter picking and erecting the hanging baskets and Christmas wreaths.

The Council has for the last two years carried out a consultation on what it should be spending its money on and we continue to welcome your views on what projects the Council should be undertaking.

To keep up to date with what the Parish Council is doing join our distribution list,  
just forward your address or e-mail to the Clerk

Or Follow us on FACEBOOK

## Attendance

Tilston Parish Council meets every other month following its first meeting in May, a total of 6 meetings per year, the Council also has the ability to call Extraordinary meetings to discuss urgent matters.

During the 2017-2018 Council year the Council has met 6 times with an average of 6 out of a possible 8 councilors attending each meeting with apologies being received from Councillors due to work commitments, family commitments or ill health.

Members of the public are welcome to attend our meetings and also to speak in public participation, during the last council year we have had an average of 5 members of the public attending each meeting.

The meetings are regularly attended by CW&C Cllr Howard Greenwood and PCSO Jon Hurst.

## 2019 Election Year

Tilston Parish Council will have all out elections in May 2019 meaning all 8 seats will be up for election again.

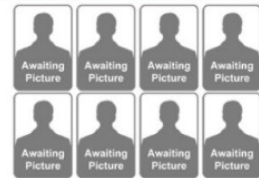
Currently Tilston Parish Council is classed as 100% elected as all 8 councilors stood at the last election which was in May 2015, however as only 8 people stood for the 8 seats there was no voting.

If you would be interested in standing for election in May 2019 why not come and find out about the Council now.

Details on how to stand as a Councillor will be made available nearer the time both from the Parish Council itself and also from Cheshire West and Chester Council.

### Tilston Parish Council

Could you fill one of these seats?



Tilston Parish Council is up for election in May 2019.... Could you be one of our Councillors?

- Could you meet a minimum of six times a year (first Thursday of every other month)
- Could you **Speak up** for the residents of Tilston
  - Get involved in community activities
  - Comment of planning applications

## There is no such thing as the dog poo fairy.....

Tilston Parish Council is receiving an ever increasing number of complaints regarding dog fouling on pavements and grass verges throughout the village and also regarding filled dog bags being thrown into hedges and fields. As such you may have noticed posters displayed around the village and we continue to use the pink spray as a warning to dog owners and pedestrians alike.

The Cheshire West and Chester Council (Fouling of Land by Dogs) (General) Order 2012 makes it an offence not to remove any

faeces deposited by your dog. This removal must be done without delay. The Order applies to all land in the Borough which is open to the air and to which the public are entitled or permitted to have access, whether or not warning signs are displayed.

By not picking up after your dog you are risking the health of those, particularly children, who may come into contact with your dog's mess as in severe cases Toxocariasis which is caused by worm eggs being ingested can result in, partial or total loss of sight in humans.

As such we encourage all residents to report dog fouling when they see it this can be done via the CW&C website at

<https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/contact-us/report-it/dog-animal-fouling.aspx> or by calling CW&C on 0300 123 8 123.

**There is no excuse, Pick up after your dog!**



## Planning

Since May 2017 Tilston Parish Council has been notified of 13 planning applications, all of which are listed on the Council's website at <http://www.tilstonparishcouncil.co.uk/planning>.

Of the 13 applications received 4 were for extensions or conservatories, 1 was for an underground LPG tank, there applications for a new cattle shed and a block of stables.

The Council received notification of 2 separate applications for the demolition of existing buildings to be replaced by new dwellings and two applications to convert existing barns into dwellings, there was also an outline (OUT) application for a new dwelling.

The Council submitted responses for all the above applications.

## How we deal with planning applications



Tilston Parish Council like all Town and Parish Councils in the Cheshire West and Chester Council Area are notified of planning applications by Cheshire West Council who treat Parish Councils as a consultee.

Tilston Parish Council reviewed the way it deals with planning applications at its March 2017 meeting and again in September to try to make sure all applications are dealt with fairly and equally as such when the Council is notified of an application this notification is circulated to all Councillors who

review the application. They then consider whether the application should be considered by a full Council meeting based on the impact the application has, its significance and scale or if it is contentious. If the application is not deemed by councilors to require discussion at a Council meeting comments are agreed informally then confirmed at the next Council meeting.

The Parish Council is not however automatically notified of all planning applications for example the council is not notified of AGR applications which fall under permitted development (Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015) and we rely on residents to bring these applications to the Council's attention if they are of concern.

Tilston Parish Council encourages members of the public to submit their own comments and as such at the same time as Councillors are notified of the application the details are listed on the Council's website and also on our FACEBOOK page with the link where the application can be found on the CW&C website.

It should be noted that the Parish Council does not decide planning applications that power rests with Cheshire West and Chester Council as the planning authority however it does seek to influence the decision through the observations it submits.

**Did you know that you can access a large amount of information about planning at <https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/planning-and-building-control/planning-and-building-control.aspx>?**

You can find out about pre-application advice, planning policy, report dangerous structures as well as see planning applications and submit comments, you can also set up a profile so that you are notified of applications.

## Tilston War Memorial Hall

The Tilston War Memorial Hall continues to provide a focal point for many village activities and is well used by people of all ages. From Playgroup to Evergreens, from meetings to parties and also weddings! The hall is available for hire to groups and individuals. The committee continuously strives to maintain and improve the facilities. Charges are kept at a reasonable level but we also have to fundraise to meet the cost of bigger projects. We have recently applied for some grant funding towards the cost of improvements to the lighting. Whilst bookings remain at a steady level, we lose some bookings for larger events due to our lack of parking - a problem we would like to resolve in the future as it would improve facilities and safety for hall users and parish residents.

In the meantime, we hope we are providing a great venue for a wide variety of activities.

**If you would like to book an event please contact Mrs Penny Hints, 01829 250490 or E-mail [ron.hints@btinternet.com](mailto:ron.hints@btinternet.com) .**



## Grants & Donations

Tilston Parish Council at its March 2018 meeting

considered a number of grant applications from community groups in and around Tilston and awarded the awarded the attached amounts.

		Awarded
1 <sup>st</sup> Tilston Brownies	Activities	£125.00
Tilston Pre-School Playgroup	Dressing-Up Unit	£125.00
Tilston Playing Field Association	Safety Inspection	£100.00
Friday Friends	Running Costs	£50.00
	Total	£400.00

## Friday Friends Group

The objective of our Friday Friends Group is all about bringing people together and keeping people actively engaged with their local communities.

We meet at The Young Persons Centre Malpas every Friday morning at 10.00am to 12.00pm. It is a great way to make new friends. Tea, Coffee, Biscuits or Toast are provided and the cost is £3.00 per week.

The group continues to provide a variety of activities including fun art classes, seated Zumba and sing-a-longs quizzes and board games. We also invite various people to give us talks, flower arranging and cooking demonstrations. Making bird boxes, and planters. Plus organised outings.

Thank you to Tilston Parish Council for the £50.00 grant we received which will go towards providing the group with another Art group and Zumba session. We really do appreciate your support.

**For any further information contact Wendy on 01948 820568 or Joan on 01948 860862 or email [wendy.fridayfriendsgroup@gmail.com](mailto:wendy.fridayfriendsgroup@gmail.com)**



## Tilston Playing Field Association – 10 Years of Village Ownership

2017 /18 has proved to be such an exciting year for the TPFA , the village community has backed us with enthusiasm and do now seem to be developing an understanding that we do not have any regular public funding & are required to raise nearly every penny we spend ourselves.

This year we raised £500 at our Schools Out Party, jointly run with the Primary school on 22<sup>nd</sup> July and successfully ran our activity week free to an average of 40 children a day thanks to generous sponsorship by The Tilston Village Stores, The Carden Arms & Wingett's Estate Agents. Dates for this summer are likely to be 21<sup>st</sup> July & dates will be confirmed shortly for the Activity Week. The Tilston 10K set off from the field after a warm up led by our own PT, Mary on 10<sup>th</sup> September. You can enter for 2018 to be run on 16<sup>th</sup> September @ [www.tilston10K.org](http://www.tilston10K.org) . The profits of £1000 from the last 2 years has been generously donated to the TPFA & will be used to partly pay for the new 'basket swing' about to be installed by Andrew Ellis of Ace Play. A further £1000 from Councillor Howard Greenwood's members fund will dramatically reduce the expenditure necessary from Playing Field funds. We are still seeking sponsorship to pay the remaining £2000.



A small income is being generated by 'Outside the Classroom' renting the pavilion as a base for their overnight stay under canvas for their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award. Mark has 2 stays booked with us again this summer.

Our main event so far this year was our 10 year Celebration Dance held in the War Memorial Hall on 3<sup>rd</sup> March. The Vodka Jellies kept us dancing all night and the bonus was that we cleared £800 profits for funds. The TPFA would also like to thank The Wakes Committee for their donation to enable us to renew all our safety & information signs and the Tilston Parish Council for agreeing to put our Annual Public Liability Insurance of £1000 in to the precept for next year and for also making a contribution towards the cost of our annual ROSPA inspection. Their support means the money we raise can be used to improve our field facilities & equipment. Thanks have to also go to Willetts & HJD Garden Maintenance & Landscaping for keeping the field in tip top condition last year.

Most of you will be aware that the TPFA put community surveys out through our local schools & clubs, in the Reporter & at a Wakes consultation stand. Our findings were presented at a public meeting & the TPC confirmed that we could forge ahead with our bid for the £15,000 S106 money held in trust by CWAC from The Jones Homes Estate. The most popular idea is to install a tarmac pump track that will be suitable for use by all ages from toddlers to AOP's and with an advanced section as well. The track will be situated towards the bottom of the field down from the pavilion & an improved path will also run up on that side of the field. Joe, JB Extreme Landscapes, will undertake the construction & the work will commence as soon as we can secure the £15,000 match funding. Joe is also offering to run free coaching sessions & maybe competitions to really launch our track in an informed way. Over the next couple of years we also intend to refurb our pavilion making it more user friendly and adding a disabled toilet & baby changing area.

Anybody wishing to get involved in these projects either by offering physical help or sponsorship please get in touch with Gail [g.c.graham@btinternet.com](mailto:g.c.graham@btinternet.com) or visit our website [www.tilstonplay.org](http://www.tilstonplay.org)

**Come and Play!**

## Tilston Pre-School Playgroup



Tilston Pre-school Playgroup would like to say a huge thank you to Tilston Parish Council for awarding our playgroup with a grant in the sum of £125, we are so grateful for the generous donation. The funds have been used to purchase a children's dressing up unit, so now the children can choose their favourite fancy dress costumes and accessories and have hours of fun doing role plays!



## Commemoration of the ending First World War 1918 – 2018

It is hoped that a number of events and projects will take place in Tilston and Shocklach in the next few months in the run-up to the Centenary of the ending of the First World War. Many local organisations and many individuals will want to mark 100 years since the ending of the First World War on 11<sup>th</sup> November, 2018. Some of you will already have plans and ideas both for that day and that weekend and in the weeks before.

In Tilston the School, the Memorial Hall, the Church, the Parish Council, the Evergreens, and the Brownies, Guides and are always an important part of Remembrance weekends, **but many other organisations can play a part.**

There has been one brief meeting so far, with some of the interested groups, to get discussion going on possible commemorations in the village. Among the ideas discussed were these:

### St Mary's Church

Remembrance Parade and Service in consultation with Peter Earle MBE (Military) where as many organisations as possible will be invited to lay wreaths and individuals to lay poppy crosses.

There will be a new projection on St Mary's tower related to the men from the Great War who are named on the War Memorial.

Decoration of the church for Rushbearing in August and for the weekend of Remembrance. Bells will ring according to the National guide-lines for bell ringers for 11<sup>th</sup> November

Concert of music and words (themed around this **bitter-sweet memorial time**) on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

Opera North Wales members will organize a concert on the evening of Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November.

There is an open invitation to anyone who is interested in taking part in the commemorations to the next meeting which will be at The Mount SY14 7DU on **Wednesday 13th June at 7.45p.m.**

Further information will be published in **The Reporter** and online **via St Mary's website** and **the Facebook pages**. A special Reporter page and Facebook page will be set up to keep everyone up-to-date on proposed events in both Tilston and Shocklach.

**Contacts for information:** Parish Council Ann Wright; St Mary's Church: Rev Jane Stephenson 01829 250628; Chris Blazdell: [reportertands@outlook.com](mailto:reportertands@outlook.com)

## Tilston Landscape & Wildlife Group

During the past year, the TLWG has increased its membership and started surveying the Tilston Landscape and wildlife. We now have a digital map on which to record findings, which will include oral history as well as lists of plants and animals, brooks and ponds.

The Apple Event last Autumn was enjoyable and informative, for children and adults, and the one planned for next October promises to be even more so, so look out for notices in the Reporter.

At school we have been clearing a site ready for primroses and cowslips, as well as planting a mixed species hedge along the road boundary. Wild flowers have been planted here and there around the village, at the Tilston Signs, on the banks by the Church, at the base of Duckington Lane cliff, and on the Glebe field and playing field. Hopefully there will be some visible flowers this summer, but they do take a while to establish.

During the year we have led two village walks, one where we were able to see the extent of new planting of young trees along Tilston brook by local landowners, increasing the ancient woodland margin. There have been two brilliant workshops, one where we learned about grafting fruit trees, and another about flora and fauna of ponds.

If you'd like to join the group please contact Tom Stephenson (Chair) 01829 250249 or email [stephenson256@btinternet.com](mailto:stephenson256@btinternet.com) or Sue Wolfsohn (Sec) [sue.wolfsohn@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sue.wolfsohn@yahoo.co.uk) or come to our AGM on 2nd May, 7.00pm at The Mount.



## Tilston Parochial Primary School

As the new Headteacher at Tilston Primary School, I feel very proud and privileged to share some of the fantastic things that have taken place during the Spring Term. As a growing school, we currently have 109 pupils on role and this term we have welcomed three new families who will be starting in our Bluebell Nursery after Easter.



During the Spring Term, our Year 3 & 4 children thoroughly enjoyed a two day residential visit to Burwardsley Outdoor Education Centre. We celebrated NSPCC Number Day by completing mathematical challenges. World Book Day fell on the coldest day of the year and our children dressed in pyjamas and brought in their favourite books. Our TSA kindly made hot chocolate; a welcomed treat! We are extremely fortunate to have strong links between home and school and our parents joined us to share stories at the end of the day.



Our new school hall opened last year and has provided a range of opportunities for our children. We offer a wide range of after school clubs, including gymnastics, chess, drama, fencing and many more. We continue to provide our Early Morning Starters and After School Clubs to support our families.

We are extremely well supported by Reverend Jane and value our links with St Mary's Church. This term we joined in with the Education Sunday Service; singing a joint song with Shocklach Primary School. It was a lovely service bringing the communities and schools together.

We are extremely proud of our school and welcome the opportunity to show you around.  
If you would like to visit please contact us on **01829 250204**.



## Tilston Homewatch Scheme



We continue to have a strong Homewatch scheme in Tilston but would like to get more information out to residents about what is going on in the area. As such we are looking for a volunteer who is willing to take over as Homewatch coordinator in Tilston and work with neighbouring Parishes to keep residents informed including through the FACEBOOK which has been established.

If you would be interested in getting involved please contact the Clerk.

For more information contact the Clerk:

Ann Wright, 62 Well Street, Malpas, Cheshire, SY14 8QH  
01948 861 035

E mail: [clerk@tilsonparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@tilsonparishcouncil.co.uk) or visit [www.tilstonparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.tilstonparishcouncil.co.uk)