Lea & Cottam
Parish Council

NEWSLETTER
AUTUMN 2025



PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY

There is currently a member vacancy on the Parish Council which can now be filled by co-option. If you would like to be involved in local affairs then this is your opportunity to put yourself forward without the need to go though a formal election process. All that's required is a letter to the Clerk of the Council outlining your personal details. This should ideally include your work experience, the length of time you have lived in or had connections with the area, any existing local memberships and a brief outline of any skills that you might be able to bring to the Council. Letters of request will be considered by the Council at the next available meeting.

For further information please contact
clerk@leacottam-pc.gov.uk or telephone 01772733829

COTTAM'S MEDIEVAL STYLE SCULPTURES

In our Spring newsletter we told you about the Cottam Gateway Arches and how they have become part of the landscape in Cottam. Looking further along Cottam Way you will see two further metal sculptures which were commissioned by the housing company English Partnerships in 2016. These were sculptured by Alan Dawson, who named them simply as 'Medieval Figures'.



The female one has perhaps more of a classical Medieval look, with long flowing robes and a tall conical hat known as a hennin. This type of hat for women became popular in Europe from the 1430s onwards. The male sculpture has the look of a wizard, with long flowing beard and pointy hat probably more fantasy or fairy tale inspired rather than Medieval.

AROUND AND ABOUT

The work to install the 'trim trail' on Jubilee Park has now been completed and will hopefully be well used by residents of the Parish. This is the final part of the original Masterplan which was put together several years ago and completes what have been significant improvements to the facilities on the recreation ground, originally as a result of the work undertaken by the Jubilee Action Group.



This year has also seen the completion of the War Horse area in Cottam with the new frontage area having now been installed.



The Canberra Memorial information boards have now been installed. A short ceremony took place recently when the two new boards were unveiled by the Mayor of Preston Cllr. Sue Whittam. They tell the story of the air crash that took place in 1952 to which the nearby recently refurbished statues relate and are a memorial to the test pilot who was flying a Canberra Bomber on its maiden test flight when the accident occurred sadly causing his death.





CHRISTMAS TREE LIGTHING EVENTS

ST MARY'S LEA TOWN 1ST DECEMBER 2025 @ 3.30PM
ST CHRISTOPHERS 1ST DECEMBER 2025 @ 6.00PM
COTTAM PRIMARY SCHOOL 4TH DECMEBER 2025 @ 3.30PM

PROJECTS GOING FORWARD

Now that a number of projects have come to a conclusion the Parish Council are looking at what needs doing next to improve and enhance the area.

At its meeting on the 6th October 2025 it was agreed that the Parish Council would fund the installation of new black softpour bases to two of the pieces of play equipment on Jubilee Park where the existing matting has badly worn away. The new bases will match that already installed under the new trim trail equipment.

The Parish Council have already obtained quotations in respect of the potential to undertake drainage works on both the Dodney Drive Round Green in Lea and Miller Green in Cottam with a view to making them usable for a larger part of the year. Currently both greens become very waterlogged during the autumn and winter months.
The Parish Council have accepted a quotation to undertake work on the Dodney Drive Round Green which has received a lot of adverse comment regarding its usability for a large part of the year. The contractors have been appointed and we are now awaiting an indication of timescales as to when the work will commence.

Quotations have also been received to do similar type work on Miller Green however in view of the significant cost and concern that the United Utility surface water road drainage system may not be able to cope the Council decided that it required further information. The consultant contractors, who are doing the Dodney Drive Green, have recommended that a separate investigation should take place before any final commitment is made, taking into account the road flooding that occurs during heavy rainfall. The Parish Council has authorised that this investigation should take place as soon as practicable.

Whilst no decision has been made regarding further enhancements to Miller |Green itself, and a lot may depend on the outcome of the drainage investigations mentioned above, the Parish Council would like to know what improvements its residents think might be appropriate to further enhance the use of this valued open space facility for its residents. Suggestions so far include tree planting and the creation of an additional path from the notice board to the south east side of the green.

PLEASE LET US HAVE YOUR THOUGHTS ON WHAT FURTHER FACILITIES MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE BY CONTACTING US AS BELOW:

E-MAIL: clerk@leacottam-pc.gov.uk

WEB SITE: http://www.leacottam-pc.gov.uk

TELEPHONE 01772 733829

YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

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Martin Rayfield - Lea Town Ward Tel 01772 723226

Sheela Harper - South Ward Tel 07876351455

Chris Smith - South Ward Tel 07821432568

Jeanette Whitham - South Ward Tel 07929316385

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL IS ON

1ST DECMBER 2025

MEETINGS ARE HELD AT COTTAM COMMUNITY CENTRE
AND START AT 7.30PM

THERE IS AN OPPORTUNITY EARLY IN THE MEETING FOR RESIDENTS TO MAKE REPRESENTATION ON ANY AGENDA ITEM OR RAISE ISSUES OF CONCERN, HOWEVER, IT MUST BE NOTED THAT THE COUNCIL CANNOT MAKE ANY DECISIONS UNLESS THE ITEM HAS ALREADY BEEN INCLUDED ON THE FORMAL AGENDA

CLERK AND RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER

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