

## YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

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## MEETING DATES FOR THE NEXT FEW MONTHS ARE:

**27th NOVEMBER 2023**

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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**Lea & Cottam**  
Parish Council

## NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2023



## WHAT IS GOING ON IN THE PARISH

The Parish Council have now been joined by Phillip Helvin and Chris Smith representing South Ward (Lea) so that once again we have a full complement of members. Both have previously been members and we are pleased that they have once again joined the team.

As you will be aware the new North West Distributer Road has now opened and the Chairman, immediate past Chairman and Clerk attended a special event held at Bartle Hall to commemorate the opening. So far, the feedback has been good despite one or two minor issues which have been resolved or are in process of being resolved.

Now that the new roundabout has been completed and the area by the cross re-paved by Costains, the Parish Council have undertaken some enhancement works to the pond itself so that it will look more attractive. So far, a large amount of overgrowth has been removed and overhanging branches cut back. The grass verge has also been levelled and re-seeded. Further works are being considered in terms of clearing the overgrown plants in the pond itself however this is something that will need external contractors and is currently under consideration. The Parish Council at its meeting in October decided to seek quotations from specialist companies who might be able to undertake the work. It is hoped that this pond will eventually become a feature in the area.



Talking of ponds, a lot of work has now been done in opening them up by cutting back undergrowth and rogue saplings. This is an ongoing job since weeds etc, are ever growing and need attention. Our working group are looking into how we might avoid the green algae growth during the summer and have engaged with experts to seek solutions. We will let you know what can be done in due course.



Improvements have been made to Miller Green by replacing the old broken access gate and replacing the damaged wooden surrounds to the small garden around the notice board. A fence has been installed to protect the new shrub planting from damage by dogs who have in the past dug them up and often left faeces there. Miller Green is well used nowadays particularly by dog owners. It is important that those dog owners control their dogs even when off lead and make sure they place dog faeces in the litter bins

provided at each corner of the green.

After consultation with local residents the Parish Council have installed a bench on the grass verge by the pond on Parkside, following the request of a local resident. The work has now been completed and hopefully this will give local residents an opportunity to sit for a while, relax and enjoy the wildlife activities around the pond. In addition, a lot of under and overgrowth has been removed which has improved the visual amenity of the area.



The Parish Council will again this year be erecting three Christmas trees in the Parish. As usual the locations will be at St Christopher's Church, Cottam Primary School and St Mary's Church in Lea Town. Switch on events will be taking place starting on 1st December 2023 at St Mary's Lea Town after school with attendees then able to obtain refreshments in the school building. On 4th December the switch on will take place at St. Christophers preceded by a short service at 6.00pm. Finally, on 7th December the Cottam Primary School Choir will sing outside the school at 4.00pm followed by carols around the tree at 4.20pm and then the official switch on.

As many of you will know, especially those living in the vicinity of Jubilee Recreation Ground, the local action group have made significant improvements to the facilities in recent years. The one part of the original Master Plan that has not been completed is the installation of a trim trail. The Parish Council recently decided to fund this last project and discussions are taking place with Preston City Council to have several pieces of equipment installed over the coming months. The Parish Council have also agreed to fund the erection of a fence on the south side so as to significantly improve the visual aspect on that side of the ground. Discussions on this latter project are taking place with Preston City Council who own the land.



On Sunday 12th November 2023, a service will be held in Cottam which is Remembrance Sunday. The event will commence at Cottam Maze opposite the Community Centre on Haydocks Lane at 10.45am. After the act of remembrance (laying of wreaths) at which the Parish Council wreath will be laid, a short service will be held at the Community Centre at approx. 11.20am. Wreaths will be later transferred to the Cottam Cross on Cottam Way

At the last Council meeting a new initiative was agreed which will hopefully raise money for charity. The idea, put forward by one of our members, is to create two local montages featuring graphics of parts of the Parish. There are to be two montages, one of Cottam and one of Lea. These will be produced in partnership with Daverob Design, who already has an established business producing very popular graphic art works. Dave himself lives within the Parish and will handle the production and distribution of the 'prints' which will be sold to residents. The profit on those sales will then be paid over by the Parish Council to a nominated charity. The Council is now in discussion with Dave as to what local features will be put into the montages so that our products can be launched as soon as practicable. The image shown is one of Dave's early productions which has proved popular with many residents of Preston. This gives you an idea of what our local montages might resemble.



Finally, just to remind you that you can keep up to date with what we are doing in the Parish by visiting our Facebook page.

As we approach the festive season, the Parish Council would like to wish all its residents a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

