



NEWSLETTER SPRING 2022



PRECEPT 2022/23

The Parish Council is pleased to be able to announce that it has not increased the Precept for this year. Indeed, as there are more houses in our parish to share the burden, as a result of ongoing development, it is likely that a small reduction may be seen per household. Notwithstanding this the Council will continue to provide open space improvements to the area wherever possible utilising building development income. To that purpose the Council has now formed two 'working groups' who have been tasked to identify potential projects that might be undertaken - some of these are outlined on the following pages. Each working group has been allocated an area which, in the main, relates to the two major ward areas of the parish ie. Lea and Cottam.

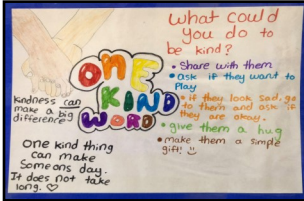
In addition to the projects already identified later in this newsletter, a number of other ideas are also being looked at. Whilst it is not now possible to have hanging baskets in Lea Town, work is being undertaken that will hopefully result in semi circular planters being put on many lamp posts on Darkinson Lane. An idea is being progressed that may result in tree planting taking place on some grass verges in the Lea area and also the replacement of diseased crab apple trees in Cottam. The 'working group' for Cottam is now preparing proposals for the improvement of the many pond areas in the Parish.

Residents are encouraged to bring forward ideas for the enhancement of the open space of the Parish. This can be done by contacting the Clerk to the Council or any Parish Council member who will pass on to the appropriate 'working group' any suggestions that come forward.

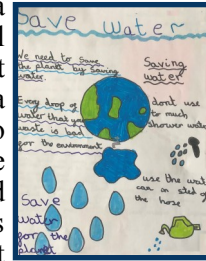
As part of this ongoing process, we have also been able to extend our Lengthsman team with the addition of two new contractors. The team now comprises Peter Greenwood, our senior lengthsman and Julie Milroy, Stuart Rutledge, Steven Fitzpatrick and Gary Thompson, all of whom you will see out and about working to improve and maintain our Parish

We are also pleased to be able to welcome new Council Members to the team. We now have a full Council membership - contact details for all members are on the back page of this newsletter.

SCHOOLS POSTER COMPETITION



The Parish Council recently sponsored a local school competition, open to all primary schools in the Parish, aimed at encouraging pupils to be involved in a topic of interest relating perhaps to behaviours or the environment. The Chairman of the Parish Council judged



the entries from the two schools that have so far taken part and books will be purchased by the winners and runners up. The equivalent amount in books will also be donated to the participating schools. The pictures above are examples of the excellent submissions that had to be considered from both St Bernard's Primary School Lea and St Mary's Primary School Lea Town. Below is a photograph of the winners and runners up at St Mary's Lea Town at the presentation by the Chairman, Cllr Abram, at school assembly on the 18th February 2022.



THE QUEEN'S GREEN CANOPY



Preston has been chosen as a 'Champion City' for the Queen's Green Canopy, as part of this year's Platinum Jubilee celebrations. Lea and Cottam Parish Council is pleased to be taking part in the event by having purchased and planted two trees, one on Jubilee Recreation Ground and one on land adjacent to the Storey Homes development on Cottam Way. Each tree bears a plaque commemorating the event that is part of the wider project to plant trees across the country to help the environment. The photo shows Cllr Abram, the Chairman of Lea and Cottam Parish Council, accompanied by a few Council members at the tree planted off Cottam Way.



Cllr Abram also joined The Mayor of Preston, Cllr. Javid Iqbal and the Lord Lieutenant of Lancashire, at a commemorative tree planting ceremony on Avenham Park on the 16th March 2022 to mark the end of the successful Plant Preston fortnight, also in celebration of the Queens Platinum Jubilee year.

JUBILEE RECREATION GROUND LEA ENHANCEMENTS

Many of you will be aware that over the past few years the Jubilee Action Group, Preston City Council and Lea and Cottam Parish Council have been involved with major improvements to the recreation ground and its facilities. This has involved, amongst other things, the laying of paths around the ground and enhanced children's play facilities. Following a suggestion from the Parish Council's open space working group for South Ward (Lea) a new hedgerow is to be planted later this year to improve the visual aspects of the area and contribute further to improving the environment. The hedgerow will comprise mixed native species that over time should provide an attractive landscape to the southern aspects of the recreation ground

COTTAM WAY POND WORKS



During the last few months our lengthsman team have been hard at work transforming an overgrown pond area on Cottam Way. The original pond was created over 25 years ago however due to the lack of maintenance it had become totally overgrown. Residents in the area have expressed their delight at the outcome saying, in many cases, that although they live near by they were not aware of its existence . Bird boxes and feeders have been put up, ducks have now appeared together with a Moorhen. It

is the intention to plant some bulbs this coming autumn in order to complete the transformation.

DODNEY DRIVE GREENS ARE BEING ENHANCED



By the time you receive this newsletter work will have commenced on improving the Dodney Drive greens which are owned by the Parish Council. The work has commenced with the planting of 24 trees (12 on each green) in areas that will, later in the year, be planted with bulbs flowering in the spring of 2023.

The present bench seats are being moved a new location in order to make them more accessible especially after wet weather.

It is also planned that the greens will be 'rolled' from time to time to help level undulations and make them more likely to be used by local resident families for recreational purposes.

To the left is a picture of one tree planted area on one of the greens that along with the other enhancements, will hopefully help to improve the area and the environment.

YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

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Jeanette Whitham 7 Dodney Drive Lea Preston PR2 1XR Tel 07929316385

MEETING DATES FOR THE NEXT FEW MONTHS ARE

9TH MAY, 4TH JULY AND 5TH SEPTEMBER 2022

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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