



NEWSLETTER SPRING 2025



JOB VACANCY



The Parish Council are seeking to appoint an additional assistant lengthsman to join our fast growing team. The successful person will be required to work for 15 hours per week on a flexible service contract between 1st May 2025 and 31st March 2026. This person will undertake basic open space enhancement works such as path edging, removal of overgrowth / undergrowth, fence and post painting and generally supporting the maintenance and tidying of the area. The selected person will be self employed or required to register as such. The rate of pay will be £12.60 per hour. This opportunity to help enhance the local area would suit, amongst others, either an existing self employed person wishing to have a basic regular contract or, an active retired person who would need to register as self employed. This is a vital role in helping to maintain the parish open space to a good standard for the benefit of its residents.

Anyone who is interested in the above opportunity to become part of our existing contractor team should contact the Clerk to the Parish Council for further information:

**01772 733829 or e-mail:
clerk@leacottam-pc.gov.uk**

DEDICATED POLICE OFFICERS

Our area now has dedicated police officers who can be contacted as follows:

**Jenny Coupe who now covers the Lea and Larches Area
email:3579@lancashire.police.uk Tel 07779972781**

**Abby Ward who covers Cottam and Ingol Area
email:3725@lancashire.police.uk Tel 07929713988**

The above contact details must only be used for non urgent and non crime matters

PLEASE NOTE THAT CRIMES MUST BE REPORTED USING 101 OR 999

AROUND AND ABOUT



Over the last few weeks you may well have noticed a lot of activity around the open space areas of Cottam. A significant number of diseased crab apple trees have been removed by Preston City Council, who are working with the Parish Council on a regeneration project. This project is being paid for by the Parish Council from developer funds that it has available. The works have involved the removal of 32 trees and the clearing of some of the ditches in order to improve drainage. Replacement trees have now been planted along the path running from the canal up and through to Greenside, which will no doubt as they develop create a pleasant walkway through the area.

The Parish Council, in conjunction with Preston City Council, have now also agreed for further works to be carried out at the pond at the junction of Lea Road and Cottam Way. The work will hopefully be complete by the time you receive this newsletter. It has involved the removal of bull rushes and the replanting of the bank and shallow areas around the pond which will hopefully help to improve water quality. A new fountain is to be installed to replace that which has been out of operation now for several years.

Enhancement works have now started to the War Horse area in Cottam. The War Horse head has already been cleaned however damage to the sculpture has needed some repair. Thompson Dagnall, who originally created the sculpture, has now completed renovation works to parts of the figure, which had become damaged over time. Now that this is complete the contractor who has been appointed will be able to rejuvenate the surrounding area by installing 'wet pour' to the replica water area and resin mulch to the rear of the area. Our own team have started to clear the front area with a view to re-landscaping it with the expectation that once again the whole area will become a prominent feature for the parish.



DOES ANYONE HAVE AN ORIGINAL 30 YEAR OLD PHOTO OF THE AREA IN FRONT OF THE WAR HORSE HEAD?

COTTAM'S MEDIEVAL STYLE SCULPTURES

Cottam is now a residential area north of Preston town centre. Once a landscape of open fields, in recent years it has become a large housing development. A number of heritage artworks have been placed throughout the area, created by David Cudworth, Thompson Dagnall and Alan Dawson. The Cottam Gateway Arches were recently cleaned on the instructions of the Parish Council and remain a feature of Cottam Way.



At the location of the arches are a set of five Medieval style figures, which were carved from gateposts by David Cudworth, set up by the Commission for New Towns in 1998. Two are women, one of which is hooded, and three are men, one of which is hooded. A very tall male figure could be wearing a clerical hat of some kind. Cudworth took inspiration from Medieval manuscripts in the design of the figures. A second set are just across the road by the second arch. These too have recently been enhanced. Whilst the sculptures have a Medieval inspired theme, it is not clear why this was chosen, but there are some links to Medieval history in Cottam. Earthworks from Medieval ridge, created by a system of ploughing used in Europe during the Middle Ages and furrow farming survived in the area until the 1950s, after which they were all ploughed out. Cottam Hall, owned by generations of the Haydock family, was a Medieval half timbered building surrounded by a moat. It was demolished in the 1850s however Cottam Hall Lane, which once led to the building, remains in place today. A Medieval cross base also survives at the junction of Lea Road and Cottam Way, although this was not the original location.

DIAL A RIDE MINI BUS SERVICE PRESTON

Dial-a-Ride provides a door to door, wheelchair accessible, minibus service for people who are unable to use, or don't have any, regular bus services.

The bus does not follow a set route or timetable but can be flexible to respond to individual as well as repeat requests. Many people use the service for shopping but other requests include healthcare and social visits. It is a friendly bus service and many people enjoy the social contact with regular fellow passengers.

Bookings are taken with a minimum of 48 hours notice by phone. Please call **01772 204667 Option 2**. The more notice you can give us, the better.

For more information visit: <http://www.prestonct.org.uk>

YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

Christine Abram - Cottam Ward Tel 01772 732893
Dave Brown - South Ward Tel 07791281064
Alex Butler - South Ward Tel 01772 727980
John Coward - Cottam Ward Tel 01772 727574
Carolyn Gibson - Cottam Ward Tel 07979732350
Mark Jewell - South Ward Tel 07758151618
Dave Lambert - South Ward Tel 01772 499798
Mark O'Donnell - South Ward Tel 01772 532912
Judith Parker - Cottam Ward Tel 01772 769812
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 12th MAY 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

W V MCENNERNEY-WHITTLE
7 BILSBOROUGH MEADOW
PRESTON PR2 1YY
TEL 01772 733829

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

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

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/LeaAndCottamParishCouncil>