

Plumley Village Newsletter

Including Toft and Bexton February 2024

Welcome to the latest edition of the Newsletter.

PLUMLEY VILLAGE HALL NEWS

As we look forward to spring we have news of the upcoming Cheshire Rural Touring Arts production, which will be music this time, brought to us by the band Touki with a tour called Right of Passage. Touki is described as a tour de force in multi-instrumental musical exultation, during which the musicians joyously switch between kora (West African harp), banjos, guitars, percussion and many other instruments. They will draw together West African fables with personal stories and the challenges facing both developing and western countries. It should be a feast for the ears so please join us on Saturday 4th May at 7.30pm in the village hall.

Tickets are priced at £12 aged 17+, £8 aged 16 years and below. Available from Ticketsource.co.uk, Plumley Village Stores, email: tickets@plumleyvillagehall.co.uk, and from Penny on 01565 722259

We look forward to seeing you soon. Pam Arnfield chair@plumleyvillagehall.co.uk

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL SPENDING PLANS

Cheshire East Council, like councils across the country, has been experiencing unprecedented financial pressure. This is as a result of increased demand and costs for adult social care and children's services, especially special educational needs that have not been met by increased funding. Inflation, generally, has also been at high levels in the year since the council's budget and council tax was set in February. Had council tax been increased in line with inflation then the council's income would have been more than £15 million higher for the year.

As a result, spending on vital council services in the borough is currently forecast to exceed the 2023/24 budget by £13m and the net expenditure requirement for 2024/25 is expected to exceed available funding by £11.7m. Consequently, the council will have to use its reserves to fund the gap in both 2023/24 and 2024/25. Cheshire East Council's general reserve was £22 million when the council was formed in 2009, fell to £10 million in 2019, before being built back to £14 million in 2023. However, these reserves are still very low compared to many other councils who have higher reserves to fall back on.

A council tax rise of 4.99 per cent and a number of changes to services are proposed to balance the books for 2024/25.

Approval of the council's budget is a responsibility of the full council. Corporate policy committee is meeting on 13 February to agree a budget to recommend to members at the full council meeting on 27 February 2024

Copy date for the next

edition will be

April 30th 2024

All items to be sent to :David
McGifford Phone - 07968
603811 or E-mail

clerk@plumley-toft-bexton-
pc.co.uk

Parish Councillors areas of responsibility

Tony Gabbott	Chairman.
Ged Coates	Vice Chair & Highways
David Nichols	Village Hall
John Wright	Planning.
A Shaw / M Pickup	Footpaths
Council	Comm Resilience
S Crossman / V L Roxby	Police Liaison

It is proposed that the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at Plumley Methodist Church on the 6th March 2024 starting at 7.00pm

COUNCIL UPDATES

PLUMLEY Parish Council has continued to report they have gained support from the Police and Crime Commons Office and local residents for the introduction of **AVERAGE SPEED CAMERAS** on Plumley Moor Road from the Church, leading up to and across the station bridge. The funding is in place as is the necessary borrowing approval from the Public Works Loan Board. We have been advised that the police are still in discussions with Cheshire East and the power supply provider and Cheshire East Highways with regards to temporary road closures for when the cameras are to be installed. The police still cannot give us a definitive start date but continue to say our scheme is now guaranteed and will take place as soon as these matters have been resolved.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL GREEN WASTE SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE By subscribing, residents may choose to continue using their garden bin to recycle food waste. Subscriptions cost £56 per garden bin, per year, with a 25% reduction in the fee available for those receiving qualifying benefits. Once subscribed, residents will be sent a welcome pack containing their subscription sticker, which will have their address and unique subscription number on it. Residents are urged to attach the sticker to the back of their garden bin (handle side) as soon as they receive it as garden bins without a valid sticker displaying will not be emptied. Residents will only pay for the Garden Waste Recycling Scheme if they choose to opt-in and it remains free for residents to dispose of their garden waste at the borough's household waste recycling centres. The council also continues to encourage residents to try composting at home. Residents not able to sign up online can contact the council on 0300 123 5011.

HIGHWAYS RESPONSIBILITIES The Parish Council are quite often contacted by residents about Highways issues which include the condition of the roads, pavements, lighting and signage. It is relatively simple to report any of these issues directly through to Cheshire East Council. This can be done via their website where you can report any of those issues by going onto the Cheshire East Website and search for **Fixmys-treet**. Although we can lobby CE on behalf of our residents concerns, as a Parish Council we have no ability to alter the decisions CE make in these areas.

Cheshire East Council are also responsible for setting the speed limits on all roads which they do by following national guidelines. These are quite often challenged by local residents and as a Parish Council we have represented those concerns especially on Middlewich Road and Plumley Moor Road. At the request of the Parish Council, Cheshire East agreed to undertake a route review approximately 7 years ago which included the aforementioned roads. The outcome was not as we wanted as it stated that the speed limits followed national guidelines and would not be changed.



Our CHESHIRE EAST WARD COUNCILLOR Anthony Harrison, pictured, has been working closely with the Parish Council since being elected to Cheshire East Council in May 2023.

Following Cheshire East's Green Space Strategy Review, Chelford Ward has had none of its services cut, however he put up a strong fight to have two of Plumley's Green Space management increased – both the land on Yewtree Road and Moorcroft will see an increase in green space maintenance in 2024 onwards.

He has also conducted a thorough highways and streetlamp review right across Plumley Village, over the winter months and continues to report all defects which he hopes will be repaired in the very near future.

He would also like to thank all of the residents who attended his Councillor Surgery early in the year and for raising the issues they had. Please get in touch if anyone has any further issues or concerns, they would like to bring to his attention.

Anthony's contact details are Tel 07852 516957 - email Anthony.harrison@cheshireeast.gov.uk

PLUMLEY WOMENS INSTITUTE

Plumley W I celebrated 70 years with honoured guests and members who enjoyed a buffet meal and musical accompaniment. The W I offers much more than a monthly meeting, various groups include, craft, painting, walks & theatre trips. New members are very welcome, just come along to Plumley Village Hall at 7.30pm First Thursday each month. Try Before you Buy!

On more serious matters members can vote on resolutions which are debated by each WI in the UK and taken to Parliament and Decision Makers.:

- Dental Health Matters
- Impacts of poor housing conditions
- Say 'no' to gambling advertising
- Improving Outcomes for Women in the Criminal Justice System
- This is where women can be heard and make a difference.

Pat Wharfe



PLUMLEY LITTER PICK

I am organising a litter pick around Plumley on Sunday February 25th, 10.30am meeting at Plumley Village Hall. Litter pickers, hi-viz, bags and gloves will be provided.

If you would be able to help, please let me know. We will postpone if the weather is too bad, so a contact number would be useful.

Many thanks Penny Allen
07977 367483



Helplines

Citizens Advice Service. 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday; **Telephone call-backs can be requested by leaving a message on 01625-708608.**

Samaritans Telephone number: **116 123** Email: jo@samaritans.org

Domestic Abuse Cheshire East Domestic Abuse Hub (CEDAH):

Phone 0300 123 5101 **text:** 07771 941 464 **email:** cedah@cheshireeast.gov.uk

Refuge on 0808-2000247.

Noise over the village, emanating from flights connected to Manchester airport.

Contact either 0800 967 967 or community.relations@manairport.co.uk

Butterflies Tots Group



"Plumley Tots Group has been running for many years in Plumley Village Hall and is now starting a new chapter as 'Butterflies Tots Group'. Over the last few years local mums have admirably kept the group running through the difficult times of COVID, but now with their children growing up, they're ready to hand over the mantle. Fr Murray Aldridge-Collins of St Oswald's Church, Lower Peover, is delighted to bring the group under the wing of the parish and members of the church will be volunteering to help run the group and provide some lovely refreshments for the parents, grandparents and carers who come along. There are many opportunities to volunteer, including making teas and coffees, helping with crafts and singing and much more. For those who can't help on a Tuesday morning but would like to be involved, our 'baking rota' is a great opportunity for this. Butterflies will run every Tuesday during term time. If you would like to put your child's name down for a place then please contact myself, Rosie on 07916129153. Fee's are £2.50 per week, plus an extra 50p per sibling. These are usually paid on a half termly basis. If fees are an issue for anyone in our current cost of living crisis then please don't hesitate to mention this confidentially. If you are interested in volunteering or would like to know any more information about the group, please get in touch. We'd love to hear from you!"

Rosie

Knutsford and District Talking Newspaper

Do you know someone who would like to have a weekly recording of the Knutsford Guardian?

We are a voluntary group who want to bring the local news to our blind and visually impaired residents by recording articles from the local newspaper The Knutsford Guardian. We cover all local villages.

We try to improve things for visually impaired people in the district, so that they can keep up to date with local news. We are also happy to send the recordings to residents who may have difficulty holding a newspaper or struggle to process when reading print (maybe as a result of a stroke or other neurological / physical disability)

We record the news and articles each week and then copy the recording onto a memory stick and post it out weekly to our listeners. This is a completely free service and all listeners also receive a USB Player specifically designed for the visually impaired, free of charge.

Our weekly recordings are also available for free on the Talking Newspaper App (Android & iOS) or via Devices such as Amazon Alexa or Amazon Echo. If you know of anyone who may benefit as a listener or if you would be interested in volunteering and need any further information, please contact



Mrs Frances McGhee (Secretary) on 07814 564858 or Email : fmclella@yahoo.com

Knutsford and Plumley Probus Club

Knutsford and Plumley Probus Club has spent the summer hosting a wide variety of speakers, all very interesting, and also participating in several social events. We had a talk from George Pilkington on "The Birds and the Bees" (to which our ladies were invited) which was, literally, about birds and bees and their amorous activities. We then had a doom-laden talk from Keith Stevens on "The Population Bomb – waiting to explode". The end of the world will not so much be due to a population explosion but rather a combination of increased longevity and declining male and female fertility, leading to an unsustainable ratio of old to young people. Stephen Shakeshaft gave us another of his "Chester Uncovered" talks while Keith Warrender spoke on the "Hidden Gems of Manchester", a fascinating insight into the history of odd but lesser known buildings in Greater Manchester and Cheshire.

Tony Bostock spoke about "Cheshire's Ancient Mariner", Sir George Beeston, who had a distinguished career in the Royal Navy, was MP for Cheshire, died in 1601 and is buried at Bunbury Church. He captained HMS Dreadnought against the Armada but is less well-known than many of his contemporaries. George Scargill spoke on "Lucky Hitler" and described a few of the many attempts on Hitler's life. Ian Morison spoke on "Black Holes – no need to be afraid" and, as usual, gave us a fascinating talk. Most recently, we've had David Simmons talking about "Capt. Eric 'Winkle' Brown- Britain's Greatest Pilot". Amazingly, he flew 487 different aircraft and made 2407 carrier landings. Post-war, he worked on jet plane development and then helicopters. He commanded RAF Lossiemouth and appeared on Desert Island Discs in 2014 before dying at the grand old age of 97. At our latest meeting, Isabelle Killicoat talked about the paintings in the Manchester Art Gallery.

Regrettably, we lost one of our long-standing, well-liked and respected members, Laurie Fairman in October but, on the brighter side, we have had three social events – a Ladies' Lunch, a trip to the Avro aircraft museum and an entertaining evening with David Somerville talking about his work with the National Crime Agency following his retirement from the army. We continue to welcome new members

Alan Eastwood

Yogalates

Plumley Village Hall will be hosting a combination of yoga and Pilates, the classes are every Wednesday morning 9am-10am and all you need to bring is yourself as I have all the equipment you will need,

Why Yogalates, you may ask? Well, let me share some benefits with you. First off, it's fantastic for improving flexibility and building strength – not just in the muscles, but also in the core. It boosts metabolism, raises energy levels and improves posture, a crucial element often overlooked in many other fitness routines. Breathwork and mindfulness are an integral part of each class, wonderful for promoting a sense of calm and wellbeing.

The best part is that it's for everyone! All abilities are welcome. Whether you're a seasoned yogi or just starting your fitness journey, I adapt postures and difficulty levels to suit your needs. Every session is crafted to be inclusive and, most importantly, enjoyable. I do my best to ensure that each person gets the absolute best from their hour on the mat and leave the sessions feeling good.

All my classes are friendly, fun and definitely not competitive. It's a great way to start the day and meet new people in the community.

Contact: Denise Fraser 07952 680598 - denise@denisefraser.com

Contacts and Groups			
Local Key contacts/organisations	Name	Telephone	Email / additional information
Parish Council Chairman	CLlr Tony Gabbott	01565 722767	
Parish Council Help and Response Team	CLlr David Nichols CLlr Steve Jones	01565 723837 07887 506861	David.james.nichols2@gmail.com SMJones1@sky.com
Village Hall Committee Chairman Village Hall Bookings	Pam Arnfield Jill James	01565 722262 07709 864568	chair@plumleyvillagehall.co.uk bookings@plumleyvillagehall.co.uk
Tennis Courts & Play Area	Penny Allen	01565 722259	
Plumley Stores/Post Office	Jonathan Royle	01565 722277	
Toft Church Hall	Valerie Brooker	01565 650374	Mobile 07973 290756
Cheshire East Council	Reception	0300 123 5500	
Flexible Transport Service from Plumley to Knutsford on Monday mornings.	Reception	0300 1235110	To book ring between 10 - 12 30 giving at least 2 days notice in advance
Cheshire West & Chester Rural Rider	Reception	01606 784100	
Plumley Chapel	Elizabeth Hall	01565 722271	
Plumley and District Probus Club	Alan Eastwood	01565 634992	
Halle	Isobel Nicholson	01606 888890	
Livery— Holly Tree Equestrian	Gloria Robinson	01565 722188	hollytree.ec@gmail.com
Lower Peover Kids Club 4-14 years		02625 467623	admin@lowerpeover.cheshire.sch.uk
Mums and Tots Plumley VH			Tuesday morning (term time)
Plumley WI	Isobel Chetwood	01565 723683	Plumley VH 1st Thursday in month"
Events at Toft Hall			
U3A Drawing and Painting	Mrs Berry Northen	01565 873053	Monday 10.00 am –12.00 noon
Art Group	Wendy Ramsay	01565 632362	Wednesday 10.00 am -12.00 noon
2nd Toft Brownies	Ann Liggett		6.00pm - 7.30pm E-mail : liggett@avaya.com
Toft Quilters	Veronica Walton	01565 651507	1st Wed month 1.00pm -3.00pm
The Callanetics Group	Carol Gunter	01565 651038	Thursday 9.00am -10.00am
Margaret Wilcox School of Speech and Drama		Police Contact	
Sessions are being held every week at Plumley Village Hall (during term time) on Mondays and Tuesdays, 4 -5.pm and 5 - 6pm for 5-11 year olds and from 6.00-7.00pm for 11-18 year olds. Pre-School Drama Class, rising 2's to 4 year olds Contact Sam Marsden for details, phone - 07887 778 822 email -mwsd@hotmail.co.uk		To report a crime call 101 for non-emergency enquiries or log a report through the Cheshire Police website. Call 999 when in an emergency and need immediate support.	