

Newbold Astbury cum Moreton

ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

Due to the current Covid Restrictions, Parish Council Meetings are held online with "Zoom."

If you wish to take part in a meeting, please contact the Parish Clerk, check the Website or Noticeboards for the information that you will need!

Website: <http://astbury-parish.org.uk>

ANNUAL PARISHES MEETING 2021

Newbold Astbury cum Moreton Parish Council will hold its Annual Parishes Meeting on Wednesday 14th. April 2021 at 7.30 pm. By Zoom.

1. Welcome and Apologies
2. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday 8th April 2020
3. Matters arising from the minutes
4. Chairman's report
5. Questions from the public.
6. The Big Quiz for the Parishes, with Prizes!

The Big

QUIZ

at The Annual Parishes Meeting 2021

As we are unable to have our Annual Parishes Meeting in Astbury Village hall this year:

Please

Join our Annual Parish Council meeting on 14th April at 7-30pm by Zoom!

Zoom into our general knowledge QUIZ. The quiz is a light hearted but a fun multi topic quiz with prizes to be won

The Big

QUIZ

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86432567755?pwd=M3dCSG1uTXU0WDRsTkVOTFNUNjNpQT09>

If you would like to take part in the Big Quiz, please Contact the Clerk:

jmasonparishclerk@gmail.com

As the Parish Council administrative year draws to a close, a review of the last 12 months and any conjecture into the future would be seriously deficient without recognising the profound impact the Corona Virus pandemic has had on all our lives, personal, socially and occupationally.

The Parish Council sustained its normal sequence of monthly meetings and business through the year largely by use of virtual links although it was agreed by all Members to be far less effective than convening with Parishioners in the Village Hall. Consequently some matters have not had the level of focus and action that they might warrant.

Cheshire East and many other Authorities with whom the PC operates have been similarly adversely affected. Our Clerk, Julie Mason, has been outstanding in responding to the challenging circumstances of PC administration in these difficult times.

During the year Cllr. Charles Kennerley stood down and we thank him for his sterling service over the years as we also welcome Ian Parry recently co-opted onto the Council.

Main issues reported by Parishioners have been largely as previous years with highway condition, traffic volume and speed especially on rural lanes being a priority. With the anticipated opening of the Congleton Link Road in late April, the southern end roundabout of which is in the Parish, it remains to be seen if the traffic mitigation measures implemented by CE Highways on Wall Hill and Brownlow Heath Lanes prove effective.

The Parish Council has been consulted and commented on 31 Planning Applications during the year using the adopted Astbury & Moreton Neighbourhood Plan as the guiding principle. One of the main planning items considered has been the formal approval of a new sand extraction quarry on the west side of Wall Hill Lane, initial implementation of which commenced recently.

Among other projects being taken forward by the Parish Council are managing and conserving the Registered Common Land at Brownlow off Sandy Lane, upgrading of the Parish War Memorial in St. Mary's Churchyard by the addition of over 40 missing names and beginning the process of seeking to reinstate several "lost" footpaths in conjunction with CE Public Rights of Way.

Given that the Government has now drafted a road map for the withdrawal of Covid restrictions which ostensibly should finish in mid-June the Parish Council looks forward to resuming meetings in the Village Hall and engaging more fully with Parishioners than has been possible during the lockdowns.

The decennial National Census which takes place on the 21st March this year, when completed and published, will give the Parish Council an up to date synopsis of the Parish's population, social and business structure which will help the PC to better evaluate its responsibilities and aspirations for the future.

John Carter, Chair

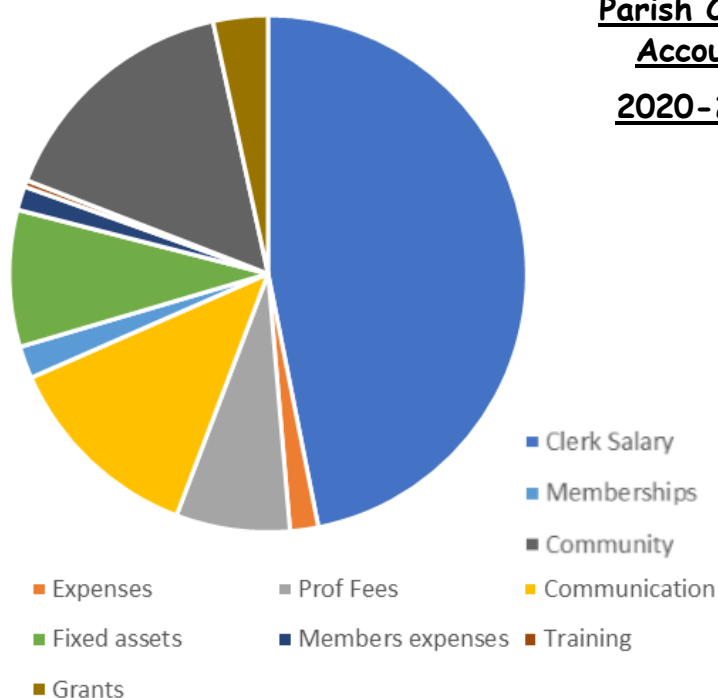
OPENING BALANCE 2020/21 = £14,226.00
INCOME - PRECEPT £15,000 + DONATIONS
William Dean Trust £1,000 + CIL MONES
£450.00 + OTHER RECEIPTS £95.00 =
£30,771.00

OUTGOINGS 2020/21 = £13,736.00 (AS
ABOVE).

PREDICTED CLOSING BALANCE 2020/21 =
£17,035.00

The precept is set by the parish council each November: for the financial year 2020-2021 it is **£15,000**, which corresponds to a Band D rate of **£41.75** (using a Tax Base of **359.30** set by Cheshire East Council).

Parish Council Accounts 2020-2021



80 Years of WI at Astbury



2020 was destined to be a memorable year for Astbury WI and memorable it has certainly been! Unfortunately, in common with many other WIs it has been memorable for all the wrong reasons. 80 years ago last month our WI held its Foundation Meeting.

It was 6th November 1940 when the first Meeting to form a Committee was held at The Rectory, following the first meeting of The Women's Institute. The Minutes of this meeting show that the first Secretary was Mrs Yates and the minutes were signed by the first President Marjorie Stuart Johnson on 27th November. The plan for the second meeting was discussed and Miss Caterham "kindly undertook to light the fire and prepare the room."

The first officers were:

President; Mrs Stuart Johnson

Vice President; Mrs Dunkley

Secretary; Mrs Yates

Treasurer; Mrs Porter.

There was a committee of ten elected members plus two co-opted members, which was almost half the membership. 20 years ago, when I first joined Mrs Joyce Porter was still quite an active member. The first treasurer was, I believe, Mrs Annie Porter, who was Joyce's mother-in-law and Joyce Porter (whom I remember) was then Miss Caterham. Mrs C.W Hocknell (co-opted member of that first committee) was mother-in-law to Margaret Hocknell, who has herself been both President and Treasurer in her time and is a stalwart of our bowling team.

Amongst our archives there is a letter dated 15th November welcoming the newly formed group at Astbury from Lady Denman, who was then the National Chairman. We were, according to the letter the five thousand, seven hundred and twenty seventh institute to be formed and in an organisation of 331,883 members across all counties in England and Wales. She talked of sister Institutes in Canada (where the organisation originated) and Australia and was keen that we should recognise that our Women's institute was part of "something more than just social clubs!" At the moment, though we are not able to meet, we are sharing the suggested resolutions which the WI Nationally will work to bring to the nation's attention to influence those, who can bring about change for the better.

The Programme for the first year at Astbury included, A Cookery Demonstration at Henshall Hall, Wool embroidery and War-time Thrift, Community Singing, Salvage— the prevention of waste and a Dressmaking Demonstration. Times have changed but the themes and interests remain largely the same. Early in the year I wrote; 2020 has begun well for members of Astbury WI with a talk by Valerie Jones of Tytherington Treacles, who gave us a lively and fascinating account of Why they Bared All. She told us all about the process of making a calendar for breast cancer.

On Wednesday 5th February, they had a wonderfully informative talk and demonstration from Charles Hardy, a Chocolatier from The Old Fire Station at Tarporley. He told members of his family connections with sweets like Cherry Lips, when his grandfather took over the Squirrel factory in Stockport. He chatted about the family connections with sweets through three generations when finally he and his family decided to specialise and make beautiful hand-made, continental truffles.

In March we had a drumming session, led by David Hext leader of the percussion section in the Halle Orchestra. We have since sewn scrubs and made ear-protectors for the NHS, Knitted squares for blankets for the homeless, crocheted blankets in lockdown our most prolific knitter has now achieved 30 sets of hats and mittens for children from disadvantaged families. Thanks must go to all those members who have contributed. Our officials have chatted regularly and tried to communicate with members on a regular basis. We have created a risk assessment in the hope that we could resume our meetings in the Autumn, but were only able to hold one socially distanced Committee Meeting, before the rule of six decimated our plans. Sadly we have not risen as a group to the challenge of Zoom Meetings, although the National Federation seem to be keen that we should all be doing so. We shall hope that with the recent developments we have light at the end of the tunnel that was 2020 and that we shall be able to meet and celebrate a belated 80th Birthday in 2021. 2021 has arrived with the promise of better times once the vaccine roll out begins to bear fruit. As a WI we look forward hopefully towards a time when we shall be able to meet in the village hall and feel safe to conduct our meetings and enjoy the camaraderie which being a member of the WI brings.

Hopefully, as many of us have been vaccinated over recent weeks, the very efficient vaccine roll-out brings the time closer when we can plan for social activities to resume after 21st June. Meanwhile, the WI at National and County Level continues to work in the background.

Our members have continued to receive copies of WI life, there have been opportunities to join Zoom talks and demonstrations. It would be good to know if any of our members have felt confident enough with technology to be able to benefit from these. Liz and I receive numerous emails keeping us in touch with the constitutional changes necessary for WIs who wished to, or were able to "Meet" in this way. Since Christmas, we have been inundated with documentation about how the pandemic has made the organisation consider new ways forward. There have even been some virtual WI's set up in lockdown. We have not as an individual WI organised Zoom Meetings but have tried to keep in touch with our members on a more individual and personal level. We have shared monthly updates from Cheshire and National and have developed different lines of mutual support, including phone calls, email and a WhatsApp group whose members cheer each other up on a more or less daily basis.

We are aware that Christmas and New Year have been a tough time for some of our members. We are thinking of them all and hope that they and all our members know we are only a phone call away should they need a listening ear, a shoulder to cry on or simply a chat to brighten a weary day. We are happy to welcome new members at all times but are aware that what we can offer is limited at this difficult and unprecedented time. No one can predict when we shall be able to meet up but it is our hope that there will soon be light at the end of that particular tunnel as we head towards the Spring and a hopeful reawakening of a happier time for us all.

In February Marie Lycett celebrated her birthday. Marie was 104 at the end of February. She has been a member at Astbury WI, (by my calculations) for an impressive 69 years. NFWI have introduced certificates to recognise our long-standing members. Several of us have been conspiring to grant Marie's wish to celebrate her 104th birthday in some positive way. It was my privilege visit her garden and to present Marie with a certificate and afternoon tea on behalf of the WI on her birthday.

We would like to wish all our members and friends a very Happy, Safe and Healthy 2021.

**Margaret Pearson (President)
Kath Wainwright (Vice President)
Liz Edmunds (Secretary)
Lisa Spencer (Treasurer)
and all our hardworking committee members.**

Members' Minutes of the Committee meeting held on 1940 November 6th at the Rectory, Astbury, following the formation of the Astbury Women's Institute. In the absence of the President, Mrs Wotherspoon took the chair. Present, Mrs Bond, Mrs Brindley, Mrs Caterham, Miss S. Johnson, Miss J. Johnson, Mrs Willis, Mrs Yates. It was proposed by Mrs Brindley, seconded by Mrs Willis, and carried, that Mrs Yates should be appointed Secretary. The appointment of the Vice-President and the Treasurer was deferred to the next meeting. Arrangements for the next monthly meeting of the Institute were discussed, and Mrs Caterham kindly undertook to light the fire and prepare the room.



L/R Rhoda Bailey, Cath Cunliffe, Gwen Williams, Elaine Hancock and Jen Fagan.



Marjorie Stuart Johnson Nov 27th 1940.



2nd picture : L to R Liz Edmunds, Margaret Pearson, and Lisa Spencer our current Secretary, President and Treasurer.



Page from original 1940 Minutes Book. The original meeting place was apparently a building called "The institute" and Miss Caterham who volunteered to light the fire was (I have discovered) the lady I remember as Joyce Porter.



ST MARY'S CHURCH

IN ASTBURY VILLAGE

A message from the Rector:

St Mary's Heritage Team

I have been thinking about preserving St Mary's for long into the future. Naturally we want a worshipping congregation, but there's a significant aspect of St Mary's which is about heritage, history and connection. We need heritage friends, people who love the church building and want it to stay on the map!

Once restrictions are relaxed we are hoping to be able to open the doors every Sunday afternoon in the spring and summer. Passers-by love to come in and have a look, and quite often make a small donation which really helps in these straitened times - especially using our new contactless donation point.

To open, we need a team of heritage volunteers who are willing to take an hour or so of duty on a monthly basis. Think National Trust stewards! At present we don't have enough stewards to open up as often as people would like.

If you would like to support St Mary's heritage please do contact me on 01260 228294.

Revd Anne-Marie Naylor (Rector)



Introducing your community policing team

for Odd Rodde



PC 4692
Kate Ritchie



PCSO 23355
Jeanette Carter



You will see us out and about in your area. Please come and talk to us at one of our regular surgeries at your Police Community Base.



Delivering an accessible police service based in the heart of your community.



Odd Rodde Police



OddRoddePol



#OnlineSurgery

COMMUNITY POLICE ONLINE SURGERIES

Thursday	18th. March	17.00-18.00
Thursday	25th. March	08.00-09.00
Sunday	4th. April	09.00-10.00
Thursday	8th. April	17.00-18.00
Tuesday	13th. April	12.00-13.00
Tuesday	20th. April	20.00-21.00
Saturday	24th. April	11.00-12.00
Thursday	29th. April	20.00-21.00

SAVE THE DATE!

For one year only....

MAY DAY IN JULY!

SATURDAY 17th July

Glebe Farm, Astbury,

BKP of Robert & Lesley Lomas.

Dependant on the timely release of lock down restrictions, social distancing guidelines and any relevant local restrictions, the day will be different to our normal celebrations — likely to be a ticket only event, with attractions, activities and refreshment

announcements to be made closer to the date!

Watch this space!

The census is here

Sunday 21 March



By taking part, you will help inform decisions about the things that matter to you and your community.

If you need help to fill in your census form, we've got it covered.

Visit www.census.gov.uk to find out more.

it's about us

census 2021

ASTBURY ROLL OF HONOUR 1914-1918

It's always great to hear back from you, our parishioners about these brave servicemen, and Robert Bibby, a local farmer from Brownlow has sent in a few details about **James ROWLEY**, who was mentioned in the last Newsletter.

Robert writes:

" A little more on James (Jim) Rowley, He lived where I am on Childs Lane He served in India . In his retirement he would grow a lot of tomatoes to sell locally to callers ,I can remember being sent for supplies, Mrs Rowley was very shy and some people had never seen her but she would open the door to me. In their old age they lived with their daughter and son-in-law in the Potteries, they passed away on the same day Mr Rowley going first. They had been married for 60 years."

A few of the names that are listed in the Roll of Honour, have proved very difficult to trace, so we really hope that someone out there can help us to shed some light upon who they were, as in the case above!

Below are some of the servicemen who have proved difficult.

Arnold MARROW- Unfortunately I can find no record of this serviceman The only person that could possibly be him is farmer's son born in 1894, living in Haslington 1911, and by 1939 he is a farmer living in Audley. I can find no connection to our parishes so far. If anyone has any useful information, that would be gratefully received.

Frank KIRBY- Another service man with no apparent records or links to our Parishes- unless you know differently?

Arthur HUNT- is another who is proving difficult. The nearest I can find is a domestic coachman born in 1885, on the 1911 census living at Timbersbrook. (did he find employment at Great Moreton Hall a few years later?)

Tom HOLLAND- Another service man with no apparent records or links to our Parishes- unless you know differently?

Cecil T SHELDON (choir)- Cecil may be the son of Albert and Annie Sheldon of Boundary Lane, Mossley, Congleton—1911 census. Again I can find no service records. If this is the correct person, he married Mary Turner at St. Peters Church, Congleton in 1926, and by the time of the outbreak of the Second World War, they were living in Southport, Lancashire. Do you know anything that could help to identify him?

Clerks email for any correspondence: jmasonparishclerk@gmail.com

Who are we? Please feel free to get in touch!

John Carter (Chairman) 01260 275828 (A) **Julie Mason (Clerk)** 01260 641854 **Judith Critchlow (vice chair)** 01260 272174 (M)

Andy Banks 01260 281194 (A) Nick Barton 01260 280678 (A) Peter Cliff 01260 275700 (M)

Phill Critchlow 01260272174 (M) Barbara Jelf 01477500541 (M) Ian Parry 07917 050 443 (A)

Rob Lomas 01260 272061 (A) Nick Plant 07801 545 402 (A) Nick Sharman 01260 271374 (A)

Roger Sutton 01260 273677 (A) John Ward 07788418264 (A)

(A) - Newbold Astbury Ward

(M) - Moreton cum Alcumlow Ward

We meet in Astbury Village Hall on the 2nd. Wednesday of every month at 7.30 pm. Please feel free to come along.

Next Meetings: Please check the website.

If you have an item for the next newsletter, any comments, or you would like to sponsor the mailing costs in return for including a leaflet, contact Phill Critchlow. (phill.critchlow@astbury-parish.org.uk)