

Shevington Parish Council
Clerk's Report to the Meeting of the Council – 23 February 2022

Christmas Decorations

The Heras fencing was originally left in place after the lighting was removed because Wigan Council had not secured the lid to the electrical provision at Crooke and the flag covering the tree pit had not been replaced. A couple of weeks ago Cllr Chris Horridge covered the tree pit at Crooke Green with another flag and the contractor was subsequently instructed to remove the Heras fencing. It was due to be removed last Tuesday, but, on last inspection, it was still there.

Christmas Shop-Front Award

The Chairman presented the awards on Saturday, 19 February.

Forest Fold Allotment Tenancy Agreements 2022

The new tenancy agreements were sent to plot holders a week ago and approximately 25% have so far paid their rent.

In Bloom Entry

Shevington in Bloom have let us know that they will not be entering the NWinB competition.

Shevington War Memorial Restoration

Arrangements have been made for the working party to meet on site with the contractor on Monday, 7 March at 9am.

Defibrillator for Forest Fold

Shevington Village Bowling Club have secured a grant of £1,500 from Brighter Borough funding for the defibrillator for Forest Fold. The defibrillator has been ordered and will be installed (I believe) on the front external wall of Scout HQ. Once it has been installed there will be an inauguration to which the Parish Council will be invited to send a representative.

Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan Document

The Strategic Planning Team at Wigan Council have written on behalf of the nine Greater Manchester councils involved to notify us that the Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan Document and its supporting documentation have been submitted to central government. The Notice of Submission, which explains the procedure for the next stage of the Plan, including where the documents are available for inspection electronically. (*See Appendix A*)

Double Parking at Whiteacre

The Area Traffic Engineer has written in reply to our email about the double parking at Whiteacre: 'I am sorry to hear that there are continuing parking issues on Whiteacre. I am sure that you will recall our previous response regarding this matter, which I attach again for your convenience. (*See below*) I'm afraid that our previous comments still stand in terms of the Council's involvement. However, the double parking of vehicles on the carriageway constitutes obstruction of the highway, which is an offence under the Highways Act 1980. Any incidences of such parking should be reported to Greater Manchester Police on their non-emergency tel: 101, or via: <https://www.gmp.police.uk/ro/report/rti/rti-b/report-a-road-traffic-incident/>, for GM Police enforcement action to be taken commensurate with their other duties.'

'Unfortunately, I'm afraid that there is very little that can be done regarding this issue. So long as vehicles are legally roadworthy and taxed, then they are entitled to park on the public highway. However, vehicles parked on the footway constitutes an obstruction of the highway and can also lead to pavement damage, which are both offences under The Highways Act 1980. But, such parking is deemed to be a moving traffic offence, which currently only Greater Manchester Police can enforce against.'

The Traffic Network Section of GM Police have informed us that they do enforce on footway parking, however, they only do so if they consider that the parked vehicle is causing an obstruction, which they deem to be when the footway width has been reduced to less than 1.2 metres (approx 4ft). Any such

obstructions can be reported to GM Police directly on their non-emergency Tel 101, or via their website at: <https://www.gmp.police.uk/ro/report/rti/rti-b/report-a-road-traffic-incident/> The double parking of vehicles on the carriageway also constitutes obstruction of the highway. Consequently, any incidences of such parking should also be reported to Greater Manchester Police.

In addition, the concerned residents may wish to visit the following Council webpage, which provides further information with regard to problem parking issues, and includes a range of joint Council and GM Police endorsed leaflets / warning notices, which can be printed off and placed on to any vehicles that are obstructing the footway, etc: <https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Resident/Parking-Roads-Travel/Parking/Problem-parking/Index.aspx>'

K.M.P. 19.02.22