# Dutton Parish Council Annual Parish Meeting Chairman's Report Wednesday 11th May at 19.30 at Davenports Tea Rooms

Good evening ladies, gentlemen and fellow councillors. Welcome to the Annual Parish meeting of Dutton for the year May 2021 to April 2022.

Before I continue could I ask that we stand for a minutes silence in respect of any member of the parish, or anyone associated with the parish, who has died during the last twelve months.

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to convey my thanks to my fellow councillors for their support during my year as Chairman as well as to our clerk, Janet Whalley, for all her varied and many contributions.

We have met on six occasions during the last twelve months during which our Standing Orders have been thoroughly reviewed and amended and a new contract of employment for our long standing clerk, Janet Whalley, was finalised.

An issue of the Dutton Oak was hand delivered to every resident in the parish in November, and it was decided that should further publications be made, our parish council website would be the right vehicle to use for digital distribution.

Following this publication and a couple of subsequent face to face meetings, it became apparent that the appetite in the parish was not sufficient to organise a parish event to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of the Queen in June. The decision was therefore made to enter into a joint celebration with the parish of Whitley and that Dutton Parish Council would help organise and contribute to the costs of this event.

Most recently a defibrillator, to be located at Davenports Tea Rooms, and associated training was purchased with the support of a Member's Budget grant from our Cheshire West and Chester councillors. I would like to convey our thanks to Lynn Gibbon, Norman Wright and Phil Marshall for this grant.

During the year we have also discussed many planning applications and dealt with various types of correspondence, as well as dealing with other village issues such as drainage, septic waste, Japanese knotweed, the land at the rear of Northwich Road, the HyNet North West Hydrogen Pipeline project consultation and sign damage.

As Chair I have attended two training courses over the last twelve months; Induction for Clerks and Councillors and Chairmanship for Local Councils.

Lastly I would like to take this opportunity to tender my resignation from the parish council as I am no longer a resident of Dutton. I have served for sixteen years on the council and one of the highlights of my time was the being part of the team that organised the celebrations for the Queens Diamond Jubilee in 2012.

Many thanks for attending and please remember that our parish council meetings are always open to the public and, if we can be of assistance with any parish matters you may have, please contact us.

Paula Brierley-Jones 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022



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# Mrs Hannah Broom BA(Hons) NPQH

# **Dutton Parish Council Report**

May 2022

## Ofsted Inspection.

The school was recently inspected by Ofsted as part of their normal cycle of school inspection. As is the norm, school was notified of the inspection and then the Inspectors came to school the next day. This inspection involved two Inspectors who were onsite from 0800 - 17.45. Despite being significantly impacted by COVID infections during the term, the school was proud to welcome the Inspectors and work with them. We were delighted to hear that we remain a Good School. The report can be accessed here.

#### **School Growth**

Through lots of hard work, we are delighted to be gaining so many new children. We will be welcoming 15 first choice pupils for our Reception 2022 class. This is terrific news for the school and is an endorsement of the great partnerships that we have established with our parents and feeder settings. We have also welcomed 3 new pupils into other year groups over spring term and 4 new pupils from other schools are also expected to join over summer term. We will maintain our marketing momentum to ensure that our future is sustainable and more people learn about what a fabulous school Whitley is.

#### Weaverham Music Festival Returns

The older children and staff were delighted to showcase their musical talents at the Weaverham High School Music Festival at the end of March. The children performed three songs and also joined in with a whole group performance at the end. It was wonderful to also see many of our former Whitley pupils participating in the event too. This was the fists time the event had taken place since 2019 and this made the whole experience more memorable for the entire community.

#### **Residential Educational Visits**

As part of our return to 'normality', we are taking our Y4 children to the Conway Residential Centre for three days. This exciting opportunity is one of the many aspects of our investment in outdoor education and character development. We will be joining our federated partner school for this visit. As a small school we would find it very difficult to offer the full spectrum of opportunities to our pupils. Our Federation with the Acorns Primary school has brought many benefits over the years to ensure our pupils get an excellent education. Year 6 and Years 2 and 3 are also due to go on residentials over the summer term.

### Replacement Outdoor Apparatus

We are grateful to FoWS (Friends of Whitley Village School) for their hard work in helping us secure funds to replace some of our outdoor adventure apparatus. In the coming weeks, the children will have the opportunity to enjoy some new apparatus and develop their gross motor skills. This is one of the aspects of school that is incredibly popular with the children. In these times of rising cost we are very appreciative of the support we get from FoWS.

From: susan clements <smc1951d@hotmail.com>
to: duttonpc <duttonpc@btinternet.com>

Date: Apr 22, 2022 2:07:08 PM Subject: Re: WI annual reports

**DUTTON ANNUAL REPORT NOV 2021-APRIL 2022** 

Membership 31 Dual 4

Novembers meeting was our AGM and held in Preston Brook VH, so nice to see people face to face. The Presidents, secretarys and treasurers reports were read out and seconded. The winner of the tallest sunflower competition (seeds given out to all members in our easter bags) was awarded a prize. The evening ended with a Xmas napkin folding demonstration by one of our committee members. This caused a great deal of hilarity as many of the efforts were far from perfect.

Our usual meeting in December was normally a Xmas party with food and entertainment but we decided with many covid restrictions in place this could be problematical. Instead we organised a Xmas afternoon tea at the Park Royal Hotel. It was a great success with lovely fresh sandwiches and lots of tea and cakes. The staff were very helpful, keeping up with our demands for more tea and we all had doggy bags to take home the uneaten cakes. It also gave every one the opportunity to dress up! Januarys meeting was sadly cancelled because of the sudden death of our treasurer Jane Gleave. None of us could believe that Jane was gone so quickly She been our treasurer and committee member for many years. A lovely ,kind and helpful lady whose smile will be greatly missed.

Our February meeting had to revert to Zoom. Some speakers have been reluctant to resume face to face meeting because of covid and some cancelled. We managed to get Sally Felix at short notice who gave us a fasinating insight on what its like to be a vicars wife. She didnt want a fee but said if we wanted to contribute in any way we could donate to the Runcorn food bank. We did this and we received a thank you as we donated 52.2kg of food which equates to 150 meals!

March saw us back in the hall to watch the Bollywood Ladies, a lovely group of ladies who entertained us with foot tapping routines of indian dancing. We also had the opportunity to join in as well. I

realised we shouldnt have eaten so much cake at the Xmas afternoon tea.

In Aprils meeting we arranged a bluebell walk and then had an extremely talk interesting by Mr. Cummings on the Magic of Swans .It was shocking to learn that swans are serious decline. During this period we have also kept up with our lunch club, visiting various hostelries and latterly High Legh garden centre and our craft club making valentine hearts and easter cards. The bowls matches have restarted at the Stag on a friendly basis and also the Darts where we recently won against Runcorn.

Finally, looking forward we have booked a five day coach trip to Northumberland taking in Alnwick Castle and Hadrians Wall for October. 18 members have decided to come. Sue Clements Secretary Dutton WI.

From: duttonpc <duttonpc@btinternet.com>

Sent: 01 April 2022 14:29

To: susan clements <smc1951d@hotmail.com>

Subject: Re: WI annual reports

Hi Sue

No the meeting is normally in May but last year I was late asking.

6 Months would be great.

Sorry for the confusion.