

# Parish Council Newsletter



**AUTUMN 2023**  
**www.waltonpc.org.uk**

In this Coronation year, Walton Parish Council planted a commemorative tree, and buried a time capsule. Parish Council Chairman, Yousuf Shaikh, unveiled the commemorative plaque which states that the time capsule is to be exposed in May 2123.

We are grateful to Revd. Anita Raggett from St John's Church, Walton for officiating. We are grateful to Anita for her support for the Parish Council over the years and wish her a very happy retirement.



## CLIMATE AND NATURE ACTION PLAN

Walton Parish Council are committed to a programme of tree planting in the parish. This Autumn we are planting a number of trees. We have a number of small 'urban' trees – crab apple, rowan, or hazel - perfect for gardens. Can you give one a home in your garden? Get in touch and let us know and we will drop you off a tree!



## AUTUMN LITTER PICK

Please check our Facebook litter group for details of the next pick. Search for...  
*Walton Parish Litter Network*

## THE DARESURY EXPRESSWAY ROAD CLOSURE

Without any consultation with Warrington Borough Council or Walton Parish Council, Halton Borough Council closed the Daresbury Expressway earlier this year. This has led to several problems for Walton. A variety of options were discussed but in the first instance it was decided that the confusing red signs on the A56 would be replaced. If necessary, further mitigations could be introduced in consultation with residents. The road has now re-opened which has led to a decrease in the volume of cars. However, we are concerned that it may close again at a later date. The Parish Council will keep a watching brief on this.

## CONTACTING THE COUNCIL

<b>Parish Clerk - Ray Hallam</b>	Clerk@waltonpc.org.uk, 07801 472083
<b>Website</b>	www.waltonpc.org.uk
<b>On Facebook</b>	www.facebook.com/waltonpc.org.uk
<b>At Parish Council meetings</b>	7.00pm on the first Thursday of each month, except in August, at The Community Church Hall of St John's, Old Chester Road, Higher Walton,

We have recently welcomed a new Councillor - Christina Hewitt – who we are sure will be a very positive addition to our numbers. We have also said goodbye to our friend and long serving councillor Barbara Price. Many thanks Barbara for your years of commitment to Walton.

### *Spring and Summer Flowers for Mill Lane*

In October and November we will be busy planting spring bulbs and wild flower seeds along the verges of Mill Lane. The verges are wide and the hedgerows look lovely from May onwards as the hawthorn bursts into flower and the blackberries appear. We hope that the addition of wild flowers, bluebells and daffodils will further enhance this lovely lane. The plan is to start the planting at the Runcorn Road end and progress along the lane in phases.

### *Local Bus Services*

Walton Parish Council was dismayed to learn that due to the withdrawing of funding for the route from Halton Borough Council which provides a vital service to our residents to access services in Warrington and Runcorn. We were concerned that the main effects would be on the most vulnerable in our Parish. However, after lobbying Warrington Borough Council, our local MP Andy Carter and Halton Borough Council we were delighted when Halton were able to find another stream of funding to enable the route to be restored. It is now being operated by a local Walton bus company, Ashcroft's. Walton is also now served by the new no 10 bus between Warrington and Stretton. This includes a very welcome stop at Warrington Bank Quay.

### *Creamfields*

At the end of September Walton Parish Council wrote to Andy Carter MP, Cream Management, the Police and Crime Commissioner, Halton Borough Council and Warrington Borough Council to request an early meeting with all parties, including residents, to hold a meeting as soon as possible. In recent times, it has seemed that the meetings are not held early enough to ensure the correct mitigations are in place and each year many of the same problems occur. The Parish Council is anxious to address these issues as soon as possible to give residents security of mind

### CHRISTMAS in WALTON

- Lights Switch On
- Christmas carols
- Tea, coffee, hot chocolate
- Mince Pies, Hot Dogs
- Special guest - Santa with his sleigh (5.00 - 6.00pm)



Saturday 2nd  
December 2023  
4.45 to 6.00pm

Join us for  
**festive family fun!**

On the Village Green, Lower Walton.  
(Junction of Worsley & Walton New Road)

Event organised by Walton Parish Council & funded through monies donated to WPC by Creamfields



### *Heritage Spotlight: old Walton lock*

The ruins of Walton Lock and Wharf are located on the Trans Pennine Trail, mid-way between the points where the paths connect with Chester Road (A5060) and the A49 near Morrisons. Walton Lock was built to connect a branch of the River Mersey to the Manchester Ship Canal. The course of the original river followed the line of the linear park off Gainsborough Road. The link with the canal was soon abandoned as railway links improved and the old river channel was left to silt up. Today the decaying lock gates are all that is left of this bygone link between the river and the canal.

### *Walton Village/Walton Estate Liaison Group*

This group comprises Walton Parish Councillors, Walton Estate Reps, St John's Church and residents, and has been meeting regularly to discuss improvements regarding the impact some events have on the village in respect of noise and traffic management. If you have anything specific you would like us to raise at our next meeting in December, please contact our Clerk.