



YOUR GRIMSARGH FIELD DAY SATURDAY, 27TH JUNE, 2015

FIELD DAY 2015 promises to be bigger and better than ever. We have more attractions and activities than ever before, including: The Camdens, Grace Davies, donkey rides, Grimsargh Community Choir, Lancashire Hawks and Owls, Dog Agility Show, Dog Show, Scottish Country Dancers, fancy dress, football tournament, children's and adults' races, WI tea tent, BBQ, and much more. A fantastic new attraction this year is **THE GREAT GRIMSARGH BAKE-OFF**. Children's and adults' cakes will be judged on the day and cakes should be taken to the field for judging before 12pm.

THE PROCESSION will gather at Grimsargh Village Hall at 12.30pm, ready to begin at 1pm. Floats and vintage cars should assemble at Alston Lane School at 12.30pm. We would encourage you to display scarecrows, based on **COMIC BOOK OR NURSERY RHYME CHARACTERS** during the week prior to Field Day.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - CHILDREN'S SPONSORED CYCLE RIDE - Sunday, 12TH July.



WHAT'S FOGG BEEN UP TO DURING THE LAST YEAR?

It's been one year since we told you what's been happening on the village green.

In March last year we were invited to bid for a pot of money and we scrambled together a project within 4 days. We decided on 2 new resin benches, to revamp the old flower bed alongside Preston Road and to source a Longridge provider of stone on which to fix the QEII plaque. All went well with the seats and the plaque but unfortunately we underestimated the amount of soil needed to support the G's and my goodness for those of you who haven't bought top soil for awhile it is nearly as expensive as gold! On top of all of this holidays, illness, the weather and holidays caused a delay in the proceedings for which we apologise, but that said we are just a small band of 3 and volunteers to help with projects like this and bulb planting are always welcomed. I am sure when the sedum grows and the small flowers bloom the bed will look very attractive. We aim to plant some crocus bulbs in the bed for next Spring and some clover to attract bees in the summer. The small tree for all you horticulturalists is a crab apple.

Another initiative has been to do some willow weaving with the community payback scheme volunteering to give us a hand on several weekends. They also helped us with the wild flower garden clearing the debris following strimming of the dead flowers in the Autumn. On behalf of FOGG and the residents of Grimsargh I would like to record our thanks for all their hard work.

We put in two further bids to Green Partnership awards and the local members grant to pay for the cutting back the bulrushes in the pond. FOGG paid the remaining costs through their fundraising efforts. More work will be carried out in the Autumn when the water level falls and it fits in with the eco cycle.

The remaining outstanding issue for FOGG is still the drainage of the football field. We met for a site visit with representatives from Preston City Council and they informed us that they have submitted a bid to a city development fund and are optimistic for it's success. And yes we did show them the mole hills!

We hope to continue with our bulb planting and we are currently discussing a bug hotel, so watch out for this welcome development in Grimsargh. Hopefully it will attract more visitors than permanent resident accommodation!

I would like to finish by thanking both Peter and Tony for all their hard work and for those who volunteered or supported us during the last year, and say please more volunteers, whether with fundraising, practical help or other please do contact one us

Tony Cookson Tel 651 303

Peter Croft Tel 652 037

Joyce Chessell Tel 653 751

By Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell

OBITUARY

Dr Douglas Watt

It is with regret that we learned of the passing of Dr Douglas Watt, Many of you will remember Douglas as the chair of the steering committee, known as Graft, which he founded as a charitable fundraising body to build a village hall in the early 70's.

Memories of the 200 club and the monthly dances at St. Wilfred's club, Longridge, the Father Christmas float (making sure Bert was fully wrapped up with a hot water bottle and flask to keep him warm), field day (the egg and bacon stall and the female adult team v the youth club playing football against each other. Thank goodness for Mr Duff and the late Dr Hodgkinson complete with hand bags for joining in with the ladies team), it's a Knock out at the greyhound stadium, yet another rough and tumble, (before health and safety engulfed our lives!) and not to forget our junior grafters who managed to keep silent for one hour. I guess that might be impossibility today.

These are just a few of the memories I have of those years when Grimsargh fostered a great community spirit.

The task was not without it's ups and downs and I am sure you will all have your own memories of floats, field days and walks etc all carried out under the dedication, commitment and watchful eye of Douglas and his wife Helen, without whom the village hall might never have been built.

Douglas not only played a great part in the life of Grimsargh, (he was a Parish Councillor) but he was also a very well respected medical consultant. specialising in cardiology and was in involved in the setting up of the post recovery care of cardiac patients.

We have of course remembered Douglas in naming Douglas Lane after him.

May he rest in peace. Our thoughts and condolences go out to Helen, his wife, and Douglas's family

By Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell

PARKING

We have received a number of comments about parking issues in various parts of the village. We would like to remind people to park considerately where ever you park in the village.

Try not to double park and please stop and think if an emergency vehicle can get through. If parking with wheels on the verge which we appreciate is sometimes safer please consider if you have left enough room for a pram or invalid buggy to get past. Are you parking on and damaging grass verges? We do not want double yellow lines in the village. Careful considerate parking can stop the problem getting out of control.

GRIMSARGH POST OFFICE



The recent remodelling of our local post office means that it is now open longer. The many services include mail, cash withdrawals, travel money, and telecoms , along with all those handy every day essentials.

New opening hours are;

Mon, Tues: 6am – 8pm

Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sun: 7.30am – 7pm

GRIMSARGH WETLANDS

As most of our residents are aware United Utilities (UU) hosted two drop in sessions last year at the Village Hall to consult on their proposals to hand over to the Parish Council the former reservoirs with a small dowry, in exchange for some limited development on Preston Road. We have renamed the reservoirs Grimsargh Wetlands to reflect the importance of their biological heritage.

Both these sessions were well attended with residents being broadly in favour of the proposals. Some specific concerns had been raised with UU such as the layout of the proposed properties and positioning of the garages and with our help we feel that UU has gone as far as they can to address these issues.

We are still discussing with UU the final details of financing this scheme. As we all know these things do take some time as we need to ensure that we obtain the best possible deal for the Parish Council and residents of Grimsargh. We are currently arranging for local searches to be carried out and we have now received a report from a Reservoir Engineer which outlined all the current information on the reservoirs and the maintenance implications. This will help the Parish Council in negotiating the final costs of this project. In the meantime, we have not been idle and have visited two fairly local

Community owned and managed projects - Garstang Millennium Green and Gorse Hill Nature Reserve in Ormskirk. Although different in size and purpose, there was much to learn that will apply to managing Grimsargh Wetlands in the future, and we are extremely grateful for the volunteers at both venues who have been so generous with their time, knowledge, and advice.

Our newsletter is an ideal opportunity to update you on progress. When UU have finalised their planning application for the proposed development which should be shortly we will of course keep everyone informed.



CCTV

Over the last 18 months, Grimsargh Parish Council has been working with our local police to reduce crime in and around our village and have discussed numerous possibilities.

One incentive discussed -the implementation of CCTV- was identified as being the most beneficial in aiding our local policing team to reduce criminal activity in our community.

With a CCTV system fitted and maintained in the village this will hopefully help the police to apprehend criminals but more importantly will deter them from entering our village in the first place.

At our recent Annual Parish Council Meeting on 14th May, the Parish Council decided to proceed with implementing CCTV with the cooperation of your local policing team to ensure that the village remains a safe environment especially during the summer months.

Work on this community project will begin during the next few months. Residents wishing to obtain more information are welcome to contact the Parish Council at: all@grimsarghparishcouncil.org.uk

BLOOMING MARVELLOUS IT'S PLANTER COMPETITION TIME!



All, but one, of the existing planter “parents” have confirmed their wishes to continue with their existing planter. We have had two new volunteers to adopt the two on Railway Walk and are hopeful that we may get someone to plant and maintain the final unadopted planter.

We will be judging them again this year and the Parish Council has agreed to purchase a trophy to present to the owner of the winning planter.

They bring colour and beauty and they really do enhance our village. We appreciate the efforts made by both individuals and groups to maintain the planters. We feel that they are an asset to our village in the Best Kept Village competition. So let the competition commence and get your trowels ready!

PLANNING UPDATE



Most of you will now know that Preston City Council refused the Gladman Planning application for their development off Preston Road next to Elston Lane. We believe we put together a strong case in opposition to this application – and we were very delighted with the support we received from residents. Particular thanks must go to Jonathan Heaton and Mark Goodwin who provided an exceptional level of support and guidance, for which we are very grateful.

Of course the battle is not yet over, as we know Gladman have submitted an appeal against the decision. At the time of going to press we have not heard of any date for the hearing. We will keep you posted via the website and Facebook (if you've not yet liked our Facebook Page.....you really should!).

The Preston Local Plan is the “final” piece in the jigsaw of the update to local planning policy and this is entering what we hope will be the final stages of determination with the completion of the assessment by the Planning Inspector. A key part of the assessment of the Local Plan has been in regard to the five year housing land supply figures – to which the Inspector has made no recommendations for change – which is a strong indication that he deems that Preston City Council can demonstrate that they have an adequate housing land supply at this time. A deficit in this target was a key element of the arguments by Gladman (and other developers) in their cases for their development proposals in Grimsargh. Hopefully the Local Plan will be fully adopted by the end of summer 2015.

LANCASHIRE BEST KEPT VILLAGE 2015

Last summer we were thrilled to be awarded the Hambleton Shield as runners up to Freckleton in the Large Village category, and it's only natural that we are hoping for that top spot this year!

Independent judging will take place from 6 June until end of July and we receive no notice of the visits, which are quite comprehensive. The focus is very much on how well we ‘keep’ our village so it's really important that as well as having our planters and floral displays looking their very best we keep on top of litter and weeds. We'll be having at least one mini ‘clean up “operation” mid-June so if you'd like to help please follow our Facebook page to find out when and where.



JWS RECYCLING PLANT



Some of you will be aware of a recent planning application to increase the hours of working on their licence to 24hrs a day Monday to Friday, and until 10pm at weekends. As your local Parish Council we are aware that there have been concerns raised on noise, smell, light pollution and increased traffic.

Because of this we invited JWS to give a presentation to the Parish Council, and we give a brief summary of this here.

Firstly it is no longer JWS. The building has been bought by a family owned company in the Philippines who are world leaders in plastic recycling. The aim in Preston is to make multimillion pound investment in new state of the art machinery to sort and bale plastic and export it to Asia for processing. To justify this investment they want to operate on a 24 hrs basis and this will create jobs in the area.

To operate 24hrs they are applying for changes to their licence. They want to operate after 10pm, but this will be for working inside the building only. As they currently have security lights in the yard there will be no increase in light pollution. Traffic Volumes will not vary greatly from present and will only operate within the times of their current licence.

With regards the smell problem they acknowledged that they had had a problem which was actually caused by trying to restrict dust. They have worked with environmental health over this problem, and have now cured it.

From the presentation and response to questions, the Parish Council felt it did not have any reasonable grounds to object to their application to change their licence but we did stress that the licence should be for recycling plastics only at the site. We also suggested to the company that they should smarten up the side of their building so they will hopefully take this on board.

The new company and management are very approachable and are willing to talk to groups or individuals or show them round the factory. If you would like to see the site or have any concerns please contact Damian Perkins, Managing Director on 01772 790893.

DISPOSAL OF CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION WASTE AT HOUSEHOLD WASTE RECYCLING CENTRES



We all like taking our rubbish to the tip or to use its correct name the Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC), but did you know that from 1 June 2015 residents will have to pay to dispose of construction and demolition waste when taking it to the HWRC!

Lancashire County Council need to make significant savings by 2018 and they have agreed a charging policy to reduce the £750,000 annual cost of dealing with construction and demolition (inert) waste which also includes soil, rubble and plasterboard.

Lancashire County Council is bringing in a permit system which will limit the amount of construction and demolition waste that people can deposit free of charge. If you want to take any of this waste to the HWRC you need to apply for a permit and this will allow you to take to the tip ten 25kg bags of inert waste in a calendar year. Any further inert waste will be charged at £3.50 per 25kg bag. If you do not apply for a permit you will be charged for all your inert waste - this includes items such as a toilet or a sink. This new policy allows each household to deposit free a quarter of a tonne of inert waste each year but we stress that you must apply for a permit. There is no charge for the permit.

Further information is available on the Lancashire County Council website. If you want to apply for a permit then you can do this online at www.lancashire.gov.uk/waste or by phone 0300 123 6781 or by post by writing to Waste Management Group, County Hall, Preston, PR1 0LD.

Please remember you can apply for a permit at any time but the charging policy starts on 1 June 2015.



IS DOG FOULING ON THE INCREASE?

A number of people have approached us to complain about increasing levels of dog fouling in the village - pavements, grassed areas and footpaths. And we have noticed it ourselves.

Why you should ALWAYS clear up promptly after your dog:

Dog waste is not only an extremely unpleasant and unwelcome commodity - try cleaning it off the wheels of a scooter at the end of the school run - but is also the perfect breeding ground for bacteria (Campylobacter and Salmonella) and other forms of infection.

The most damaging of these is caused by the roundworm *Toxocara canis*. The eggs of this parasite are present in much dog waste and although initially not infectious, once the eggs hatch they pose serious health risks to any individual unlucky enough to ingest infected soil.

The effects of Toxocariasis range from mild flu like symptoms that often go undiagnosed to a more worrying form that affects the eye and can lead to permanent blindness.

So those are the risks for the "victims" of dog fouling. The risk for the guilty party is a £50 fixed penalty notice, with the possibility of a court case and up to £1,000 fine. Why risk it when there are bins well placed throughout the village?

Most dog owners are responsible and do clear up after their dog. Sometimes one may genuinely not have spotted when the dog has "been" - many people will feel confident enough to help them out there and point it out.....some may not.

So.....please ensure that you always clear up immediately after your dog. There is no excuse for not doing so. Help us to identify any culprits who are failing to be good neighbour and who are also breaking the law.

If you are aware that someone is persistently offending, then the responsible thing to do is to report them - firstly to Preston City Council, and if they are unable to do anything, to the police (contact details given below).

To those dog owners who are less careful, the message is simple:

It's your (dog's) mess - clear it up!!

Contact details for dog fouling:-

Preston City Council online - complete the report a street cleaning problem form. telephone - 01772 906909

Or Contact PCSO David Reid at Broughton Police Station on 863390 or by email david.reid@lancashire.pnn.police.uk

GRIMSARGH HUB REMINDER... GET YOUR EVENTS AND GROUPS ADVERTISED!



In the last newsletter we spoke about "Grimsargh Hub" - the website set up to provide information on community events going on in Grimsargh and to help to minimise clashes. This is a reminder to use it. There is more information starting to appear - but it will only be as successful as you make it!

So - if you're part of one of our array of wonderful community groups and you're planning an event - check out the website to ensure there's no clash: www.grimsargh.com

Then email us at events@grimsargh.com giving as much information as possible - we'll put it onto the calendar and maybe put on a News item to help publicise it for you!

COULD IT BE YOU?

With all the publicity and media coverage of the other recent elections, many of you may well be unaware that there was also a Parish Council held this year. However – as there were 7 nominations received for 9 positions, it was an uncontested election, with the following persons being appointed as Parish Councillors:

Councillor Peter Burton

Councillor Mrs Joyce Chessell

Councillor Mrs Lynda Cryer

Councillor David Hindle

Councillor Keith Middlebrough

Councillor Mrs Eileen Murray

Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson

Councillors Lynn McCann and Dan Dewhurst stepped down from the Parish Council and we thank them for their service and hard work.

We now have two vacancies on the Parish Council which we are looking to fill as soon as possible. If you are interested in joining us and want to find out further information please contact our Clerk, Sue Whittam.

We do ask that people who are interested in the Parish Council come along to our meetings to find out more about the work we do. You can also find further information on our website at www.grimsarghparishcouncil.org

Parish Council Grants...

Did you know that Grimsargh Parish Council gives small grants to support worthy causes in the Parish? We are always pleased to hear from local groups that benefit the residents of Grimsargh and we will try and help where we can. If you would like to apply for a grant you can either write or e mail the Clerk, Sue Whittam, or alternatively you can download our small grants guidelines and the application form direct from our website at www.grimsarghparishcouncil.org

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

Contact Details

Councillor Mrs Lindsay Philipson (Chairman) – 01772 654983

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To send an email to all of us – use:

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