

# SCARISBRICK PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

## ISSUE 2: JULY 2023

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

I hope you are all keeping well and enjoyed the many bank holidays we had last month. It certainly was an eventful May, featuring the first coronation that most of us have seen in our lifetimes.

At long last summer is here and brings with it long sunny days and warm evenings. Here at Scarisbrick Parish Council we are busy making the final preparations for our annual garden competition along with a brand-new scarecrow competition.

Further details are included later in this newsletter - we are really looking forward to seeing what Scarisbrick has to offer!

Two topics that are regularly brought to the Parish Council's attention are speeding and flooding. I am pleased to report that our councillors and working groups have been hard at work over the past year making inroads into tackling these issues.

Our Speed Indicating Devices (SPIDs) have been touring the Parish for some time now, with the aim of both slowing down speeding drivers and to collect valuable data in problem areas. The data gathered can be shared with the relevant authorities who will be able to target those areas most badly affected.

I'm also delighted to say that the two cabinets for the storage of flood equipment have now been installed and have been stocked with emergency flood equipment. Whilst the winter floods we have experienced in recent years may seem a distant memory, it is hoped that this initiative will prove invaluable in protecting resident's homes and property in times of emergency. The cabinets are secured but will be unlocked during inclement weather when there is a high possibility of local flooding. Affected residents will be able to access the equipment as needed to assist in dealing with flooding at their properties, please see further details later in the newsletter.

Wishing you all the best and I hope you have a fantastic summer.

Cllr Alex Blundell

### WEST LANCASHIRE HERITAGE ASSOCIATION GRANT

Following a successful application for funding, Scarisbrick Parish Council has gratefully received a £500 grant from West Lancashire Heritage Association. This will be used to purchase owl and bird boxes for Millennium Wood, and also a small quantity of modern sandbags to assist residents as needed (see Flood Equipment section).

### PARISH CHAMPION GRANT

An application for funding was submitted to assist in the purchase of flood equipment and the Parish Council received a grant of £500 from the Parish Champion. This has been used to purchase modern sandbags and flood barrier 'snakes' (see Flood Equipment section)

### SpID PROJECT

The SpIDs continue to be deployed around the Parish and you have probably spotted them. These units are rotated around Scarisbrick and the Council has recently approved the funding for two additional devices that will be dedicated to specifically targeting speeding on Southport Road. The columns have been installed and the equipment is in storage. We are expecting them to be up and working very soon.

The following table is the data collected from the SpIDs during February 2023 to April 2023. More detailed data is available on our website.

### SpID DATA

<u>Smithy Lane Sept – APRIL 2023</u>		
<u>Southport Road proximity</u>		
<u>Average</u>	<u>Max Speed</u>	<u>Traffic Volume</u>
In – 38mph	In – 86mph	In – 34,668
Out 38mph	Out- 104mph	Out – 32,370
<u>Heatons Bridge proximity</u>		
<u>Average</u>	<u>Max Speed</u>	<u>Traffic Volume</u>
In – 34mph	In – 70mph	In – 25,213
Out – 37mph	Out – 80mph	Out – 26,239

<u>Pool Hey Lane – February 2023 – March 2023</u>		
<u>Southport Road proximity.</u>		
<u>Average</u>	<u>Max Speed</u>	<u>Traffic Volume</u>
In – 29mph	In – 68mph	In – 8,153
Out – 32mph	Out – 62mph	Out – 10,031
<u>Bescar Lane February 2023 – March 2023</u>		
<u>Average</u>	<u>Max Speed</u>	<u>Traffic Volume</u>
In – 24mph	In – 58mph	In – 51,820
Out – 23mph	Out – 52mph	Out – 60,574

### SCARISBRICK LITTER GROUP

The Scarisbrick Litter Group is a local volunteer group who, since their formation, have collected nearly 450 bin bags of rubbish (weighing 2000 kilos) during organised activities from around our local roads and verges. The Council provides financial support as needed to purchase equipment etc. There are also individuals who carry out these duties by themselves. All their efforts to keep Scarisbrick clean and tidy are very much appreciated.

The group are always looking for more volunteers and if anyone is interested in joining, please contact Mike Wilson on 07702 564654

### **SCARISBRICK PARISH COUNCIL GARDEN COMPETITION 2023**

Scarisbrick Parish Council is holding its 2023 Annual Garden Competition and would like to encourage gardening enthusiasts to display their gardens in the most attractive and imaginative way. So, "DON'T BE SHY, GIVE IT A TRY!"

During the judging of the 2022 competition judges noticed the number of vegetable plots and the high standards to which they were maintained. So, for 2023 a Vegetable Plot category has been added to the competition and a new trophy will be presented to the winner.

#### **THE COMPETITION CATEGORIES ARE:**

**Best Front Garden, Best Rear Garden, Best Hanging Baskets/Window Boxes/Containers and Planters  
Best Water Feature/Garden Pond, Best Non-Domestic Premises, Best Vegetable Plot**

The Competition is open to all residents of Scarisbrick. The closing date for entries is Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2023 with judging taking place on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2023. The presentation of trophies and certificates to the winners will take place at the Parish Council Meeting on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

Further details and an entry form are available on our website: [www.scarisbrick.today](http://www.scarisbrick.today)

### **SCARISBRICK PARISH COUNCIL SCARECROW COMPETITION 2023**

Scarisbrick Parish Council is launching a Scarecrow Competition this summer which will be run alongside the gardening competition. The theme will be "Sunny Scarisbrick in Coronation year 2023.

The Competition is open to all residents of Scarisbrick. The closing date for entries is Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2023 with judging taking place on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July 2023 and the presentation of trophies and certificates to the winners will take place at the Parish Council Meeting on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

Further details/requirements and an entry form are available on our website: [www.scarisbrick.today](http://www.scarisbrick.today)

Andy promised to return if he could help with any further issues in relation to local policing, so the Council would be keen to hear your views either by email or your attendance at a parish council meeting.

### **FLOOD EQUIPMENT**

The flood cabinets are located at St Marks Parish Hall and at St Elizabeths Presbytery. In the event of forecast torrential rain the cabinets will be unlocked so that affected residents can access the flood barriers and bags. These are modern gel type items and so are easy to transport, they are non-returnable and will need to be responsibly disposed of after use.

### **FRIENDS OF BESCAR LANE STATION**

The Friends of Bescar Lane Station work very hard to provide a beautiful floral display at the Station which is enjoyed and supported by local residents and passers -by. Unfortunately, the displays have recently been vandalised with plants and equipment being stolen. The Council has provided financial support to the Group so that the replacements can be purchased and their activities can be continued.

### **MORRIS DANCERS RED TELEPHONE BOX**

We received a number of suggestions for the use of the telephone box. These included the possibility of making it into a Scarisbrick heritage display with images, artwork, dioramas, being visible in the window panes.

The telephone box is in very poor condition and we will be obtaining estimates for its refurbishment before taking this any further. However, if any local residents, artists, or organisations have images that they would be interested in contributing to this type of display please do let us know.

### **SCARISBRICK PARISH COUNCIL**

Your current Parish Councillors are:

Alex Blundell (Chairman), Chris Berks (Vice-Chairman), Nichola Makin, Jane Marshall, Charles Marshall, Allan Pickersgill, Mike Wood, Stephen Roberts and George Pratt.

Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer - Judith Smith

We currently have a vacancy for a Parish Councillor. Please contact the Parish Clerk if you would be interested in joining us.

If you have any comments on this newsletter, or anything else about Scarisbrick, please email us on: [scarisbrickpc@outlook.com](mailto:scarisbrickpc@outlook.com)

Take a look at our website at: <http://www.scarisbrick.today> Our Facebook page: Scarisbrick Parish Council

### **SCARISBRICK SNIPPET**

#### **DID YOU KNOW??**

The Mission of the Good Shepherd (the corrugated iron building on Smithy Lane) was made in kit form with each joint numbered so that the congregation could erect it themselves. In 1907 it was delivered from Wigan on a barge down the canal and then carried across the fields to where it now stands as a building of importance to the heritage of Scarisbrick.

If you have an interesting snippet, or a tale of Scarisbrick folk, that you would like to share, please send it to us.