

THURNHAM with GLASSON PARISH COUNCIL Newsletter January 2022

Welcome to the bi-annual newsletter

Parish Council meeting dates for 2022

Parish Council meetings take place at Glasson Dock on a Monday starting at 7PM. The March meeting each year will be held at Thurnham Institute.

Meeting dates for 2022 are:

January 17th, March 14th, May 16th (which includes the AGM), June 13th, July 11th, Sept 12th, Oct 10th & Nov 14th (when the Precept is discussed).

Changes in Parish Council membership

Since the last newsletter, there have been changes to the membership of the parish council. Alan Stalker has stood down from his role as councillor and the Parish Council would like to express their thanks for all his hard work and contribution over the years and wish him well for the future. Simon Bibby also resigned and the PC would like to similarly thank him for his input. Recently, two more councillors have joined the PC, Alison Stevenson and Nicholas Thorn, both of whom are extended a warm welcome.



Thanks and acknowledgements

The Parish Council would like to extend their thanks to Aquavista and the Canal and River Trust for their attendance at several parish council meetings as well as other pre-arranged meetings with councillors, to address issues that have been raised. Their efforts to establish a meaningful partnership and engage with councillors is very much appreciated. A mention of thanks must also be given to Tostevin who have been undertaking the lengthsman work in the parish. Feedback has been positive and their role is vital in keeping the area in good order.

Finally, the Parish Council would like to express their appreciation for Cllr Pomfret and McGrath as Glasson Action Partnership (GAP) representatives and PC members. Their work in maintaining the community gardens, street furniture, and other objects, is much valued. Cllr McGrath is the liaison point in relation to any lengthsman work undertaken by Tostevin.

Roads, signs, and speeding

Have you noticed that the roundabout at the junction of School Lane and Ship Road has been repainted? Councillors reported that it was very badly faded and with a little additional help from County Councillor Gina Dowding, we were very pleased to see that it is now clearly visible to all approaching the junction. (Possible picture here). The parish council has also reported to county highways that a large number of road signs in the parish are damaged. County Highways has agreed on a programme of work replacing and repairing road signs. We will look out for improvements in our signage over the coming months!

The Chair of the Lancashire Road Safety Partnership, Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner Andrew Pratt, will attend the March Parish council meeting (to be held at Thurnham Institute). Items to be discussed will be speeding issues, especially in Thurnham, and general Highway matters. A further update will appear in the next newsletter. Residents from Thurnham, Glasson, and elsewhere in the parish, are invited to raise issues about safety on rural roads in the parish.

The Parish Council, with support from County Councillor Gina Dowding, has been in contact with County Highways on several occasions to ask about a 30 mph speed limit on the A588 at Thurnham, but without any success. However, County Highways arranged for the installation of a mobile unit at a location on the A588 in Thurnham during November 2021. It was in situ for 2 weeks to assist with addressing speeding issues. We have been informed that cameras to control an average 50 mph speed limit for the A588 as a whole, planned as part of improvement works along the length of the road, will not be installed in 2022 due to tendering issues. The Lancashire Road Safety Partnership website has information for local communities regarding reporting of speed concerns. The link is <https://lancsroadsafety.co.uk/>

Residents are reminded that if they witness incidents of nuisance or dangerous driving, they can contact the police directly either by the non-emergency telephone number 101, or on the Lancashire Constabulary 'Do It Online' webpage with a record of the registration numbers of the vehicles. reporting system. [https:// Potholes, signage, and other highway issues, can be reported via the Highways online \[www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/report-it/\]\(http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/report-it/\)](https://Potholes, signage, and other highway issues, can be reported via the Highways online www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/report-it/)



Car Park in Glasson Dock

As many people will know, Aqua Vista have altered the parking system in the large carpark at Glasson Dock and installed a payment system based on an app. The parish council did point out to representatives of Aqua Vista that this might not suit many of the users of the carpark who might not have a smart phone. When the system was installed that was exactly what happened and many people were unable to use the car park. The parking is managed by a car park company, not directly by Aqua Vista. Residents and business owners discussed these issues with Aqua Vista representatives at the parish council meeting on 17 January 2022. Aqua Vista staff pointed out that even although car park usage had fallen after the changes, more money was coming in in payment than had come in before, suggesting that before the new system many people did not pay to park. Residents and others pointed out however, that people were not objecting to paying but to the method of payment which they felt wasn't appropriate for the users of the car park.

At the meeting Aqua Vista agreed to meet business owners for discussions and also agreed to a review of the car parking system, including consideration of contactless payment.

Bus shelter on the Lock Garden area in Glasson

The parish council has been working on plans for a bus shelter in Glasson Dock for quite some time, following requests from concerned residents. Councillor Erik Pomfret prepared plans and artist's impressions based on locations in the garden by the Lock or the position where the bus stop is now by the Lockkeepers Rest. The parish council has been involved with many discussions with statutory bodies. However, the Canal and Rivers Trust has expressed concern about a bus shelter on the approach to the swing bridge, for safety reasons, and is in favour of the new location for the shelter which is the redundant building formerly used as a shelter for the car park attendant. Aqua Vista has been positive about this move and it will be raised at an executive meeting and they will inform the PC of the outcome in due course. There are very few suitable locations for a bus shelter in the centre of the village of Glasson Dock but with this new plan we look forward to progress on a bus shelter and would welcome input from bus users.

(Contact: Erik Pomfret : epom@hotmail.co.uk)



Public Rights of Way

The parish council has received funding from Lancashire County Council to do some work on public rights of way in the parish. This will be concerned with smaller items like way markers rather than larger items like bridges, but it will give an opportunity for walkers in the parish to report items to the parish council. Further details will be available after the March meeting of the parish council when a plan for reporting will be developed.

Post Office

The parish council has not been formally told about the resumption of the post office but we have been told informally that will be returning to Glasson Dock starting on Tuesday 15th February. A temporary post office will be open from 11.15AM until 1.45PM every Tuesday providing an extensive array of services. It was reported that these new opening times will overlap with the existing regular Tuesday morning Coffee Morning.

Christmas lights

There were no lights on the tree in the centre of Glasson Dock at Christmas 2021 because of the work being carried out by Canal and Rivers Trust on the lock. It had been the intention to have solar lights for the tree in the Penfold, but that one was blown down in a storm. So unfortunately Glasson Dock missed its lights again this year. Plans are already being developed for Christmas 2022, when it is hoped that the Canal and Rivers Trust will help us to install Christmas lights in the Lock Garden.



Lancaster Port Commission liaison meeting

The Parish Council had a liaison meeting with the Port Commission on 12th January 2022. Full details of this meeting can be found in Appendix 4 of the 17th January 2022 minutes which are available on the Parish Council website.

Key points are that Fox Brothers have taken over the stevedoring at the Port from Glasson Grain. Fox Brothers will also be moving aggregate from quarries in Anglesey by sea with onward movements by road from Glasson, thus saving a very large number of lorry movements from Wales to the North West. These lorry movements will now be out of Glasson. The PC would like to be kept updated on movement of goods through the port both by tonnage and number of HGV vehicle movements.

Both Fox Brothers and the Port have processes to deal with any issues concerning speed or safety of HGVs approaching or leaving the port. If residents have concerns about a particular episode of unsafe driving they can contact the Port Office on 01524 751724 with details, including the registration number if possible.

Scrap metal movements from the port have stopped as Morecambe Metals were deregistered for scrap movement from the east quay. Scrap metal movements could resume in the future from a different quay. With regards to operating hours & noise, the Port Commission stated that in general, loading and unloading operations take place on weekdays between 7 am and 5 pm, although this may vary because the activity is tidal.

Luneside Trail upgrade

The Parish Council has been informed by Lancashire County Council that the first stage of the improvements to the Luneside Trail will provisionally commence on 24 January 2022. The works will take 2 weeks to complete and the path will remain open for the duration, managed by the contractors. This phase is to scrap back the path between Conder Green car park and Aldcliffe Hall Lane to its full width and cut back vegetation, shrubs & overhanging branches encroaching on line of the path.



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