

Village Issues

Reports from Dist Cllr Janet Brown

VE Day Anniversary

Dist Cllr J Brown has received the following from Christine Charnock (Democratic Services Manager)

‘We have had a few Councillors and members of the public asking what will be happening around the VE Day anniversary for May 2020.

Following discussions with John Harker, Strategic Manager – Armed Forces, I can now inform you that in consultation with the Leader, there will be a big celebration/commemoration event in Mesnes Park over 2 days 08/09 May 2020, which will be a carnival type atmosphere. This will start with a parade through the town and finishing at Mesnes Park. There will be military bands playing in the band stand, veterans sweetheart type singers, fairground attractions, bouncy castles and the like, together with food and drink outlets and street party atmosphere etc.

John is also looking at a vintage car, motorbike show, military vehicles and a Military village, as much as we can muster really. He wants the vintage vehicles and motorbikes to take part in the parade as well as floats from companies who operate in different areas of Wigan. This event will be similar to the Town Carnivals that used to be held.

This event is still in the planning stages, but John would like the whole borough to get involved. There are plans to put on coaches to bus people into Wigan for the day from other areas and it would be great to get the whole borough involved.

Local companies that have signed the covenant have been asked to get involved and help fund the event and the feedback so far has been positive.

It is intended to get Wigan Pride, schools, Youth Zone and other community groups involved.

If you can help John in any way, these please contact him using the details as set out below:-

John Harker MBE
Strategic Manager - Armed Forces
Customer Transformation
Wigan Council
Wigan Life Centre South
Tel: 01942 827584
Mobile: 07780945993

Cllrs Paul Collins, Marlaine Whitham and Janet Brown were involved in two productive meetings last Friday (28 November):

Meeting with the Sergeant Nick Forshaw re ASB Near Shevington Library

In response to our concern about the recent spate of anti-social behaviour in the village, Nick Forshaw requested Central Watch to dial into the camera, every half-hour or so, to scan the area for youths congregating, the following weekend. On duty until 22.00 hours, his team

Appendix A

would be contactable via police radio if such a situation arose. I have also put in a report which our newly formed Community Resilience Team should have accessed.

During our discussion, we also agreed to moving the camera back to its original position, outside the Plough and Harrow, covering any cost, so the current lamppost will be free for the Christmas Lights. Paul will lead any funding.

Parking Outside Shevington High School

I had asked for a traffic enforcement officer or PCSOs to visit Shevington High School at 3 pm as parents are parking opposite the school gates and are abusive to staff if they suggest they find a safer and more appropriate place to park. Nick Forshaw offered to speak with traffic enforcement but the situation has changed and liaison has been more difficult. However, we were told by Darren Findley, our Traffic Manager, that double yellow lines along that stretch are to be imminently approved.

Meeting with Traffic Management

The crossing patrol on Old Lane, opposite Elnup Avenue, has not been replaced. However, we were under the impression that a zebra crossing was to be installed there in the next financial year. However, Traffic Management were not aware of this proposal. Apparently, a Pedestrian Vehicle Survey that had been conducted showed that it did not meet the criteria for a zebra crossing. Marlaine has sent an email regarding this to ascertain if this the case.

Although the crossing patrol has been reinstated on Church Lane, as it stands this remains an uncertain situation. However, the Traffic Managers have agreed to a PVS survey there and the extension of double yellow lines from the corner of Church Lane to the far side of the bus stop. This will help to prevent double parking and improve the view of oncoming traffic from nearer to the school.

Darren Findley has also pursued my report about vehicles using the zebra crossing to access the area in front of the shops in Broad O'th Lane. He has been able to determine the legal means for traffic enforcement to apply fixed penalty notices for any vehicle misusing the crossing in this way.

The traffic managers also agreed to look at the situation in Wilton Road again, even though it was recognised that there are double yellow lines at the exit to Shevington Lane. Identification of vehicles parking along there would be investigated.