

Shevington Parish Council
Clerk's Report to the Council Meeting of 18 December 2019

Christmas Decorations

The new decorations for street lights in Appley Bridge and Shevington Moor have been fitted and have been the subject of good comment. All Christmas trees have been fitted and dressed. The issues relating to the way the Christmas tree at the centre of Shevington village was dressed have been resolved and the tree is no longer leaning. It was not possible to install one of the lamp post motifs in Shevington centre, as the Police wished to keep the camera in place and the extra socket for the camera was not fitted when it should have been.

FP01 – Footpath from Broadacre to Boundary Lane

The Rights of Way Officer has written in reply to our enquiry about what can be done about the increasing amount of flooding along this stretch of footpath. She fears this is an increasing problem that Wigan Council is being requested to help with throughout the borough.

“Dependent on where the surface is worst will impact on what can be done. If it is a field path, the Council in the majority of instances can do nothing, specifically if the excess water is caused through natural rain or ground water. If there is a cracked field drain or culvert then colleagues in Drainage may be able to contact the landowner and request that remedial works are carried out.

Where a flooded footpath is a field path, the Council is restricted by what can be done. In such cases the Council should not alter the character of the footpath, plus a landowner would not agree to a stone surface being laid specifically if the field is used for growing crops - the path would soon be ploughed. Also, there may be implications if the field margin has been left as part of a 'set a side' scheme to encourage wildlife.”

She has requested, if it is possible, further information and, ideally, a couple of photographs. This would be of assistance, and she could at least discuss this with colleagues.

Vicarage Lane Fields Developments

The building contractor has confirmed that they will be on site the week commencing 6 January 2020. The building work will run through to mid-June approximately. Meanwhile, the sports clubs have submitted a planning application for the fence, bin store and hard standing for the containers.

'In Bloom' Theme for 2020 Revealed

The RHS have revealed that the theme for 2020 is *Grow Social*. They would love to see people making new connections in the community through plants and reach beyond the 'garden gate' to bring people together. The RHS have also sent news of the grants that will be available.

The Wigan Community Capacity Officer has written that Wigan's theme will continue to be the Olympics and encouraging natural, wildlife friendly spaces.

Wigan North Community Network Event

This will take place on 30 January at St Marie's Church Hall, Standish. The room has been booked from 4pm until 7pm to give stallholders enough time to set up and dismantle.

K.M.P. 13.12.19