

## **District Councillors' Reports to the Parish Council: 30 October 2019**

Dist Cllr M Whitham had sent a report which included the following:

### **Dementia Information Event**

1<sup>st</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> November: Wigan Library.

A unique opportunity for anyone affected by dementia to access vital help and information in one location will take place next month. Two information days have been set up by Wigan Council following the conclusion of a 12-month consultation which asked residents what support they required. People are welcome to attend either day at Wigan Library in the Life Centre North on Friday 1 November, 10am – 2pm and Saturday 30 November, 9.30am – 1.30pm.

### **VE Day 2020**

A big celebration/commemoration event is planned, to take place in Mesnes Park over the 2 days 08/09 May 2020.

It will start with a parade through the town and finishing at Mesnes Park. There will be military bands playing in the band stand, veterans sweethearttype singers, fairground attractions, food and drink outlets, a street party atmosphere and vehicle displays. This event will be similar to the Town Carnivals that used to be held. **It is hoped that the whole borough will be involved.**

**To offer help or ask for further information, contact John Harker -Strategic Manager - Armed Forces.** Wigan Council; Wigan Life Centre South, Tel: 01942 827584 Mob: 07780945993

### **Regeneration of Wigan Town Centre.**

Wigan Council acquired **The Galleries** for redevelopment – which had previously been under private ownership – in 2018 after it had suffered from a historic lack of investment. Plans to transform The Galleries are moving forward (see local press). Further engagement with market traders and retailers will be held over the next few months. Focused public engagement will also take place to refine feedback received from the Big Listening Project. The relocation of the market to a more accessible location is one option likely to be explored. Last month, it was revealed that **King Street** in Wigan will benefit from a £2m facelift through funding secured by the council to create a Heritage Action Zone over the next four years, bringing key listed buildings back into use, as part of this wider Framework.

### **The Fire Within Art Exhibition**

Based at The Galleries, it continues to be open Monday-Saturday 11:00-15:00

### **Greater Manchester's Buses**

Please see the consultation on the proposed franchising scheme. <https://www.gmconsult.org/strategy-team/gmbusconsultation/>  
There are public information events across greater Manchester; e.g. Wednesday 13 November, 09:00-20:00, Bolton, Middlebrook Shopping Centre; Friday 15 November, 09:00-17:30, Wigan, Spinning Gate Shopping Centre, Leigh.

## **Appendix A**

### **Traffic Issues**

Ward Councillors continue to discuss with our Community Police Team and with Council Officers to seek whatever support and solutions are possible in relation to parking, traffic congestion and speeding.

We continue to press for re-grading of our school crossing patrol sites.

### **Flooding**

Gully cleaning has continued and where blockages have been found, action taken.

Dist Cllr J Brown reported the following:

#### **Flooding in Back Lane**

Back Lane had been flooded again last Saturday. All culverts and gullies have been checked and found to be clear. The conclusion was that the flooding was caused by the sheer volume of water.

#### **Blocked Drainage in the Centre of Shevington Village**

The issues were being investigated by the LA's drainage engineer. There was evidence to indicate that they were being caused by the activities of a local business in the area. The engineer would be writing to the owners of the business.

#### **Speeding Along Shevington Lane**

A resident had raised concerns about traffic speeding along Shevington Lane. The LA's Highways officers had suggested that the resident should carry out a speed count with equipment provided by the LA. The resident refused. A third Neighbourhood Watch group has now been set up in the ward. This one will cover Shevington Lane and its members have agreed to monitor the speeding.

#### **Safety Barriers at J27**

The safety barriers that were removed at the time when the cycle tracks were being introduced have finally been re-instated.