

**Shevington Parish Council**  
**Clerk's Report to the Council Meeting of 13 December 2018**

**Display Poppies**

The display poppies have now been taken down and placed into storage for use in future years.

**Christmas Decorations**

The new lamp post motifs have been erected and have been switched on. One is not working. This has been reported to the suppliers, who are addressing the issue. The Christmas trees have been dressed by Wigan Council's operatives and the lights are now switched on.

**Standards Committee Letter**

We have received a reply from the Democratic Services Manager to our letter to Wigan Council's Chief Executive. It is attached.

**Attempted Abductions**

Greater Manchester Police have issued the following statement in relation to recent incidents which are being heavily discussed and over-emphasised on social media. There have been some reports recently about a white van and attempted abductions which are having a negative impact on the community in terms of confidence and safety.

*"Investigation Update: Locally we have received reports of a white van, acting in suspicious circumstances and being involved in attempts to abduct pedestrians. These matters are currently under investigation. Such reports are being mirrored across the whole of The Greater Manchester area, with widespread reports of similar offences. In addition to this, across social media there is a massive amount of information being shared about such activity - a lot of which is not being reported to the police. It is important to note that at this time no person has actually been abducted.*

*Please share the following key messages:*

- 1) Remain vigilant at all times and please report any suspicious activity to the POLICE - we can't act if we don't know about it.*
- 2) If possible make sure family and/or friends are with you when you are making journeys on foot. When this is not possible make sure that you keep in touch with friends or family to let them know when you have arrived safely at your destination.*
- 3) Remain conscious of your surroundings and try to avoid being distracted by your phone/listening to music etc.*

*It is important to note that there are thousands of white vans in use across our communities and that the vast majority of these are involved in normal work and leisure activities and should not be viewed with suspicion simply because of the type of vehicle they are. Should your suspicions be raised please contact the police and allow us to take appropriate action rather than taking matters into your own hands."*

**Missed GP Appointments**

Dr Sarah MBE, Clinical Director of Patient has written the following to the Chair of the PPG:

*"It's no secret that the NHS is under incredible stress, and the pressure only increases as the weather gets colder. But did you know that missed GP appointments contribute to the problem? A Did Not Attend (DNA) is someone who doesn't get to their healthcare appointment but doesn't let their surgery know beforehand. This means the doctor is waiting, but no patient shows up.*

*DNA is a serious problem. Around 13 million GP appointments are missed each year. This clearly is a waste of valuable resources, but it also means that the number of genuine appointments surgeries*

*can offer are reduced. If you can't attend your appointment, please do let your surgery know as soon as possible. That way you can free up the service for someone who really does need it."*

**Bowling Green Shelter**

The high winds have damaged the roof of one of the bowling green shelters. This has been reported to the SVBC, who are responsible for their maintenance.

**Conifer Hedge at Bowling Green Car Park**

The section of the conifer hedge that had died has been removed and replaced with laurels, as agreed.

**Meeting with Allotment Tenant**

The Chairman of the Garden Club and the Clerk have recently met with a tenant to discuss issues at his boundary with the neighbouring farmer's field that were giving concern to other tenants. The purpose of the meeting was to try to resolve the issues, which will now, hopefully, happen.

**K.M.P. 07.12.18**