

# The Newsletter of Willington Parish Council

September 2020 Newsletter No. 21



## Welcome

Welcome to your new Willington newsletter. This newsletter has been distributed to every household in the Parish and is on our website (<http://willington.org.uk>). You may have received this newsletter as an E-Newsletter! So far, we have 44 out of 130 houses that have signed up to our new E-Newsletter.

## E-Newsletter



Your council would like to deliver as many of these newsletters via email as possible, we hope you welcome the many benefits for us as a community for doing this. Thank you for signing up to the email version! Please encourage your neighbours to do the same, where possible.

**Your new newsletter has been put together by our editor, Jeanette at Badgers Gate. The email version contains additional topical articles. We welcome all contributions to our newsletter, please forward them by 31/10/2020 to the Clerk or you may post your articles into the council post box which is situated on the council notice board at the Village Green. Articles may include: book reviews, recipes, gardening and housekeeping tips, Willington history, Willington wildlife etc.**





# Community Update

Article contribution: Donna Okell



## Transport

Doing what we can to make a positive impact on the environment and engaging our communities has become increasingly important. Your Councillor, Donna Okell, is investigating the possibility of having a Transport for the Community service; an affordable, reliable and environmentally friendly service that connects us to local villages and beyond. Utkinton and Cotebrook Parish Council has been working on a service for some time, we plan to explore ways in which we can include Willington in any future plans.

## WhatsApp Willington Neighbours group

Donna Okell has set up a WhatsApp group for Neighbours of Willington. It's mainly used to keep each other connected and informed. If you would like to join the group, please text Donna directly on: 07739799722.

## Willington Community Coffee Morning

You are invited to Willington Community Coffee Morning!

Please join us at: The Boot on Thursday 24th September at 10:30am for a catch up with neighbours new and old; subject to the prevailing Covid-19 restrictions. Mike, the landlord at The Boot, has kindly and generously offered to provide the tea and coffee for us. COVID-19 restrictions are in place at The Boot.

Please RSVP to: Donna Okell at:  
07739799722

## Willington Quiz Night

Thank you to everybody who joined the weekly Willington Quiz on Zoom. We had a lot of fun and even learned some things! We are now holding a monthly quiz night and whilst social distancing remains, we will continue to use Zoom. Our next quiz will be: 7th October at 19:00. We generally have five rounds of five questions. If you'd like to join in please contact Donna Okell with your name and your team's name. Your team can have any number of players.







# Wellington Hounds

Article contribution: Beverley Crossley

When lockdown was announced, and we were all confined to our homes, many people invested in a dog – puppies or rescue dogs – and so many more homes have four legged friends than before. Whether you're a new dog owner or have owned dogs for a long time, here are some top tips from our resident 'dog-expert', Councillor Beverley Crossley.

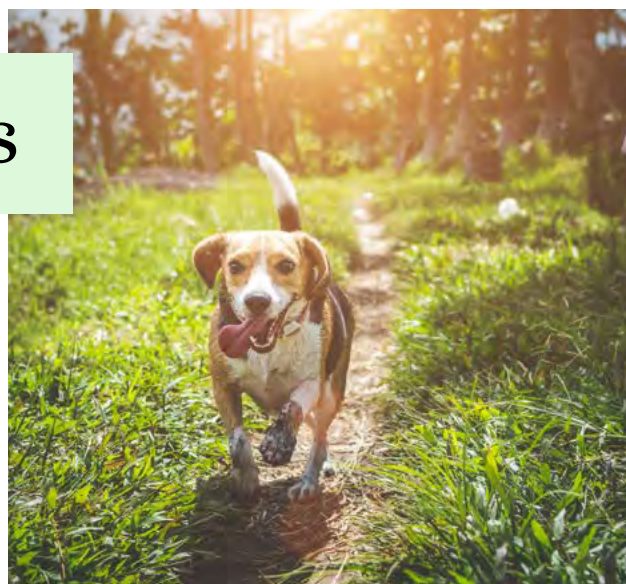
Regular grooming for your dog is essential for its well-being, whether it's done by a professional groomer or at home or both. It is ideal to get your dog used to being groomed from being a puppy. This will prevent them becoming fearful of the grooming process and in fact make it an enjoyable part of their routine. Brushing is vital to prevent your dogs coat becoming matted and helps to remove dead hair, dirt etc. it also will stimulate the natural oils in the fur and the skin and will result in a glossier coat. Additionally, during the hot weather if the coat is kept brushed and matt free then the air can circulate around the dog's fur and help to keep it cool however long the coat is.

**Short haired dog?** Ideally groom once a week.

**Rough coat or long hair?** This type of dog will require much more grooming and clipping.

**Best time to groom?** During the later part of the day when they are most likely to be more relaxed and calmer.

**What type of brush?** There is a brush out there for all dog types that produce all different results, ask your vet or groomer to recommend a brush specific to your dogs needs.



## Doggy Ice-Lollies

### Ingredients:

• 1 apple, 1 carrot, 300ml water, meaty edible dog treat stick and paper cups for a mould. This makes x5 lollies.

### Method:

1. Slice and chop your apple, remove all seeds and core. Then grate your carrot.
2. Measure out the water into a jug and tip in your apple and carrot. Blend with a hand blender until smooth.
3. Pour the mixture into small paper cups and freeze until partially frozen.
4. Once they are partially set, take them out and add a meaty stick-shaped treat to create the stick of the ice lolly. Place back in the freezer until completely set.
5. Remove the paper cup before giving one to your dog. It may be a good idea to give your dog in an area that is easy to clean up!

**To make a cat ice-lolly, swap the apple and carrots and replace with the drained liquid from 1 tin of tuna in spring water and 400 ml of water.**

# Willington Task Force

Article contribution: John Grimshaw

Many thanks to the task force members who turned out to complete all of the tasks listed in the June newsletter. A number of residents have commented on the improvements to the path width between Willington Corner and Quarry Lane.

The main outstanding item is the repair of the steps at the top of Little Switzerland. The Public Rights of Way section of Cheshire West Council are unable to undertake the work due to the lack of funds. We have however, reached an agreement whereby they will supply the materials and we will undertake the work. Another area of concern is the state of the path supporting the wall up Little Switzerland. We have enlisted the help of our Borough Councillor in pressing for this work to be completed with some urgency, or the path will become unsafe to the extent that it will have to be closed.

If you have any ideas where the task force could be usefully deployed please contact John Grimshaw and they will be included within future programmes.



## Litter

Willington has always been popular with walkers and cyclists and more so recently due to the 'lock down', which tells you something about where we live.

The down side to this has been an increase in litter. You may not have noticed this as our litter picking team have been out and about, and we thank them for continuing to do this.

Items that we are increasingly coming across are sanitised wipes/gloves and 'energy' drinks/gels.

Please continue to dispose of your litter safely and encourage others to do so too.





# Speeding and Traffic

Article contribution: Rob Winterbourne

We continue to work with CWaC and our police community support officer to tackle the speeding problem on Willington Road and Chapel Lane, and the hazards on Roughlow. Progress is disappointingly slow in some areas (largely due to Covid) and we share your frustration. Here is a brief update.

## Speed awareness signs

CWaC Highways have agreed in principal that a permanent speed sign (known as a VAS) can be sited on Chapel Lane should we decide to go down that route; we are waiting for a formal quote from CWaC. An alternative to a VAS sign would be to buy our own portable 'smiley -face' speed indicator (known as a SID) for occasional deployment by our 'speedwatch' volunteers in multiple locations. We are in contact with a number of suppliers and depending on what our requirements, a SID costs between £750 and £3000. In the meantime, we will be deploying a 'loan' SID in September.

## Speed limit reduction to 30 mph for Willington Road

In a couple of weeks, CWaC Highways expect to have the results of the speed survey conducted on Willington Road many months ago. The results will form part of the decision-making process on the reduced speed limit i.e. does the road meet the Dept for Transport guidelines for a 30-mph zone. We are also looking at the possibility of buying our own 'speed-gun' (our PCSO is struggling to get hold of the gun we used previously). In the meantime, we have managed to borrow a speed-gun from Christleton. A big thanks to Christleton Parish Council. The speed-gun will enable us to capture speeding vehicle information, and could result in the driver receiving warning letters from the police.



## S-bend and horses sign on Roughlow

We have agreed a suitable spot with CWaC Highways on Roughlow (on the left-hand side about 50m down the hill from the entrance to Roughlow Farm) for suitable warning signs. The signs have been ordered by CWaC and they will arrange installation once they arrive.

## Making speed signs visible

A big thank you to the owners of hedges who have responded positively to our requests to cut them back where they were obscuring speed signs (particularly along Willington Road).

## More 'speedwatch' volunteers needed

Our current volunteers are and will continue to be a vital part of our speed monitoring activities; unfortunately there aren't enough of them. If you would like to help with the speed-gun and SID deployment in the village (only a few hours a month), please contact the Clerk. Full training will be given.

**If you witness a traffic incident in the village, we would encourage you to inform the police of the incident via the 101 phone number or online at: <https://www.police.uk/pu/contact-the-police/what-and-how-to-report/how-to-report/>**

# Newsletter Recipe

Article contribution: Jeanette at Badgers Gate

*'This is one of our staple family favourites and is enjoyed in both summer and winter months. A crusty roll with lashings of butter is a must! I hope you enjoy it as much as we do.'* Jeanette

We welcome your recipe contributions, please send them to the Clerk at: [clerkwillington@gmail.com](mailto:clerkwillington@gmail.com)



## Creamy leek, potato and pancetta soup

**You can also create a vegetarian option by removing the bacon and pancetta.**

**Serves 4-6 (depending on portion size!)**

### **Ingredients:**

30g butter with sea salt (or salted butter)  
200g pancetta (optional)  
2 bacon rashers per person (optional)  
Salt and pepper to season (optional)  
2tsp chopped garlic  
2 chopped onions  
4 washed and chopped leeks  
4 medium peeled and chopped potatoes  
900ml strong vegetable stock  
1tsp Dijon mustard  
1tsp Wholegrain mustard  
150ml single cream

### **Method:**

1. Melt the butter in a large deep pan, then add the pancetta, garlic and onion. Cook until they start to turn golden. Add the leeks and potatoes, stir well, cover and cook on low for 5 minutes. Stir after 2 minutes to avoid any of the mixture sticking to the pan.
2. Pour in the vegetable stock, add some seasoning, then cover and simmer for 20 minutes until the vegetables are soft.
3. Allow the mixture to cool for 5 minutes. While it is cooking, grill the bacon until crisp. Add to the top of the soup at the end.
4. Blend in a food processor or using a hand blender until smooth. Add in the mustard's and cream and blend some more.



# Your Council

## About Your Council

Welcome to our new Councillor, Beverley Crossley. Beverley has a wealth of business and committee experience and we look forward to her contributions.

The Parish Council has a Facebook page; search for [Willington Parish Cheshire](#).

Cllr John Grimshaw (01829 752177)  
Cllr Rob Merrick (01829 458387) - Vice Chairman  
Cllr Andrew Nicholas (01829 752029) - Chairman  
Cllr Donna Okell (07739 799 722)  
Cllr Beverley Crossley (07812 071633)

## Next Council Meeting



The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on: Tuesday 29th Sept @ 19:30 via video conference. Council meetings are open meetings; you are welcome to 'attend' and listen to the discussions.

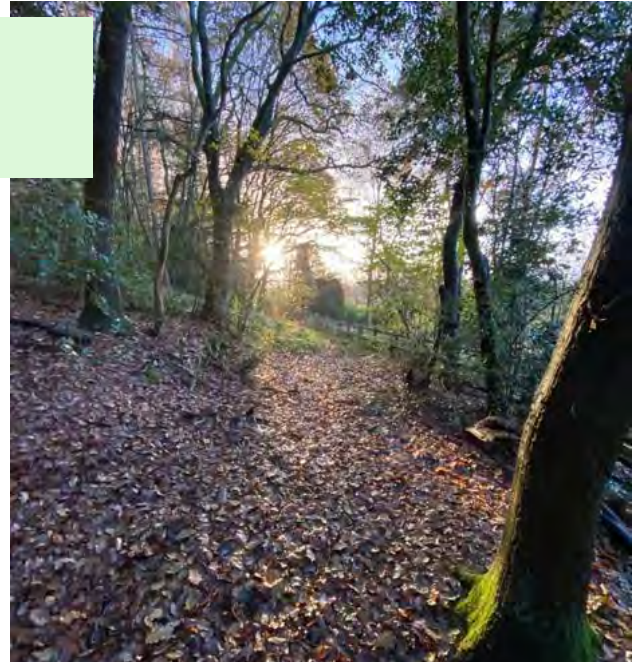
## To Contact Us:



Write to Rob Winterbourne, 1 Lilac Close, Willington, CW6 0PL, Tel: 01829 751266 or email at: [clerkwillington@gmail.com](mailto:clerkwillington@gmail.com)

## Your CWaC Borough Councillors are:

Cllr John Leather (01829 752558) or email at: [john.leather@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:john.leather@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)  
Cllr Harry Tonge email at: [harry.tonge@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:harry.tonge@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)



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## Village Notice Boards

We currently have two notice boards on our Village Green; one for Parish Council notices, which is secured, and the other for community spirited messages.

Please add any newsworthy items or messages you may have on the community board, which is unlocked and further up Chapel Lane.

