

Adlington Town Council Annual Report to Electors 2021-22

Town Mayor's Report

In the second half of 2021 with things returning to some sort of normality the Town Council managed to enjoy some civic events. Our Council with the adjoining Parish Councils of Anderton and Heath Charnock are currently planning a series of local community-led events to celebrate the Adlington and District Queen's Platinum Jubilee long Bank Holiday weekend from Thursday 2nd to Sunday 5th June 2022. We will be publishing a free Queen's Platinum Jubilee Trail Programme in May which will be delivered to every property across the District. Also watch out for FACEBOOK announcements @AdlingtonDistrictQPJ or on the Town Council's page: adlingtontowncouncil.co.uk/queensjubilee

CIVIC SUNDAY September 12th 2021

On Sunday September 12th 2021 Adlington Town Mayor, Kevin O'Donnell, and ATC Councillors, hosted the CIVIC SUNDAY at St Paul's Church and afterwards at St Paul's Club. It is a tradition going back many years and usually held in May. Thank you to everyone involved in the organisation and support of this day, but especially to St Pauls Church, the visiting vicar, Fr David Sutton, and the Church Wardens for organising a beautiful church service. The service was accompanied by the Rivington and Adlington Brass Band and they sounded wonderful in the church. The final hymns were the National Anthem and Jerusalem. The Adlington Town Council Civic Awards for 2020 and 2021 were presented in the Club after the church service. These are awarded to residents of Adlington who have been nominated by someone in the community for something they have done, in or for the community, to contribute to our society and to make it all the richer.

Remembrance Sunday 14th November 2021



Photo shows The Town Mayor, Cllr Kevin O'Donnell (right) with Cllr Stuart Clewlow holding the two name plaques

The Adlington and District Civic Remembrance event was blessed by excellent weather to remember those local people who had fallen in the service of this country. We paraded from the Community Centre to St Paul's Church and to the Cenotaph on Railway Road for the outdoor memorial service which was well supported by the public.

Diligent research work of newly released archives by Cllr Stuart Clewlow has unearthed the names of four people from the district, who had died in service of our Country; Joseph Wiggam (1914), George Henry Tapping (1917), Elsie Rawlinson (1943), and John Glover Chadwick (1954). Adlington Town Council had agreed to fund and commission two new plaques to honour those four individuals as a Community Award grant approved in 2020. The plaques were added to the War Memorial by Chorley Council in time for Remembrance Sunday 2021. The Service and the wreath laying were held outside led by Fr Francis, of St Joseph's RC Church, Anderton. Lighting has also been installed by Chorley Council to illuminate the War Memorial in future.

Carol Concert December 13th 2021

The Town Council went ahead with the Christmas Carol Concert in December, having missed out in 2020 and we were really glad we did. The Community Centre was a joyous place to be that evening and it felt like Christmas really was coming. With a lot of help from Councillors and other volunteers, we ran a raffle for a hamper, served a lovely hot pot and raised over £230 for the Mayor's Charity Derian House.

We enjoyed a lovely evening listening to Rivington and Adlington Brass Band and singing along to our favourite carols. I was delighted to be accompanied by the Mayor of Chorley Cllr Steve Holgate, and the Mayors from Blackrod and Westhoughton.

Induction of Rev Graeme Buttery, St Paul's Church, Tuesday 1st March 2022

I was delighted to attend St Paul's Church to mark the inauguration of Rev Graeme Buttery at St Paul's Church in Adlington. There was a lovely service led by the Bishop of Burnley, His Grace Rev Phillip North. The Town Council wishes Rev Buttery and his family a lovely time in Adlington, and I'm sure everyone will make them very welcome.

I've been delighted to support other events during the year, including a craft fair at Fairview Community Centre, and visiting Adlington Primary School to carry out the draw for their Christmas and Easter Raffles. I also attended Chorley Mayor's Charity Fund raising event on 26th March in the Lancastrian Room at the Town Hall. I really wanted to attend this and support the Mayor of Chorley Councillor Steve Holgate (a former Mayor of Adlington) who had supported Adlington at a number of our events in the last few months. It was an entertaining evening with the Charity Auction conducted by Sir Lindsay Hoyle in his own inimitable fashion!

I'd like to conclude by saying that during my time as a Town Councillor and the Town Mayor I have learnt a huge amount about Adlington and the people who live and work here, and I really believe it is a lovely place to live. It is the people who make it so. I would like to thank everyone, especially fellow Councillors who give a lot of their time to Council matters, who have supported me during the last 20 months, at times through some difficult circumstances, and I hope we can look forward more positively to the rest of 2022 and beyond.

Councillor Kevin O'Donnell, Town Mayor of Adlington, April 2022.

Clerk's Report Finance

Chorley Council approved the precept for 2021/22 at £19,000 as in the previous financial year. This comprised £17,184 from the local "tax base" which was enhanced by a top-up grant of £1,816.

Expenditure increased in 2021/22 as the Town Council was able to re-start its annual civic calendar and its community and environmental initiatives even though some social distancing measures remained in place for most of the year. The Town Council was grateful to receive a donation of £500 towards the traffic management costs of the closure of Railway Road for the Remembrance service.

In total £4,926.84 was actually spent on Community Award grants. This comprised costs incurred over three financial years. There were two deferred 2020 Community Awards for the name plaques for the Adlington War Memorial and in December 2021, Adlington Luncheon Club said that it planned to re-launch its activities. In addition, two rounds of Community Grants which were agreed during the year: five Grants totalling £2,042 were approved to local organisations from the delayed 2021 scheme and in keeping with the Town Council's normal timescale three Grants were approved totalling £1,805, in February 2022.

The district-wide floral hanging basket contract had been missed in 2020. Chorley Council was able to brighten the Village in 2021 once again with stunning floral displays on the lamp posts. The Town Council pays annually for the bulbs and plants for its six planters. These are located at the Market Place, under the Notice board on Park Road and at the War Memorial. They are part of Adlington in Bloom's District-wide initiative which adds colour and interest throughout the year.

Given the positive response to small-lit tree initiative in 2020, the Town Council continued its financial support and the scheme's promotion. Light Adlington 2021 received increased support from 36 local businesses, three community organisations and one Primary School who collectively sponsored an impressive display of 50 lit trees across Higher and Lower Adlington. This was enhanced by residents and other businesses, who lit their own properties or gardens, to make it an initiative that the community could take part in.

In February 2022, the Town Council paid Chorley Council the Community Infrastructure Levy funding of £2,577.35 which had been saved since April 2017 towards the upgrade of the football pitches at King George V Recreation Ground in Adlington. Chorley Council is due to start the contract on site in 2022/23. It also includes the improvement of the sport changing room facilities.

There is a full breakdown of the income and expenditure in 2021/22 in Appendix 1.

Councillors

In November 2021, Cllr Clive Hart resigned after 12 years of service as a Town Councillor in the North Ward. In March 2022, the Town Council was saddened by the death of a former long-serving and a well-respected Town and Chorley Borough Councillor, Florence Mary Molyneux. Florence had been a Town Councillor for 36 years, only retiring from her role in April 2019.

The Town Council advertised its two vacancies in the North and West Wards. In January 2022, the Town Council welcomed both Alison Rothwell and Amanda Cross as co-optees for the North and for the West Wards respectively. The Town Council now has a full complement of 12 Councillors.

Cllr Kevin O'Donnell has been the Town Mayor since August 2020 supported by Cllr Beverley Speers who was appointed as the Deputy Mayor in September 2020. Both continued in these roles to lead the Town Council during the 2021/22 financial year.

The Town Council was pleased to be able to re-start its traditional annual programme of civic events and community initiatives as Coronavirus social distancing measures gradually eased. The Town Mayor was able to invite the dignitaries of neighbouring local councils to take part in the Town Council's civic programme. The Town Mayor accepted invitations to attend other civic activities.

Village Matters

The annual Village litter pick and local environmental clean-up campaign was jointly arranged with Adlington & District in Bloom in May 2021 and was well supported. The Town Council entered the Village into the Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition. The printed Town Council Update Newsletters began with the Autumn 21 and Spring 22 editions to inform residents of the activities happening in the Village.

Between them Cllrs Hart and O'Donnell again informally assessed different sections of the Adlington Circular Walk to examine the condition of the footpath, the boundary fencing and the signage to identify any maintenance requirements along the route, which together with other public footpaths have become more heavily used.

The Town Council continues to do its best to respond directly to problems reported by residents and/or by referring matters to either Chorley or Lancashire County Councils or relevant agencies for their assistance to address the issues that residents have identified.

In October 2021 we asked Lancashire County Council to consider the concerns of a 125 bus-route driver who thought that traffic conditions at peak times on Chorley Road were putting passenger safety at risk when alighting from the bus. As a result in March 2022, Lancashire County Council as the Highways and Transport authority has temporarily closed the original bus stop and has relocated it closer to the Cardwell Arms whilst it monitors the situation.

On behalf of the community, the Town Council has voiced local concerns to Northern Rail, to Lancashire County Council and to Grant Shapps MP, Secretary of State for Transport through the support of our MP, Sir Lindsay Hoyle to ask for the improved stopping train service that Adlington was promised once the line electrification was completed, and for the disruptive issues which have led to the reduced stopping train service at Adlington and Blackrod stations to be properly resolved to allow passenger confidence to be restored.

The Town Council maintains three **Automated External Defibrillators** which are in place around the Village.

Planning

Chorley Council is the Local Planning Authority. It carries out a formal consultation procedure for each application, which includes notification to neighbours and stakeholder organisations. Chorley Council decides whether planning permission should be granted or not.

The Town Council continues to monitor all planning applications in Adlington, and welcomes representations from all interested parties. The Town Council comments as a consultee. This gives the Local Planning Authority an indication of local opinion and may suggest changes or conditions for

the benefit of existing residents and/or to protect the environment for Chorley Council to consider in making a decision on each planning application.

Meetings

From May 2021, the UK Government said all council meetings must be on a face to face basis which the Town Council did starting from the two Annual meetings on 10 May 2021. The Town Council has continued to invite residents who wish to raise an issue of local concern to do so with the Clerk and/or by attending the 30 minute Open Forum at the start of each Town Council monthly meeting to speak directly to the Town Council.

Since October 2021, the Town Council has initiated a series of joint meetings with Anderton and Heath Charnock Parish Councils to plan for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June 2022. These meetings have engaged with a diverse range of local community, church and voluntary groups, youth service, sports clubs and facility providers to create a soon to be announced series of local activities and events. These aim to offer something for everyone and to showcase the District, its community and their talents. It is hoped that everyone across the District will support, enjoy and remember this significant national milestone through the Adlington and District Queen's Platinum Jubilee from 2-5 June 2022.

Representation

The opportunity to represent the Town Council on external bodies has begun to increase. The quarterly Chorley Liaison meetings, where the Town Mayor represents the Town Council, are now held as hybrid events allowing attendance either in person or by participation on-line.

The Town Mayor did recently raise Adlington's profile through an article which appeared on the front page of the Lancashire Evening Post. In it Cllr O'Donnell expressed the concerns felt by many local councils, which were discussed at the January 2022 Chorley Liaison meeting, at the additional expense required to buy new light-weight floral hanging baskets and to pay for the lamp posts to be inspected which Lancashire County Council says are required on a six year cycle. In March 2022, the three local councils in the Adlington District each agreed to commit this investment to ensure that the District-wide hanging baskets will be in place in time for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee long weekend and throughout the summer.

Adlington Town Council continues to address local issues and problems and welcomes the involvement of all members of the local community in ensuring a positive future for the Village.

Information about the Town Council's Activities and local public information

The Council has a Website, Facebook and is on Twitter. It uses all three to give out information, to offer various contact options, and it updates its four Noticeboards across the Village twice monthly.

Cllr Buckley updates the Council's website www.adlingtontowncouncil.co.uk

The Town Council's regularly adds information on its annual meeting programme, meeting Agendas and minutes, and on the Town Council initiatives as they take place during the year.

Cllr Speers regularly updates the Council's Facebook page with local news and public information <https://www.facebook.com/AdlingtonTC>

During the pandemic the Council's Facebook page provided an impartial and a reliable source of information on Coronavirus, notification of the Government's changing legislation and guidance on social distancing measures and other actions that were required to keep people safe.

The Town Council is on twitter where Council meetings are also advertised at [@AdlingtonTC](http://www.twitter.co.uk)

How to Contact Adlington Town Council

Please contact Adlington Town Council through the Town Clerk: Ms Christine Bailey

Address: 12, Berry Square, Blackrod, BL6 5DU

Telephone: 07896 729646

Email: clerk@adlingtontowncouncil.co.uk

Website address: www.adlingtontowncouncil.co.uk

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AdlingtonTC>

Twitter: www.twitter.co.uk @AdlingtonTC

Members of Adlington Town Council

Councillor	Phone	Ward
Kevin O'Donnell	01257 482107	Central
June Molyneaux	01257 481184	Central
Stuart Clewlow	07866 925602	Central
Alison Rothwell	07549 532689	North
Jeanette Lowe	01257 481415	North
Peter Wilson	01257 474678	North
Alan Robinson	01257 752112	West
Kim Snape	07868 327395	West
Amanda Cross	07812 413854	West
Beverley Speers	01257 481321	East
Peter Walkden	07777 606726	East
Nina Buckley	07568 733129	East

Appendix 1 - Financial Summary 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022

Expenditure	
Clerk's Salary (including mileage expenses)	7423.80
Administrative & Telephone Costs	726.79
Insurance	488.28
Audit	360.00
Subscriptions	76.00
Mayor's Allowance	750.00
Civic Sunday	435.00
Mayor's Inauguration	0.00
Remembrance Sunday	1,259.96
Carol Service	543.55
RBL Wreath	19.25
Streetscene Enhancement (hanging baskets, plants for planters & Notice board minor repair)	4,803.89
Streetscene Enhancement (Light Adlington 21 community initiative)	3,680.00
Training costs	500.00
Newsletter – Printing & Production	667.00
Newsletter - Distribution	718.50
Community Awards Scheme	4,926.84
Automated External Defibrillators - consumables	210.00
Room Hire Charges	116.00
Other Projects & Contingencies	0.00
In-advance costs relating to the Adlington and District Queen's Platinum Jubilee June 2022 Trail programme	1,463.55
Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Expenditure towards upgrade of pitches at KGV Recreation Ground	2,577.35
TOTAL	31,745.76
<i>The above figures include £1561.27 VAT which will be reclaimed in 2022/23</i>	
Income	
Precept	17,184.00
Precept Top-Up Grant	1,816.00
Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Expenditure in three payments retained since April 2017	2,577.35
Bank Interest	2.84
Credit Union Dividend - net of fees	0.00
Contributions received for Light Adlington 21 Community Initiative	2,725.00
Donation towards traffic management of road closure for Civic Remembrance Service	500.00
Parish contributions received towards Adlington and District Remembrance Sunday	242.57
VAT reclaimed from HMRC for the 20/21 financial year	264.80
Remaining balance transferred from ATC's reserve account to the current account during the year	8,477.52
TOTAL	33,790.08
Excess of income over expenditure at 31 March 2021	2,044.32
Town Council additional resources	
Petty Cash	250.00
Reserve Account	15,461.12
Unify Credit Union Account	5,235.60
Sub- total	20,946.72
Overall carry forward into the 2022/23 financial year	22,991.04