

GREAT SANKEY NEWS

The Newsletter of Great Sankey Parish Council
Spring 2007

Volume 1 Issue 4

IT'S OFFICIAL - PARISH COUNCIL SIGNS FOR 2 MORE PCSOs



Cllr Hudson (Vice Chairperson) signs on the dotted line with Inspector Heywood

The quest by Great Sankey Parish Council to help residents by reducing anti-social behaviour got another boost in February when they formally signed up to help fund an extra 2 Police Community Support Officers. This is in addition to the 2 who have been working in the Parish since April 2005.

The 2 new PCSOs, who are currently in training, came along to the Parish Council meeting on 14th February 2007 to meet the Council; along with Inspector Heywood, who is well known to the Council through previous liaison.

The success of the original 2 PCSOs, Natalie and Colin, and the benefits which Parishioners feel they bring, inspired the Council to sign up for more.

The Council has also been liaising with the Police Neighbourhood Action Team to get temporary CCTV installed at Hood Manor, in an effort to combat anti-social behaviour near the shops and Community Centre.

If this proves successful they will consider the practicalities of a permanent installation.

Thanks to Cllr Phil Hudson for all the photos in this issue

NO RISE IN PARISH PRECEPT.....AGAIN!!!

For the third year in a row, the Parish Council has set its annual budget without asking Parishioners to pay more - see page 3 for more details

Meet the new Police Community Support Officers



Meet PCSOs Steve Grady and Lisa Carroll who are currently learning the ropes before joining Colin Cheshire and Natalie Giles patrolling the streets of Great Sankey.

Steve previously worked as a PCSO in Skelmersdale, while Lisa is a native of Great Sankey.

Progress at last at the Tim Parry recreation ground

The recreation ground and play area at the Tim Parry Community Centre, Cromdale Way, get a lot of use by local children and people walking their dogs, but have also had a lot of undesirable use too. People drinking and leaving behind broken glass on paths and play area; people dropping litter and causing damage to the play equipment and buildings have been regular visitors too.

The Parish Council cleans up regularly but wanted to do something to prevent the worst of the problems, and so Cllr Liz Smith has been leading a campaign to have alcohol banned from the park.

It has been a long fight but it has paid off as soon the Tim Parry Recreation ground will be a "designated alcohol free area". This means that Police and PCSOs will have the power to confiscate any alcohol carried by any person in the park, whatever their age. Hopefully this will lead to a significant reduction in noise, mess and anti-social behaviour in the park; making it a pleasanter place for residents and a safer environment for children to play.

Watch out for the warning signs going up soon!

If this move is as successful as hoped it could lead the way for more "designated alcohol free areas" in the Parish.

**Do you want to start a community Activity?
Maybe you could run dance sessions, or want to start a keep fit class
The Council has vacant slots for hall hire for community use at all its centres.
Contact the Parish Clerk on 01925 712279 for details**

PARISH BUDGET – HERE IS THE NEWS FOR THE NEXT FINANCIAL YEAR

Parish budget for 2007 to 2008

General Income	Budget
Precept	146,591
Centre Hire	38,000
Interest	10,000
VAT refund	7,000
Total Income	201,591

The big news is that Great Sankey Parish Council, by careful management and using money from reserves, have been able to keep the precept unchanged at £17 per Band D household whilst still providing two more PCSOs for the Parish and also some other extra funds.

General Expenditure	
Wages	80,000
Insurance	7,500
Subscriptions	1,100
Loan repayment	10,780
General administration costs	4,550
Centre upkeep	25,750
Utilities	28,808
Newsletter	4,000
Training	1,000
Donations	6,000
Police Community Support Officers	44,000
Playscheme	3,000
Miscellaneous	10,000
Community centre refurbishment	10,000
Proactive youth provision	5,000
Positive Action Fund	5,000
Total Expenditure	246,488
Deficit (to be taken from reserves)	-44,897

They voted an allocation of £5000 for pro-active Youth provision over the year and £5000 for a positive action fund.

The feeling was that so far the Council has mainly reacted to needs expressed within the parish to curb anti-social behaviour, litter, vandalism etc by deterrent means ie the PCSOs, but that now they want to get pro-active and promote better behaviour among young people and to find ways to make improvements for the other people in the parish. Hence the 2 new funds.

No details have been worked out yet, although a lot of different ideas were put forward. The use of the funds will be considered in more detail at a future meeting.

Watch this space for details

Contact Numbers for your Parish Councillors

Parish Councillors and surgeries for Whittle Hall (all numbers begin 01925)

Allan Bird	659439	Peter Carey	726008	Lorna Lewis	630020
Terry Lewis	630020	Tony Williams	725427		

Surgeries 2nd Saturday in the month at Westbrook Library 11am to 12noon

Parish Councillors for Sankey South (all numbers begin 01925)

Alan Litton	453264	Liz Smith	654950	Jim Regan	650057
Phil Hudson	723374				

Instead of surgeries Councillors are out and about every other Saturday morning. Give one a ring if you want them to visit your road!

Parish Councillors for Sankey North (all numbers begin 01925)

Keith Gleave	727963	Veronica Hudson	723374	Peter Ryan	724512
Roy Smith	654950	Judith Wheeler	655621		

Instead of surgeries Councillors are out and about every other Saturday morning. Give one a ring if you want them to visit your road!

Community centresthe refurbishment programme carries on



Hood Manor with a Bingo game in full swing, and some of the children's pictures in the background

The refurbishment at Hood Manor is nearly complete now. The re-decorating was put back a little, when vandal damage to the roof caused a leak, but that has been repaired and the interior of the centre looks much brighter and fresher now. New blinds have really added to the bright new look too. Children from the Hood Lane Pre-School kindly painted some bingo themed pictures to add a splash of colour, as there are 2 clubs which meet at Hood Manor for socialising and bingo games. A local Senior Citizens group meets there on Thursday afternoons for bingo, refreshments and other social activities and they would be happy to welcome new members. Just drop in around 1.30pm any Thursday.

The other group meets on Wednesday and Friday evenings, contact Laura on 01925 493109 for details, if you want to join in.

Hood Lane Pre-school also has vacancies for children every morning. Phone Jackie, Anne or Val on 01925 231827 for more information

Make your views known to the Council

Why not come along to a Parish Council meeting? It is your chance to find out what is going on or to make your views known. Time is set aside at the start of every meeting to give members of the public a chance to speak.

Meetings are held every month (except August) in the Tim Parry Community Centre, Cromdale Way. Meetings start at 7.30pm on the second Wednesday in the month.

Dates for the Parish Council meetings in the next few months are,
11th April 2007, 9th May 2007, 13th June 2007, 11th July 2007

You can also phone a Councillor (see page 3) or contact the Council through the Parish Clerk, Cheryl Wakefield, at the Parish office.

This is located in Whittle Hall Community Centre, Lonsdale Close, Warrington, WA5 3UA
tel 01925 712279 from 9.30am to 1.30pm every weekday.