

LONGTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2022



PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

The Parish Council, as you will have noticed from your recent Council Tax bill, have maintained the Precept for 2022/2023 at the same level as last year.

The Council have decided to continue to provide a subsidy to Preston Bus in order that Bus Service 12 can continue on the present arrangements at least for a further 12 months.

The Parish Council will also continue the important work of looking at planning applications in its area and where appropriate making representations as to the suitability or otherwise of proposed developments. It should be noted, however, that SRBC have the final say on planning matters. Your Parish Council can however ensure that pertinent points are raised for consideration, provided of course that those points are planning matters.

In addition, the Lengthsman's contract continues as part of a 4-year deal agreed 3 years ago. This is to ensure that we have the resource to keep both Longton and New Longton clean, tidy and attractive villages in which to reside or visit.

Shirley Molder has now been co-opted onto the Parish Council taking up the one vacancy which previously existed – we are now back to full strength.



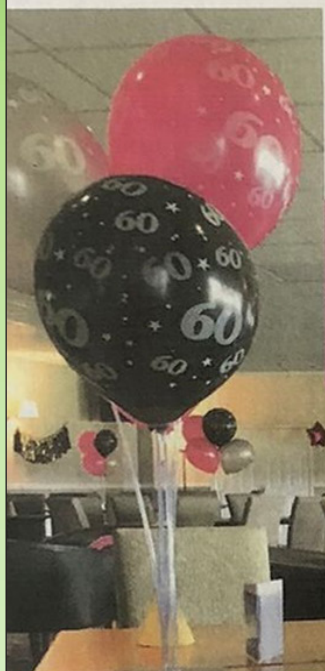
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LONGTON VICTORY MEMORIAL RECREATION GROUND

Longton Parish Council is the Trustee of the above recreation ground which is used by Longton VMR Sports and Social Club, Longton Tennis Club, New Longton Rovers FC and up to recently the Ladybirds Nursery.

Sadly after many years of operation the Ladybirds Nursery has closed its doors. The building used by them has now been returned to the management of the Trustee who have been approached by a couple of organisations with regard to taking over the existing premises.

Regretfully, the building which is of a wood construction and probably over 30 years old is no longer deemed 'fit for purpose' and so it has been decided that it will need to be demolished.

The Trustee have none the less had an approach from a potential client who wishes to set up a new nursery and is prepared to erect a suitable new building as part of their new business.

Negotiations are currently taking place and it is hoped that the land will be rented out to this new organisation once the detail and formalities have been agreed.



LAWRENCEROONEY ESTATE AGENTS

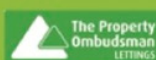
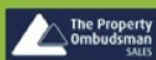
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BEST KEPT GARDEN COMPETITION 2022

This year will once again see the Parish Council sponsor the above competition. The competition is automatically open to ALL residents without the need to complete an application form. Members of the Parish Council will be viewing gardens during late June and early July with a view to selecting the best kept gardens in both Longton and New Longton. Why not do that little bit extra and see if you can win one of the garden voucher prizes that are awarded by the Parish Council and presented at the:

New Longton Flower Show event on Saturday 3rd September 2022

The Annual Flower and Handcraft Show is back and will be held at the New Longton Village Hall on Saturday 3rd September 2022 and promises to be a great event. Everyone is welcome and new entrants especially children are particularly welcome. This is the opportunity to show your skills in growing plants/flowers, making cakes, painting, crafts, baking and photography. You can also enjoy a cup of tea with homemade cakes. Details of all the classes will be available from local shops in New Longton and surrounding areas in early August.

LONGTON FETE IS BACK



It has been confirmed that Longton fete will take place on Saturday 5th June 2022. There will be the usual fun dog show, dancing and singing entertainment, fairground activities and an array of charity stalls etc.

CHRISTMAS COMPETITION AWARDS 2022

Shop Display - Winner - Stickyweeds

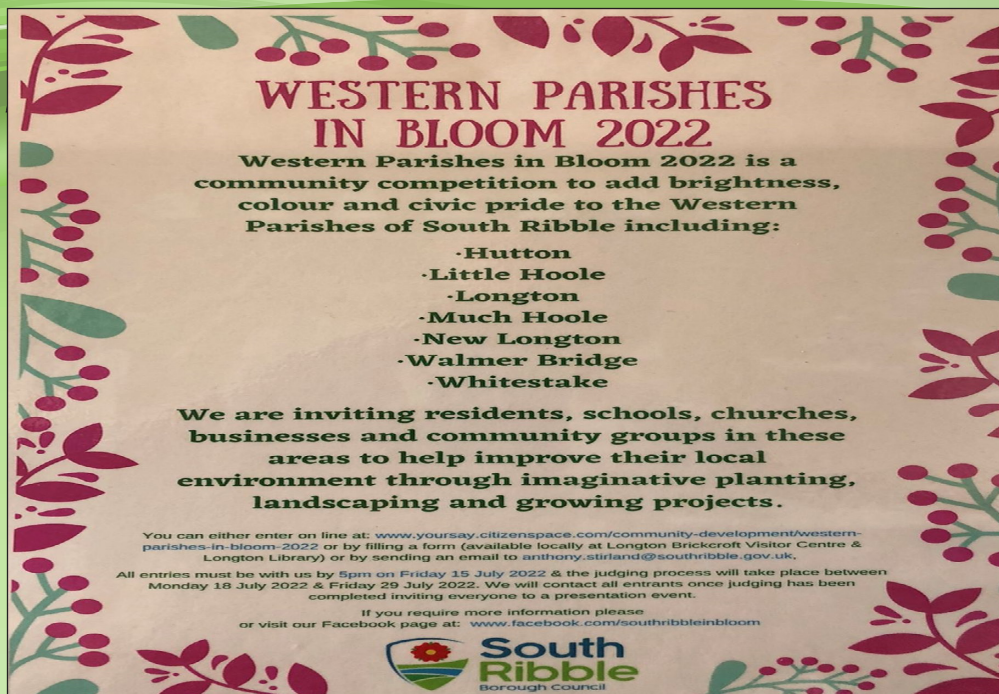
Shop Display - Commendation - Gullivers Travels

House Display - Longton - Winner - Rebecca Goodwin, 31 Shirley Lane

House Display - Longton - Commendation - Mr & Mrs Singleton, 5 Intack Road

House Display - New Longton - Winner - Peter Johnson, East View Brownhill Lane

House Display - New Longton - Commendation - Mrs Ward, c/o Phoenix House Wham Lane



LONGTON VM SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

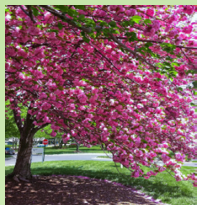
The Management Committee have just secured over £40,000 of grant funding for further improvements to the facilities which is great news as they continue with their post Covid recovery plans. The dance floor is to be extended and will create further space for table tennis, Longton VM choir and dancing. Redecoration of the entrance areas, lounge and bowling shelters will help refresh the facilities, as will a redesign of the outside frontage and construction of a modern raised patio and seating area.



The Management Committee are hoping to get the exterior works completed by the middle Summer so that people can enjoy a relaxing drink in the sunshine overlooking the two bowling greens and planted areas. They are very excited by these proposals as the Club continues its progress as a popular community facility for all occasions.

WILDLIFE GARDENING

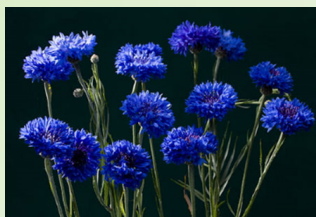
With pollinators under pressure from adverse environmental factors such as climate change, toxic emissions from vehicles, the use of herbicides and pesticides and the loss of meadows and hedgerows more reliance is placed on garden trees, local parks, nature reserves and areas of woodland to play a crucial role in the pollination process. Bees in particular are responsible for pollinating 80% of our wildflowers and native trees help to contribute £650m per annum to the economy from agriculture and horticulture.



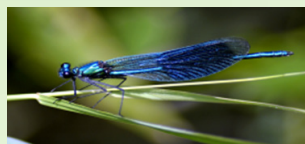
In early spring blossom from flowering cherry, apple and damson provide vital food when flowers are thin on the ground. The planting of pollen rich trees, blackthorn, crab apple, goat willow and hazel are invaluable as they bridge the hunger gap for bees early and late in the season. Hedges are vital bee feeding grounds, tree bumblebees nest in deadwood and trees and bats and owls have evolved to nest in hollow trunks of trees, insects breed in holes and water pockets whilst fungi feed on decaying wood.

Wildlife friendly flowers such as bluebells, campanulas, cornflowers, ox-eye daisies and poppies are easy to plant and provide a rich nectar source. Wallflowers are one of the top wildlife friendly plants and are very easy to grow.

Butterflies like to feed in sheltered warm spots in full sun, so opt for bugle and lady's smock in spring and cornflowers and marjoram in summer.



In order to encourage other wildlife species into gardens there are other measures that can be undertaken. Have you considered opening a hedgehog highway by putting a 12cm by 12 cm hole in a corner of a fence boundary or constructing hedgehog houses in a quiet sheltered part of the garden, in which hedgehogs can hibernate or females give birth? Bat boxes and bird boxes on trees and also house martin cups and swift boxes may be put on houses or sheds.



In May and June, look out for hairy dragonflies on marshland and near a water course (garden pond to a river). A garden pond can be easily made using a rigid liner placed inside a rectangular raised bed backfilled with topsoil and then be surrounded with a wildflower strip. You will be surprised to see what species of dragonfly and other insects might be attracted to it.

NEW LONGTON VILLAGE HALL

The hall continues to be a focal point for a range of activities in the village. In addition to regular use by the Under 5's, there are art classes, a number of keep fit classes, and several badminton sessions.

If you would like to book the hall for a function please contact 01772 614264

A small Management Committee looks after the running of the hall and are keen to have new members to help on the Committee. If you are interested please contact Bernard Kershaw (01772 616119)

www.longtonparishcouncil.org
longtonparishcouncil@hotmail.co.uk

YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

Donald Alsop	8 Royalty Lane New Longton Preston PR4 4JD	613728
Susan Fox	33 Dale Avenue Longton Preston PR4 5YJ	07583 058313
Nicholas Sumner	8 Dickson Hey New Longton PR4 4ZH	616870
Geoff Welch	3 Oak Grove New Longton Preston PR4 4XT	617791
Graham Gooch	57 Shirley Lane Longton Preston PR4 5WJ	614974
Karl Turner	35 Landsmoor Drive Longton Preston PR4 5PE	07516 427142
Ann Mather	Pear-tree Farm 247 Chapel Lane New Longton Preston PR4 4AD	614608
Gill Garside	126 Chapel Lane Longton Preston PR4 5FB	617742
Stuart Barnes	57 Back Lane Longton Preston PR4 5BE	611095
Jane Riley	12 The Vinery New Longton Preston PR4 4YB	619030
Allan Porter	12 Meadoway Longton Preston PR4 5BB	615287
Shirley Molder	8 Chapel Lane Longton Preston PR4 5EB	07759 603182

CLERK AND RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER

W V MCENNERNEY-WHITTLE

7 BILSBOROUGH MEADOW PRESTON PR2 1YY

TEL: 01772 733829

E-MAIL: clerk@longton-pc.gov.uk

WEB SITE: www.longton-pc.gov.uk

DATES AND VENUES OF FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Upcoming meetings are as follows and all commence at 7.30 pm

12th JULY 2022 @ NEW LONGTON VILLAGE HALL

13th SEPTEMBER 2022 @ LONGTON LIBRARY

1st NOVEMBER 2022 @ NEW LONGTON VILLAGE HALL

6th DECEMBER 2022 @ LONGTON LIBRARY



BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION

Longton and New Longton have been entered into the Best Kept Village Competition 2022.

Please help by keeping your villages tidy, put your litter and dog faeces in the bins which are provided rather than leaving them on the pavement or footways.