### LONGTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2018



Speed is a critical factor in all road crashes and casualties. Driving is unpredictable and if something unexpected happens on the road ahead – such as a child stepping out from between parked cars – it is a driver's speed that will determine whether they can stop in time and, if they can't stop, how hard they will hit. Reducing and managing traffic speeds is crucial to road safety. Breaking the speed limit or travelling too fast for conditions is recorded as a contributory factor in almost one in four (24%) of fatal crashes in Britain. This is arguably a gross underestimate, because whether or not a vehicle is judged to have been speeding or going too fast for conditions, the fact it was involved in a collision means it was going too fast to have stopped in time. The speed limit is not a target and in some road conditions, including fog and rain, even driving at the speed limit could be too fast. Driving too fast for the conditions is bad driving. Here in Longton and New Longton we have regular feedback that drivers are driving in excess of the speed limits which increases very alarmingly their stopping distances. Speed limits are there for a reason, even a difference of a few miles per hour can mean the difference between life and death. The risk of death is approximately four times higher when a pedestrian is hit at 40 mph than at 30 mph. How would you feel if you caused a death by speeding and had to live with those consequences for the rest of your life. Please drive carefully, within the speed limit and according to the conditions.





WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

### **BEST KEPT GARDEN COMPETITION 2018**





Mr and Mrs Skirvin 17 Mereside Close Longton PR4 5ZY Mr P Fallon 5 Clifford Avenue Longton PR4 5BH Mr and Mrs Fallon 25 Kentmere Drive Longton PR4 5EP

### New Longton

Mr M Devane 13 Hugh Barn Lane New Longton PR4 4XA Mr and Mrs Lee 114 Royalty Lane New Longton PR4 4JE Mr John Ward 16 Chesham Drive New Longton PR4 4ZJ

### 100 YEARS SINCE WOMEN GOT THE VOTE

2018 marks the centenary of the passing of the Representation of the People Act, which gave the vote to all women over the age of 30 who met minimum property qualifications. This was achieved through a number of factors including the activism of both the Suffragette and Suffragist Movements. Suffragette and social reformer, Edith Rigby who lived in Preston, began working towards equality for women in 1899, when she established St. Peter's School there, allowing working class girls to continue their education past the age of 11, when most girls were compelled to stop their education through difficult circumstances. She was also a strong advocate of women's rights in the work place and gave her servants unconventional freedoms, unusual for the time. Edith formed the Preston branch of the Women's Social and Political Union in 1907, which also incorporated Longton and New Longton (then called Hutton and Howick) in what was called Preston Rural District at the time. Edith was a suffragette recruiter, gathering new members from members of the Labour Party mainly, including Eleanor Higginson, a teacher in Preston, who later successfully ran a health food store there from 1910 and also Elizabeth Hesmondhalgh, a cotton winder married to a railway signalman.

From 1908 to 1913, the three of them participated in militant activity for the Suffragette Movement and were arrested at least seven times. In prison they went on hunger strike and were subject to force feeding. Edith was apparently the first woman to ride a bicycle in the area. She bought a cottage in Howick, named Marigold Cottage, using it to produce food the WW1 war effort. Edith Rigby was a founding member and president of Hutton & Howick Women's Institute in 1918, which stills meets at New Longton Methodist Church.



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#### **LONGTON FETE 2018**

Somewhat dismal weather did not seem to dampen the spirits of those who attended the spring fete on Longton Playing Field. It had much to offer in terms of entertainment and fun for the local community and was opened by the Mayor/Mayoress of South Ribble, Cllr. John Rainsbury and his wife Shirley. There was an array of stalls on the field, the majority of which represented charitable causes. Donkey rides; the cycling 'smoothie' maker from Cycles Recycled; Matilda the 'milking' cow with owner Jayne providing a farming related game for children; the fun pillory stocks and the obstacle course run by the Scouts were as popular as ever. On their stall, 'Friends of the Earth' were raising awareness of the importance of bees for pollination and the problems created by usage of plastic for the environment. Children had fun having their faces painted at the Greenpeace stall. Other charitable causes represented at the Fête included the Brooke (action for working donkeys and horses); Fair Trade; FOMO and the Samaritans.



The proceeds of the ever-popular fun dog show went to Guide Dogs for the Blind with prizes for the various canine categories in the show kindly provided by Superpet Warehouse in Preston. The Fete Committee expresses its gratitude to Mark at Superpet Warehouse for his continuing generosity.

Refreshments and homemade confections were available in the Scout tent. Entertainment was provided by the Whelan-Joyce Irish dancing group and Do-Re-Mi singers of Longton. Andrew and Theresa Harrison, former publicans of the Black Bull, who have provided sponsorship for the fete (along with other individuals and businesses in Longton) have now retired. The Fete Committee would therefore like to express its gratitude for their sponsorship and practical support they have provided over the years for the fete. Good luck to them for the future! Gratitude is also extended to our volunteers who assisted in all aspects of preparation for the event and on the day itself. There is always a friendly and lively atmosphere at the fête, so do come along to the next one in spring 2019.

### LOCAL GRANT LIGHTS UP THE PLACE

Longton Victory Memorial Sports and Social Club has received a £941 grant from the Lancashire Environmental Fund for new LED lights for the car park and access road leading to Longton VM Recreation Ground. These lights will improve lighting for users of the Recreation Ground and Longton Primary School, during the darker hours of early morning and late evening. The grant will also enable the Club to buy a patio table made out of recycled plastic.

### YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

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GILL GARSIDE 126 CHAPEL LANE LONGTON PRESTON PR4 5FB TEL 617742

STUART BARNES 57 BACK LANE LONGTON PRESTON PR4 5BE TEL 611095

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#### CLERK AND RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER

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### PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Parish Council have decided to reduce the number of meetings that it holds with effect from 2019 - monthly meetings will continue for the rest of this year.

6th November 2018	New Longton Village Hall
4th December 2018	Longton Library

#### 2019 MEETINGS

15th January 2019	NLVH
5th March 2019	Longton Library
16th April 2019	NLVH
4th June 2019	Longton Library
23rd July 2019	NLVH
17th September 2019	Longton Library
5th November 2019	NLVH
10th December 2019	Longton Library