

# Winwick <sup>really</sup> Matters

Issue 30 Summer 2007



The Newsletter of Winwick Parish Council, covering Winwick Village, Winwick Park, Houghton Green, Hermitage Green, "White City", part Grasmere/Greenwood Estate and part of Cinnamon Brow/Fearnhead

## *Good News for local ratepayers!*

The past 2 years have seen a major increase in local residents and organisations using Winwick Leisure Centre's facilities and with income buoyant, the Parish Council has been able to hold the precept for 2007/08 at the same level as the previous year - £67,000. This works out at 71 pence a week for the average Band D property in Winwick. Copies of the Parish Council's Annual Report and Accounts for 2006/07 will be available free of charge from the end of July. Prior to that, the Parish Council's account books and supporting documents will be available for public inspection throughout the month of July.

## *And there's more!*

Despite opposition from the planning officers, the Development Control Committee have agreed to let the Parish Council extent the car parks at Winwick Leisure Centre to give it much need additional spaces. Parish Councillors backed by local Borough Councillors John Joyce and Terry O'Neil together with other members on the Development Control Committee argued that the extra spaces were for the benefit of the whole community and would not only provide extra facilities for Centre users, but would take traffic off Myddleton Lane at School drop off and collection times.

Work on the scheme will be staring in the near future.

## *And more!*

The extra parking will also be enhanced through the provision of a new CCTV system which is being installed at the Centre, part of which will monitor the car parks and thus provide additional safety for the Centre users and their vehicles.

### *How to contact us*

**If you have any comments, complaints or compliments regarding this newsletter, or the work of the Parish Council please contact the Editor:-  
Les Higgins, Clerk to the Parish Council, PO Box 348 Wigan, WN3 6WA:-  
tel 01942 213104 or  
email [leslie.higgins2@btinternet.com](mailto:leslie.higgins2@btinternet.com)**

### *Winwick Leisure Centre*

Our extensively stocked bar open 7 nights a week from 7.00 pm and 12.00 noon weekends  
Rooms for hire at highly competitive rates for that special occasion or for your company training and seminars.  
We can supply training equipment and refreshments as well as arranging catering and DJ's  
For further information contact  
Winwick Leisure Centre  
Tel 01925 637490 or 07984 333723

## ***Good Neighbour Award 2007***

Winwick Parish Council wishes to reward someone who is making a difference to an individual or group of people in the areas of personnel care, care for the environment, or care for the community.

The criteria for judging will be that the person has made a significant difference to an individual or communities quality of life.

Nominations from individuals and organisations for people who would meet the above criteria should be made to Les Higgins, Clerk to the Parish Council, PO Box 349, Wigan, WN3 6WA.

Details of the reasons for the nomination and your relationship to the nominated person need to be included, together with a contact address and contact number.

***“Please join us in supporting people who give up their time to help others”.***

***“The universal brotherhood of man is our most precious possession”. Mark Twain***  
*US humorist, novelist, short story author, & wit (1835 - 1910)*

## ***Best Kept Garden and Best Kept Village competitions 2007***

Winwick Parish Council is once again sponsoring a competition to recognise local residents efforts in maintaining their gardens to the highest standard.

Following disappointing numbers of people entering the competition over the last few years the Parish Council have decided to change the way it judges it.

Parish Councillors will be walking around the area in the early summer and if they see any gardens which would, in their opinion, merit being considered for an award they will leave you a card asking if you would be happy for your garden to be put forward for judging by an independent person.

Whilst people cultivate their gardens for their own pleasure, they do have an impact on the quality of the environment and improve our quality of life.

The Parish Council has once again in 2007, entered Winwick in the Cheshire Best Kept Village Competition and hope that it will stimulate all residents to consider their environment and work together to make Winwick a place we can all be proud of.

Judging by the Cheshire Community Council will be taking place in the near future and we would urge residents to take a look at the environment close to where they live and help by tidying up. The Parish Council will once again be providing hanging basket displays along Myddleton Lane and other sites as well as its normal maintenance of Swan Green and Winwick Park.





**Wiwick Parish Council is working in partnership with PAG to stop the development of a Rail Freight Terminal at Parkside.**

## **PARKSIDE UPDATE**

The Highways Agency and our local authorities are struggling to understand the traffic impact assessment so far put forward by Astral Developments, the Parkside freight terminal developers. PAG is concerned that high levels of additional HGV and Parkside traffic, would have the potential to place unprecedented pressure on our already stressed local road and motorway infrastructure. Astral have gone on record to suggest that 10,000 HGVs movements would be generated by Parkside; that's an HGV every 8 seconds 24 hours a day, or 70,000 extra HGV movements per week, or approaching 4,000,000 extra HGV movements per year using Junction 22 of the M6 and our local infrastructure to access and exit Parkside. This unprecedented increase in traffic would place massive pressure on our existing roads, increasing commuter time, impacting on local businesses and the quality of living for Winwick residents.

There is also real concern that additional Parkside traffic, which would be accessing and exiting Parkside 24 hours a day, seven days a week, would have road safety implications for many local residents. Concern over many potential environment impacts - for example, air quality is already at unacceptable levels in our area as recognised by our local authorities. There is also the noise and light pollution that would be generated by Europe's biggest freight terminal at Parkside.

Concern that the facility will be focused on road distribution rather than rail. PAG has a strong evidence base that suggests that the Parkside facility will operate mainly road distribution and handle very little rail.

PAG is angered that we all stand to lose 272 hectares, or 672 acres, of our Green Belt. Listed buildings on Parkside, parts of our local heritage, are also threatened with demolition under the Astral plans.

The developer offers no guarantee on the number of new jobs to Parkside. PAG believe that many jobs will be sourced from the whole region i.e. outside of the Warrington catchment area with the vast majority of jobs being relocated not created.

So far Warrington Council have received 829 letters of objection with only 7 in support for the Parkside development. Across Warrington, Wigan and St. Helens, close to 2,500 letters have been sent in, with over 98% of all respondents objecting to the Parkside freight depot. Increasing local and national opposition to the freight terminal with the Bishop of Liverpool throwing his weight behind PAG to stop Parkside.

Have a look at the interactive map on our website [www.parksideactiongroup.org.uk](http://www.parksideactiongroup.org.uk) to see how Parkside would affect you.

**You can still make a difference and help to stop Parkside in its tracks by objecting to Warrington and St. Helens .**

**More details on how to object are available on our website or use our PO Box 17, Newton-le-Willows. WA3 3WX address instead.**

## *Millennium Trust Fund*

Are you spending money on an educational or training course of any sort?

And are you a resident of the Parish of Winwick?

If the answer to both questions is yes, then you could be eligible for a grant from the Parish Council's Millennium Trust Fund.

Yes, we have money to give away!, so why not apply?

Application forms are available from Winwick Leisure Centre or Winwick Post

Office or, by post from PO Box 603, Warrington WA5 2XJ .



## *Please come along*

Winwick Parish Council meets every 4th Tuesday in the month at Winwick Leisure Centre.

All meetings of the Parish Council are open to the public and start at 7.30 pm . A specific time is set aside at 8.00 pm for members of the public to ask questions.

If you look at the various notice boards spread around the Parish, you will see copies of minutes of the meetings and give you a flavour of the items which are dealt with.

By coming along you can raise issues which perhaps the Parish Council are unaware of and which are causing public concern. An example of this is that at the last meeting residents from

Waterworks Lane explained their concern over the increasing incidence of speeding vehicles using the Lane. The Parish Council agreed to support the residents and lobby the Borough Council for action.

## *Community Speed Watch*

In response to residents' concerns over vehicles speeding through Winwick the Parish Council have agreed, in partnership with Cheshire Police to sponsor a Community Speed Watch Scheme. If a number of residents come forward to volunteer to participate, the Parish Council will purchase a speed camera and the Police will train the volunteers. The Scheme involves the volunteers filming speeding vehicles and the Police sending them warning letters. If you are interested please contact Les Higgins, Clerk to the Parish Council, PO Box 348 Wigan, WN3 6WA or tel. 01942 213104.

