

PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER (Winter 2020)

Following the resignations of previous office-holders, the council voted for a new chairman (Cllr Stewart Young) and vice-chairman (Cllr Jason Adshead). The chairman thanked the departing councillors for their service to the council and wished them well in the future.

By-elections will take place in May 2021 throughout the parish to choose eight new councillors. Nearer the time, the council will publicise the process, but in the meantime, please come along to one of the Zoom council meetings and get a feeling for how the council works.

In November, the council made Derek Eley an “Honorary Freeman” of Chapel-en-le-Frith. The Buxton Advertiser had a lovely story of Derek’s contribution to the town, which can be read here:

<https://www.buxtonadvertiser.co.uk/news/people/chapel-en-le-frith-dunkirk-vet-aged-103-named-honorary-freeman-town-3026452>

Every year, Derek raises money for the Royal British Legion, but this year he has been isolating from the pandemic and hasn’t been able to collect donations at Morrisons. Instead, a Just-Giving page has been set up for Derek’s 103rd birthday, raising money for his favourite charity:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/derekeley-bday>

In addition to Derek’s award, the council also honoured Ted Fell and Gemma Ellis through Community Awards. Many of you will know Ted through his work as a local police officer for 16 years, and through his voluntary work with the Royal British Legion, Methodist Church and Over-60s Club. He will now be enjoying a well-deserved retirement as a Chelsea Pensioner in the Royal Hospital. We wish him well.

Gemma Ellis is the founder of Stage 4 Deserves More, a not-for-profit organisation that supplies free support packs to those who have been diagnosed with secondary breast cancer across the UK. Gemma was herself diagnosed with stage-4 cancer in 2017, and has worked tirelessly to raise awareness of the disease, and support sufferers. You can donate to Stage 4 Deserves More by clicking on the “Donate Now” button on the website:

<https://www.stage4deservesmore.com/>

There are many other people in the parish who deserve to be honoured. If you would like to propose someone who should receive an award next year, please write with your nomination to the Clerk (clerk@chapelpc.org).

The parish council has five parks: Dove Holes, Sparrowpit, Combs, Needham’s Rec and the Memorial Park. In Chapel, the Memorial Park has had some repairs carried out recently, and a new maintenance program is being put in place. After many years on the blink, the solar light is now working again, thanks to Cllr Chris Sizeland’s efforts.

Councillors have also been looking at seating in the Memorial Park. Some benches that have attracted anti-social behaviour have been moved, and before next summer, picnic benches

are being purchased. The benches by the Co-op on the Market Place have now been fixed to the ground. If you have strong opinions on the locations of seating within the parish, please contact the clerk with your suggestions (clerk@chapelpc.org).

As we approach the festive season, the chairman, councillors, and staff of the parish council wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

CHAPEL-EN-LE-FRITH PARISH COUNCIL