



Great Boughton
Parish Council

Working together for our community

Winter 2020 Newsletter

Message from the Chair of the Parish Council, Councillor Peter Bulmer

“I am sure that all of us have been affected by the Covid 19 lockdown and ongoing situation. Hopefully you have been safe and well. If you need any help at all during this difficult time, please do not hesitate to contact us. The Parish Council are working with an established charity, Snow Angels, to provide support to everyone living in the parish.

While the Parish Council was not meeting it was still operating; there are open spaces and buildings to look after and our Maintenance Officer and councillors have been busy.

The Council is now meeting virtually and local residents are always welcome to join those meetings if they are able to do so.

Our open spaces remain open but please follow government guidelines when using them.

Great Boughton in Bloom still went ahead and it was lovely to see some of the fabulous gardens. Winning entries can be seen on the windows of Vicars Cross Community Centre in Thackeray Drive - do take a look.”



Your local public defibrillators are at:

Vicars Cross Community Centre, Thackeray Drive CH3 5LP
G & M Goold Funeral Directors, Green Lane, Vicars Cross CH3 5LB
The Premier Inn, Caldly Valley Road CH3 5PR (In reception)
Sainsbury's Store, Caldly Valley Road CH3 5QJ
ALWAYS RING 999 for instructions



Working together for our community

The Parish Council has a number of working Sub Groups who discuss local issues in depth and residents are welcome to join councillors at those. For more details, please contact the Clerk. Issues discussed include:

Transport

- Working with neighbouring parishes on improving local cycling routes, traffic congestion and air quality
- Local speed restrictions and enforcement
- Road safety and crossing points

Planning

Considering and commenting on local planning applications and consultations e.g. The Boughton Heath Retirement Village.

Communications & Events

- Planning & writing newsletters & press releases
- Great Boughton in Bloom
- Christmas Carol Singalong at Old Laundry Corner
- Litter picks & bulb planting
- Circus



Open Spaces

- Managing the Pearl Lane Allotments - please note, the waiting list is now closed due to a huge increase in interest during the summer.
- Maintaining and improving playgrounds in 2021 - we are particularly looking for ideas to upgrade the playground in Queens Road Park. If you have any ideas or would like to get involved please contact us.
- Preserving and improving local green spaces e.g. Caldly Valley Meadow and Dulverton Avenue field.

Vicars Cross Community Centre

Managing the building and staff to ensure that the centre is attractive and central to community events - more details on page 3.

Caldly Valley Neighbourhood Centre

The Parish Council has a 50% share of responsibility and liability for the Neighbourhood Centre (shared with the church) and supports the staff and volunteers as well as maintaining the play area and green space around the centre e.g. installation of the second entrance/exit to the meadow near the petrol station.

Finance

This sub group is made up of the Chairs of the other sub groups and oversees all financial and personnel issues.

Working together for our community

Vicars Cross Community Centre

The last year or two has seen huge improvements to the centre in Thackeray Drive - the new toilets and heating system have upgraded the building and made it a popular venue for all sorts of activities. There is now a tennis net and new baseball hoops at the rear of the building which are free to use.

Sadly, the centre had to close in March 2020 during the government restrictions and again during November 2020. Watch the noticeboards and social media for more information or contact the Clerk.

Vicars Cross Community Centre

On Thackeray Drive in Vicars Cross and formerly known as the Square One Youth Centre.

Great Boughton Parish Council purchased the centre back in 2014 and since then it has become a busy hub of activity for the community.

Offering activities such as:

Ballet

Dance / Movement

Aerobics / Keep Fit


Dog Training

Karate

Tots
Football

Sessions for
those 50+

The rear tarmac area is also available to hire and, when not hired, has a basketball and tennis court for the local community to enjoy!

To keep up to date with events and activities at the centre
Like us on Facebook
@vicarscrosscommunity 

Hiring rates between
£14.00 - £20.00 per hour

Email Jodie Burling on
vxcc@greatboughtonparishcouncil.org.uk
or call 07593 425399
for more information

www.vxcc.org.uk



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The important bit......in 2019-20, the parish council received £72,000 from the council tax precept (around £22 per Band D household).

So where does your money go?

INCOME:	£
Council Tax Precept	72,000
Council Tax Reduction Scheme Grant	700
Allotment Rents	750
Cestrian Scouts	250
Queens Rd Shops	450
VX Dynamos	1,100
TOTAL INCOME	75,250
BUDGETED EXPENDITURE	£
People: Clerk's salary, NI & Tax, Cllr expenses, travel, training budget etc.	25,000
Council Costs: Insurance, subscriptions, legal costs, election costs, IT, postage,	8,000
Audit, room hire, stationery etc.	2,000
Facilities/Buildings: grants towards Vicars Cross Community Centre and Caldly Valley Community Centre	
Open Spaces: safety checks on children's play areas, parks, planters, notice boards, grass, tree & hedge cutting, maintenance, gate lockers, litter picking etc.	24,000
Communications & Events: advertising, Great Boughton in Bloom, Christmas events, newsletters, community grants etc.	5,000
Allotments: grass cutting, maintenance, utilities, insurance, subscriptions etc.	900
Reserves:	7,300
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	67,950

The Parish Council is always keen to hear from local residents, so please get in touch and feel free to join any of our meetings.

Your views are important to us.

**Contact us via the Clerk on 07709512348 or
email clerk@greatboughtonparishcouncil.org.uk**

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