

# CARNFORTH EXPRESS

Produced by Carnforth Town Council for the Community of Carnforth July / August (Bi-monthly)

## Is it time for close circuit television (CCTV)?



After several well-publicised robberies in the centre of Carnforth over the past two years, the Town Council has started to explore the feasibility of installing a small number of public CCTV cameras in and around the Town centre. Initial reaction to the idea from the business community and the Police has been supportive but we think that it is equally important to hear the views of residents before any further work is undertaken.

It's important to bear in mind that CCTV is widespread in public places and in private businesses and homes all over the country but, at present, Carnforth has no operational public CCTV system. So should we go down the same as our neighbouring towns Lancaster, Morecambe and Kendal and install a system of public CCTV cameras? What are the pros and cons? To help you formulate your own opinions, we thought it would be useful to consider a few obvious questions.

**Are security cameras an invasion of privacy?** In the UK there are no laws that prohibit the use of surveillance cameras in public places. According to several recent public surveys, so long as CCTV cameras are not installed in private places, most people do not consider them an invasion of privacy.

**What are the benefits of CCTV in public places?** Most people agree that CCTV cameras in public places increase their sense of security and public safety and help to reduce the fear of crime. Not only can security cameras record crime as it is committed, they can also help deter criminal acts. Survey evidence supports the view that CCTV cameras can help reduce the rate of crime, but it is clear they alone cannot stop crime completely. However, when a crime is committed where high quality CCTV cameras are available, the chances of catching a criminal are much higher. Any footage that captures a crime being committed can be used in a court of law as evidence against the accused and, when necessary, to prove someone's innocence.

**What are the disadvantages of CCTV?** Some people fear that CCTV cameras will be abused or misused and there have been some widely reported instances where cameras have been installed by voyeurs in highly inappropriate locations. It is also a fact that CCTV cameras would be unlikely to deter anyone from a crime of passion or a terrorist act. Another view is that CCTV systems are far too expensive to install and maintain and argue that the cost outweighs the any public benefit they might deliver.

**Who would be able to access the information from CCTV?** Recent data protection regulations have increased the obligations on those who manage CCTV systems to safeguard recorded information. Access to this information must be strictly controlled and will only be released to Police only in the event a crime being committed. The Town Council is likely to engage a specialist company, or agency, to manage any system it decided to install. A similar arrangement is operated by Lancaster City Council and other local authorities to ensure compliance with data protection and quality assurance standards.

**What is Carnforth Town Council's view about CCTV?** The Town Council senses that something needs to happen to deter criminals from thinking Carnforth offers 'easy pickings'.

It's unlikely that we will see any appreciable rise in Police cover in the coming years given the pressures on public sector budgets.

So, do we sit back and do nothing and just hope that out-of-town and more locally based criminals find even easier pickings elsewhere? Or, do we install a small number of public CCTV cameras at strategic points around the Town centre as a first step towards making Carnforth safer for residents and visitors alike? The Town Council isn't willing to fritter away public money – your money – on CCTV systems that don't deliver quality and value for money and that don't come with all the necessary safeguards about privacy and data control, but would you like us to continue with our examination of a suitable CCTV system for Carnforth?

**Please let us have your thoughts - contact Bob Bailey, Town Clerk on 07846006256; by email: [clerk@carnforthtowncouncil.org](mailto:clerk@carnforthtowncouncil.org), or calling into the Town Council office.**

**Cllr. Jim Grisenthwaite**



## **Meet the Town Mayor - Kath Bromilow MBE**



The Town Council is delighted to introduce our Town Mayor for 2019/2020 – Kath Bromilow MBE. Kath will be a well-known face to many around the town, but here Kath tells us a little more about herself!

I am very proud to say that I was born and grew up in Leyland Lancashire and that I still visit frequently to see family and friends. I am the third oldest in a family of seven sisters and one brother and I class myself as a down to earth Lancashire Lass.!

I now live in Over Kellet with my husband, John, and between us we have four wonderful children and six lovely grandchildren who all live in different parts of the country. I started working life with Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service at Euxton near Chorley before joining Greater Manchester Police. In 2003, after 17 years with GMP, I transferred Forces and joined Lancashire Constabulary, where I undertook several roles including being the Community Beat Manager for Carnforth.

I have a wealth of experience gained from 30 years' service as a Police Officer. I also have vast experience of working with young people through my involvement with the Volunteer Police Cadets (VPC). I was instrumental in setting up the VPC and over the last few years I have been the Development Manager of the VPC programme, assisting in the development of the Police Cadets Programme throughout the United Kingdom. I, together with a small team, have been responsible for all 43 Forces in England and Wales as well as launching Volunteer Police Cadets in Scotland and Northern Ireland. At present there are around 10,000 young people participating in the Volunteer Police Cadet program.

In 2002, I was named Police Officer of the Year for Greater Manchester Police for my work with Communities and Young People. My passion has always been for working in the local community which has seen me work in many areas of deprivation, primarily with young people and their families.

In 2010, I took a Lead Professional role when Lancashire Police piloted the "*Troubled Families Project*", receiving praise for my communications, organisational and leadership skills.

In the same year, I was awarded my highest achievement to date when I received an MBE from Her Majesty the Queen for Services to Policing.

In 2011, after many years working alongside numerous Rotary Clubs on community projects, I joined Carnforth Rotary Club. I believe in the values and principles of Rotary, primarily that of "Service above Self". Since then, I have never looked back and I thoroughly enjoy being a member of Rotary International. In 2017-18, I served as President of Carnforth Rotary Club – it was an unforgettable year and the Club delivered some great projects in the area. Rotary has a fantastic family atmosphere with many amazing members, who all give freely of their time in our local community. If anybody would like to know more and to get involved please come along to one of our Thursday evening meetings at The Longlands Hotel, Tewitfield. You will be made welcome and will want to come back.

I joined Carnforth Town Council about 4 years ago - not because I am political – but because I wanted change and rather than stand on the side-lines complaining I thought that I should go and do something about it!

I must say it did take time to settle down, but over the last couple of years I've really begun to enjoy it. One of the biggest things I now understand is that Carnforth Town Council really does care about the local community and is working hard to improve the lives of people who live and work here. We have an amazing group of hard-working Councillors, supported by our Town Clerk, and together we are striving to 'put Carnforth on the map' and develop the town and its surrounding area.

I, for one, love the place and the people who live in it and I feel extremely honoured, not only to have been re-elected back onto the Council, but to also be sworn in as Town Mayor. It is an honour to wear the Mayoral Chain and I will do everything in my power to give Carnforth a voice, to promote the town and serve the people in this community.

I'm looking forward to my year as Mayor and to working towards building a brighter future for our community. I am available to you as individuals, businesses, organisations and groups and I can be contacted on [kath.bromilow@carnforthtowncouncil.org](mailto:kath.bromilow@carnforthtowncouncil.org) should you need any help.

## **Goodbye Bob and thanks for everything!**

Our outgoing Mayor is Councillor Bob Roe, who also decided to stand down from the Town Council after over 30 years of service to the local community. What started off as a dare resulted in Bob being the Town Mayor on three occasions, as well as a Ward Councillor on the City Council.

During the 1974 local government reorganisation Bob fought hard to retain the assets of what was then, Carnforth Urban District, including the Carnforth Civic Hall, allotments, council offices and the War Memorial and gardens.

Amongst his proudest moments was accompanying the late Councillor Mrs. Pat Woof, who was then Town Mayor, to Buckingham Palace and meeting the Queen. More recently, Bob was honoured to be the Town Mayor leading last year's Remembrance Sunday which commemorated the end of the First World War and was, despite the pouring rain, the biggest and best supported event in living memory.

Bob has a wealth of knowledge about the town and local government and his support and advice will be greatly missed by the Town Council. He leaves a legacy of a council that cares about the local community and one that is now in a strong position to take the town forward.

**We wish you well Bob – Goodbye and thanks for everything!**

**Bob Bailey, Town Clerk**



## Carnforth Neighbourhood Plan:

Carnforth Neighbourhood Plan Working Group (CNPWG), supported by the Town Council, is continuing to work with consultants Troy Planning and Design to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan for the town that will be a blue-print for its future as part of the emerging Lancaster District Local Plan.



A detailed *Carnforth Baseline Assessment* has been drafted and the evidence from this has informed revisions to the original *Vision and Objectives* whilst staying true to the main themes that were identified as part of the initial consultation with the local community. Both documents and more information on our developing neighbourhood plan can now be found on our website <http://carnforthtowncouncil.org/neighbourhood-planning/>

At the beginning of July, we were delighted to be awarded funding from Central Government that will enable us to complete the neighbourhood planning process and produce a Carnforth Neighbourhood Plan for consultation, followed by a public referendum for its adoption sometime in the first half of next year.

About the same time, the team were also awarded much sought-after technical support to undertake a Housing Needs Assessment (HNA) that will provide vital evidence to help to understand the expected demand for housing in the local area. The work will include generating policy options for housing; calculating a suitable housing needs figure; determining the type and size of new dwellings and establishing the need for affordable housing and any specialist requirements such as properties for older residents and newly formed households.

Further specialist work will be sought in due course, but over the Summer the CNPWG will be assessing our local green spaces and working with a government appointed body AECOM on the housing needs assessment, whilst preparing our strategy for engaging further with the local community on the developing neighbourhood plan.

This is a big deal for our town with the adopted Carnforth Neighbourhood Plan setting out and influencing its development for many years to come. **EXCITING TIMES!**

**Councillor Malcolm Watkins & Bob Bailey**

**Where have our flower planters gone?** As part of our vision to see Carnforth



looking beautiful and inviting to tourists and residents alike, a couple of years ago the Town Council put planters on several guardrails in and around the Town Centre. These planters have given us much pleasure in that time and there have been many positive comments about how much the Town Centre has been improved by the colourful array of flowers especially at the Market St / Scotland Rd intersection and at the Lancaster Road / New Street junction.

Lancashire County Council, Highways & Transportation, have now informed the Town Council that the planters must be removed as they are a hazard to motorists and pedestrians.

Reluctantly, it seems that the Town Council little option but to consider removing the planters.

If any residents or local business have any ideas where we could relocate these planters, we will be happy to hear from you. We are also considering other ideas that will help to enhance the environment in which we conduct our day to day lives. **Councillor Malcolm Watkins**



**Carnforth in Bloom – Competition Winners:** The Town Council were very happy to award 1st place in our 2019 Carnforth in Bloom Competition to Gail Brown. Our congratulations to Gail for all her hard work in keeping the gardens in Alexandra Park looking pristine and inviting. This land belongs to Lancaster City Council, but Gail treats it as if it were her own and does a fantastic job!

2nd place was given to Tina Wiley of Lancaster Road. Her garden is like a labyrinth with masses of blooms and colours. It was clear that an immense amount of work has been put in to develop this garden. It would be lovely if members of the public could see this as it deserves to be shared by others.

3rd place goes to Donna Watson of Browsholme Close. Again, it was clear that a lot of thought has been given to the design of this garden, with its colourful and many attractive plants that really complement the uninterrupted and beautiful views over the fields beyond.

All the winners were invited to collect their rewards from the Town Mayor, Kath Bromilow, at the Town Council on Wednesday 17th July. Thank you to everyone who entered this year's competition. **Councillor Malcolm Watkins**

**Armed Forces Day:** Carnforth celebrated National Armed Forces Day on Saturday 29th April at the War Memorial Gardens. Everyone attending was welcomed with a Cri from our Town Crier followed by a reminder by the Town Mayor, Councillor Kath Bromilow as to why we were celebrating our Armed Forces, past and present.

Music was provided by the Salvation Army, including the Last Post/Reveille, when a wreath was laid by the Town Mayor on behalf of Carnforth Town Council (see picture right).

Leading the Service was Rev Neale and Rev Murgu supported by Councillor Major Malcolm Watkins who gave a thought-provoking sermon about the lives of serving armed forces personnel and their families and why we owe them so much for protecting us and our freedom. This was perfectly summed up by the following Charles M. Province poem:

*It is the soldier, not the minister who has given us freedom of religion.  
It is the soldier, not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press.  
It is the soldier, not the poet who has given us freedom of speech.  
It is the soldier, not the protest organiser who has given us freedom to protest.  
It is the soldier, not the lawyer who has given us the right to a fair trial.  
It is the soldier, not the politician who has given us the right to vote.  
It is the soldier who salutes the flag, who serves beneath the flag, whose coffin is draped by the flag, who allows us to burn the flag.*

**Councillor Malcolm Watkins**





**Carnforth Film Night at the Civic Hall – 2019 – 2020:** After the great success of its first Saturday Film Night season, the Town Council is proud to announce the dates of screenings for the forthcoming 2019 – 2020 season – see below.

Each Saturday Film Night at Carnforth Civic Hall on North Road will follow the tried and tested format of last season with a hot pot supper (or similar) supplied by local caterer, On a Roll, included in the ticket price.

Doors will open at 6.30pm each month with the evening's film starting after supper has finished. Please note that tickets for each screening must be obtained in advance from Bob Bailey, Town Clerk. Tel: 07846 256 006; email: [clerk@carnforthtowncouncil.org](mailto:clerk@carnforthtowncouncil.org)

**Councillor Jim Grisenthwaite**

| <b>Dates for your diaries</b> |                          |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>2019</b>                   | <b>2020</b>              |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> September     | 11 <sup>th</sup> January |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> October      | 8 <sup>th</sup> February |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> November     | 14 <sup>th</sup> March   |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> December     | 4 <sup>th</sup> April    |
|                               | 9 <sup>th</sup> May      |
|                               | 13 <sup>th</sup> June    |

**Did you know?** You can hire Carnforth Civic Hall at very competitive rates. Our new charges from April 2019 are:

- ✓ Main Hall - £15 per hour
- ✓ Large Front Room - £12 per hour

The above rates apply Monday to Sunday with free use of the kitchen\* and free wi-fi use. (\*An additional flat rate of £5 per session is charged when the kitchen is used for cooking)

A drinks machine is also available where a range of quality hot drinks can be purchased for just£1!

To make a booking please contact our Civic Hall Manager, Rik Marsden. **Call 01524 732197** or email: [civichall@carnforthtowncouncil.org](mailto:civichall@carnforthtowncouncil.org)

**Carnforth Heritage Walks:** We know many residents enjoy walking around the town and seeing something of the history and heritage of where we live. You may not know that Carnforth Town Council have produced a 'Guided' Heritage Walk and accompanying leaflet that takes you to many points of interest. Led by Councillor Watkins you will enjoy a two-hour easy walk and optional refreshments in the iconic Carnforth Station Refreshment Room.

Our next tours are on **Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> August** and **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September**, leaving the War Memorial Gardens at 10am. **A voluntary fee of £5 is requested for this event.**

**Bob Bailey, Town Clerk**



**Have your say on our roads:** You can now have your say on our local roads and transport as part of a new campaign to promote the work of Lancashire County Council, Highways. They are encouraging people to complete the National Highways and Transport (NHT) survey, which measures public satisfaction with services across different local authorities.

The campaign focuses on the County Council's work fixing around 40,000 potholes a year and the fact that the number of potholes have reduced by 38% in the last two years by more being reported by the public on their website. This year the County Council plan to spend £24m to maintain Lancashire's 4,600 miles of highways and 5,300 miles of footways and to continue investment to help improve the condition of the county's roads. Follow the link to find out more about how Lancashire's roads are improving and to complete the survey:

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/>

## **Do you love your local area and want to make it even better?**

Lancaster City Council is inviting community groups, organisations and charities to apply to a new fund and help improve local public spaces. The council has set aside £100,000 in a new *Making Spaces Fund* that aims to make the district a cleaner and greener place in which to live, work and visit.

The fund does not replace existing maintenance by the City Council, but they hope to inspire community groups to 'add value' to existing public spaces or create new ones.

The Making Spaces programme has been set up to make it easier to pitch ideas, get support, access some seed funding, or get match funding for bigger projects.



Whether it's a small local park or community area, allotment site, children's play area or just a patch of grass that could be turned into a vibrant public space, the council wants to hear from you. Follow the link to express your interest in the fund:

[https://www.lancaster.gov.uk/forms/ShowForm.asp?fm\\_fid=253](https://www.lancaster.gov.uk/forms/ShowForm.asp?fm_fid=253)

**Have you considered volunteering?** In recent weeks the Town Council has had several recent enquiries about volunteering in our local community.

We know that volunteering is a satisfying and rewarding and experience that can do much to build self-esteem and self-worth. It is also valued by employers and education / training organisations and is a great opportunity to make new friends and meet new people

Volunteering is about neighbourliness and taking pride in your local community and several local groups have already been hard at work tidying up our town.

Whether it be weeding or litter picking, Lancaster City Council will provide equipment and advice to make sure that you have a successful, safe and enjoyable event and they will collect the weeds and litter at the end.

You don't need a large group to make a big difference but making your event fun will encourage more people of all ages to give up their time to take part. You could theme the event or run it as a challenge or competition and give it an exciting name!

If you are considering applying for the *Making Spaces Fund* or are interested in volunteering please let the Town Council know and we will support your application or promote your event on our website and social media channels and even muck in on the day!

Please email [clerk@carnforthtowncouncil.org](mailto:clerk@carnforthtowncouncil.org) and we will be happy to help you!



**Carnforth Carnival and Health Day:** Many congratulations to the Carnforth Carnival Committee and Carnforth Rotary for fantastic day on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July – even the weather was great!

As well as the Carnival Parade there was a range of activities that included something for everyone – singing, dancing and laughter were the order of the day – with special guests Danny Miller and Adam Thomas off the telly!

The Carnival Committee, our residents and local businesses were busy in the lead up to the day too with many competing in the best dressed house and best dressed shop competitions. The eventual winners of the best dressed house were the Harrison family on Dunkirk Avenue, whilst Highfield Spar came out on top in the best dressed shop.



Carnforth Rotary worked alongside NHS Integrated Community Care to put on a Health and Fun Day in association with Carnforth Carnival and Carnforth High School and swimming pool. There was a range of community health stalls, a smoothie making bike, medical checks and exercise demonstrations together with a coconut shy and a very competitive Tug of War! The day was opened by the Town Mayor, Kath Bromilow MBE, and Rotary President Pete Lambson and was a huge success with many members of the public gaining valuable information and help on a wide range of health and wellbeing issues. Carnforth Community Choir, led by Dr Andy Knox, were also on hand to entertain everyone with a range of well-known songs.

Once again, the whole day was testament to the spirit (the non-alcoholic variety!) of our wonderful community with everyone coming together and having a blooming good day!

**Festival of Arts & Crafts:** Carnforth Business Network are holding their 6th annual Festival of Arts & Crafts is on 3rd August from 10am until around 2pm. There will be a wide array of stalls for you to enjoy as well as music, face painting (until 12pm) and some games for the kids. There will be the welcome return of Corvidae, a hugely popular local band, between 11am and 1pm. There's also an Art Trail in the local shops between 31st July and 7th August. Carnforth Business Network look forward to welcoming you to the event.

**Bob Bailey, Town Clerk**