

CARNFORTH EXPRESS

Produced by Carnforth Town Council for the Community of Carnforth



Money, Money, Money!

You'll shortly be receiving a letter from Lancaster City Council telling you what your Council Tax bill will be for 2020 – 2021. The letter will tell you how the various parts of local government that serve us and our area will distribute your hard-earned cash. First of all, Lancashire County Council will need the lion's share of the amount you pay for the services they provide including Highways, Adult Social Care, Libraries, Trading Standards, Children's Services and many schools. Lancashire Constabulary and Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service will also be entitled to a slice of your cash. Then Lancaster City Council will need a chunk to pay for housing, planning and environmental services, street cleaning and refuse collection together with park and leisure facilities. That will leave the smallest amount of the bill, the sliver that Carnforth Town Council will receive but I'll return to that in just a moment.

What are you really paying for? Now you may be forgiven for thinking that the work of local government is about as exciting as watching paint dry. For most of us we only use most council services when there is a need and not because we choose to. But where would we be without our road network, without schools, without regular refuse collection, without the protection of the Police and Fire Services and so on? Without realising it, local government services are as essential to our everyday lives as fresh air. However, unlike fresh air, these services have to be paid for. Whether you are a direct user of the services the various elements of local government provide or not, your Council Tax payment helps to provide the framework of society in which we can all live our daily lives.

Carnforth Town Council's role: Carnforth Town Council is a parish council, the smallest unit of local government. Its 12 elected members are all local residents who receive no allowances for their work. The Council is responsible for community assets such as the Civic Hall, the War Memorial and its garden, the allotments, some bus shelters and the flower displays around the town. The Council is also responsible for promoting a forward looking and positive image of the town not only to outsiders but also to residents themselves. Events such as monthly Film Nights, Carnforth Carnival, Remembrance Sunday and local organisations and groups such as Carnforth Cricket Club, Carnforth Rangers and the Twinning Association all received financial support from the Town Council in the past year. Two new bus shelters are also in the process of being installed.

Perhaps the most important piece of work undertaken by the Council in the past year has been the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan for the town. This aims to set out a blueprint for the development of Carnforth for the next decade and it will be published after further public consultation later this year.

Looking ahead, the Town Council has plans (along with many others) to develop the Civic Hall, celebrate the 75th anniversary of VE Day in May, and ensure that Carnforth is not overlooked in the development of the Eden Project North in Morecambe. It will also play an active role in campaigning for the interests of residents in the major housing and commercial developments that are scheduled for Carnforth for 2020 and beyond.

So, back to the money and the amount of Council Tax that Carnforth Town Council will be asking you for in 2020-2021. We have set our draft budget for the coming year and will be asking the average Band D occupier for an extra 7p a week or £3.64 a year. For Band E properties we will be seeking an extra 9p per week or £4.68 a year.

We sincerely hope that, taken in the round, the proposed increase in our element of the Council Tax will be seen as reasonable and that the work we do on your behalf to promote a positive image for Carnforth and support local organisations and groups is valued and supported.



Whether you agree or disagree, and you would like to make your opinion known please contact us at clerk@carnforhtowncouncil.org.

Councillor Jim Grisenthwaite

What is an “Integrated Care Community”?

An Integrated Care Community (ICC) are cohesive teams of community services, patient representatives, primary and secondary care, social services, education services, emergency services, mental health services, numerous voluntary & third sector charities and groups, and wider community assets who work together with communities to ensure that people are supported to improve their own health and well-being.



When people are ill or need support, we work together to

support them to receive the best possible joined up care and look at the wider detriments of health and wellbeing. The ICC's help empower people to take an active role in their health and well-being and support people to manage their conditions at home with the right support.

Across Morecambe Bay, there are 9 Integrated Care Communities - Barrow & Millom; Ulverston, Dalton & Askam; Grange & Lakes; Kendal; East; **Carnforth**; Lancaster; Queen Square and Bay.

The Core team is based at **Carnforth Clinic**, led by Ash Trees GP Dr David Wrigley, and Care Coordinator, Jayne Crowther. Janette Wright supports the team with administration, and I am Carnforth ICC's Development Lead.

2019 – our successes: We have implemented some innovative projects due to the willingness and collaboration of partners. Dr Barker, Consultant Geriatrician attends Carnforth once a week and sees patient, alternating weekly between home visits and a community clinic. In just under two years, Dr Barker has seen 117 patients, prevented 7 hospital admissions, and saved 82 hospital outpatient appointments. 11 new diagnoses have been made, and treatment was started at home without the need for a hospital admission. He supports the ICC clinical team with multidisciplinary team meetings.

Memory Assessment Service: The prevalence of Dementia in England is 0.8% whereas in Carnforth, the prevalence of Dementia is significantly higher at 1.6%. For the last 6 months, we have been trialling a memory support service that has been running at Carnforth Clinic by our Adult Mental Health colleagues from Lancashire and South Cumbria Foundation Trust. Patients are identified by their GPs and supported by our Care Co-ordinator. Patients receive care in a local venue, rather than having to travel into Lancaster.



We are looking forward to hosting a monthly Memory Support Group for patients and their carers. This will allow people to get more information about memory conditions; to get support and specific advice from partners such as Age UK, Memory Assessment Team, Carer's Support and more. Our first group will run at Carnforth Clinic on Friday 21st February from 1-3pm.

Pictured (L-R Emma Sharples, Long Term Conditions Matron, Carnforth; Debbie Hargreaves, Memory Assessment Team; Jayne Crowther, Care Coordinator; Dr David Wrigley, GP and ICC Clinical Lead; Janette Wright, Carnforth ICC Administrator).

Intergenerational Project: We have worked hard in 2019 to make new links to groups in our local community, and one thing I am especially proud of is our Intergenerational Project. We joined Christ Church Primary School with Keer Sands Care Home and created a 4 week program for the children to visit the adults; each week having a different health theme, from language, listening and communication, mental and physical health and wellbeing, self-care, hand hygiene and understanding how health care has changed over the last 100 years.

This pilot was highly successful for both the adults and children, with the adults feeling that they were able to contribute during the sessions. Some adults said *"it's really nice to hear children's voices"*, *"I enjoyed listening to the children playing pairs and snap"*, *"I enjoyed the singing"*, *"I enjoyed seeing the children happy and playing, they enjoyed learning how to wash their hands"*, *"I'm very sad that was the last time, I hope they'll come again"*. Mr Hargreaves, former head teacher of Christ Church Primary School said *"It has been amazing to see the bond between pupil and resident grow so quickly and how animated the group can become. What a wonderful opportunity to be a part of."*

Health and Fun Day: We supported Carnforth Rotary in July at their Health and Fun Day. We had 26 agencies and groups represented providing information and advice, from Active Lives, Citizen's Advice Bureau, Community Pharmacy, North West Ambulance Service, Carnforth Serenity café and bipolar support group (the list goes on!). It was opened by the amazing Carnforth Community Choir and we had a successful day welcoming around 230 people into the hall. This was a great opportunity for us to talk to our community about their health and wellbeing. We will be doing it again this year in conjunction with Carnforth Rotary and Carnforth Carnival on Saturday 4th July – put the date in your diaries!

2020 will bring us lots of new projects and events; I'm very excited to see what we can achieve together during the year. For any further information, please contact Carnforth.ICC@mbht.nhs.uk. **Emma Paul, Carnforth ICC's Development Lead**

Lancashire Road Safety Partnership:

The Lancashire Road Safety Partnership is made up of:



The Lancashire Road Safety Partnership is the co-ordinating body for Lancashire, Blackburn with Darwen and Blackpool. It aims to reduce road casualties through the management of speed, enforcement, engineering, emergency response, driver education and training and through developing collaborative approaches to education, awareness, engagement and other measures. All the partners work together to reduce casualties on Lancashire's roads and make people feel safe.

Driving at excessive speed on roads in and around Carnforth is something that is raised with the Town Council from time to time. Such matters are regularly discussed by the Town Council with Lancashire County Council Highways and our County Councillor Phillippa Williamson, but there is something you can do directly.

If you have concerns regarding speeding vehicles you can report these at <https://lancsroadsafety.co.uk/enforcement/> and click the link under 'enforcement'. Here is another useful link if you are interested in campaigns being run by the partnership <https://lancsroadsafety.co.uk/campaigns/>. These include such things as tyre safety, skills for motorcyclists, courses for senior drivers and how drivers and pedestrians can look out for each other along our transport network.



We ask all our drivers; residents, businesses or visitors to drive safely and considerately. Be aware of others and when stationary avoid unnecessary idling. This will help to maintain a safe and healthy environment for everyone using our town.

Cllr Chris Smith.

Carnforth's Coke Ovens: A potted history:



The historic coke ovens at Carnforth are just south of the Crag Bank junction on the A6 and the first canal bridge south of the Canal Turn, known as Thwaite End Bridge No. 127. They are on the far side of the canal from the towing path with a track leading to them to give easy access for the distribution of the coke. Probably coal was also sold.

The advantages of coke over coal are mainly that it is a purified form of carbon without the tars which contaminate products, making it ideal for iron making and limestone burning. Others are that it burns at a quite high temperature without smoke and flames, and gives a long-lasting and consistent burn, making it ideal for domestic use and by blacksmiths and in static and road traction steam engines.

Some of Carnforth's coke was used to heat the market garden greenhouses which were just across the road, This small scale coke production closed with the introduction of the gas works which were just north of the Canal Turn.

There were two main types of purpose-built ovens. Near coal mining sites or at iron works industrial ovens would be built as long banks of as many as ten long ovens, sometimes with two banks back to back. The ovens on our stretch of the Lancaster Canal are locally constructed, round, beehive ovens. A set of just five, suitable for the needs of a community like Carnforth, would allow continuous working with typically one being filled, one burning, one cooling down and one being emptied.

An oven would be filled with coal and lit and the entrance would then be bricked up to restrict the air supply. Only the volatile tars would burn and the exhaust gases would escape through a small aperture left near the top.

The Coke Oven location is next to the piece of land known as Springfield, a popular site for activities like Sunday School outings, picnics and egg rolling, right up to the middle of the 20th century. Marion Russell, in her book *'How Carnforth Grew'* described the appearance of the ovens, which she would see when going to Springfield, as "five little caves" which she "did not go inside to investigate because they were dirty and very smelly".

She also describes a quay, about 50 yards long, hidden by reeds, and a sturdy wall on the canal side of the "artificial hill" over the ovens. This wharf, where the barges moored bringing the coal from south Lancashire, is being excavated and the "sturdy wall" is visible from the towpath side of the canal. The ovens themselves, facing away from the canal, appear as five stone eyes at this stage of their conservation. They can be seen from the track heading south past Mount Pleasant and the footpath to Bolton-le-Sands which goes down Thwaite Lane and over Bolton Cinder Ovens Bridge, where the Bolton coke ovens were.

The once busy little area, once active with bargemen and the operator of the coke ovens, and later well used recreationally, is very quiet now; but is a reminder of what was once a small, but valuable local industry.

The Carnforth Coke Ovens are on land owned by the Canal & Rivers Trust who are interested in protecting this bit of canal heritage. The Friends of Carnforth Coke Ovens (FCCO) are a small volunteer group set up to protect and enhance the site. They are also working on the other similar clusters of ovens at, Galgate, Lancaster, Bolton-le-Sands, Holme and the sites, now empty at Crooklands and Kendal. They have occasional work parties to clear the surroundings and make improvements. If you are interested in helping contact Brian Crawley on 07721 007379.

Brian Jones – resident



SAFE: SAFE is a local not for profit organisation working with young people and adults in our local area. The Prop up Project is for young people 13-19 who are going through mental health and life challenges.

The Prop up Project runs a successful group in Morecambe.

They have come together with the Salvation Army to offer Prop up Project Group sessions for young people in Carnforth. This is running on a Tuesday evening between 5.30pm and 7.30pm at the Salvation Army Meeting Point, back of Market Street Carnforth.

In the group sessions, we run group and individual creative activities such as drama and art, encouraging the young people to get involved, get to know each other and learn new skills at their own pace. Alongside these activities each month we run activities to equip the group with key coping strategies and skills to maintain a positive mental health and build resilience outside of our session.

For those who might feel unable to be involved in group activities, we create an individual space where they can participate in activities such as reading, drawing on their own or with a team member until they feel comfortable to join the group.

Our sessions allow young people to be in a group with others who are going through similar circumstance and to know they are not alone. If you, or someone you know would benefit from attending please call **Keeley Wilkinson: 07568937988 or email: propupproject@gmail.com**.

SAFE and The Salvation Army would like to thank the following local organisations who have agreed to help fundraise for SAFE: The County Hotel and Brasserie; Philip Jones Opticians; Gilded Dreams Salon; Staff at Carnforth Clinic and Ettlly Lilly Haberdashery Bolton-le- Sands.

Carnforth School in top 2% of primary schools for achievement in

Mathematics: Teachers and pupils at Christ Church C of E Primary School Carnforth were recently delighted to receive the letter reproduced below from Nick Gibb MP.



Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP
Minister of State for School Standards

Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, SW1P 3BT
tel: 0370 000 2288 www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus

Mr Daniel Hargreaves
Carnforth Christ Church CofE Primary School
North Road
Carnforth
LA5 9LJ

27 January 2020

Dear Mr Hargreaves,

I would like to congratulate you, your staff and your pupils on the very high standard of achievement demonstrated in the mathematics Key Stage 2 assessments last year.

Your school's results, as published on 13 December, show that 100 per cent of your pupils reached or exceeded the expected standard in mathematics at the end of Key Stage 2. This means that for achievement in mathematics, Carnforth Christ Church CofE Primary School is in the top 2 per cent of primary schools in the country.

The Government wants to ensure that every child has the fluency in mathematics necessary to prepare them for a successful secondary education and beyond, which is why I was delighted to see your results.

Thank you for your work in continuing the drive towards higher academic standards, and congratulations again to you and your staff for your commitment and success.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Nick Gibb'.

Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP
Minister of State for School Standards



Carnforth Film Night at the Civic Hall: Our Film Nights continue to be popular. Downton Abbey the movie shown in January was a complete sell out and Mrs Lowry and Son in February was also very popular.

As well as a blockbuster film, each Saturday Film Night now follows the tried and tested format of food supplied by local caterer, On a Roll, and drinks provided by local community groups, who keep the profits to support their community work!

Doors open at 6.30pm with the evening's film starting after supper has finished. Please note that tickets for each screening should be booked and collected in advance from **Bob Bailey, Town Clerk.**

To book call into the office at **46 – 48 Market Street, Carnforth; telephone: 07846 256 006; email: clerk@carnforhtowncouncil.org**

Dates of film nights in 2020 are: 14th March – Red Joan (Judi Dench; Sophie Cookson; Tom Hughes); **4th April – Judy** (Renee Zellweger; Finn Wittrock; Jessie Buckle); **9th May VE Day Weekend Special – This Happy Breed** (Stanley Holloway; Robert Newton; John Mills; Celia Johnson) **and 13th June** multi-award winning **1917** (Dean-Charles Chapman; George Mackay; Richard Madden; Benedict Cumberbatch)

Did you know? You can hire Carnforth Civic Hall at very competitive rates - Main Hall £15 per hour; Large Front Room £12 per hour. These 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@carnforhtowncouncil.org**

The Civic Hall is the town's community emergency centre and is fully equipped to support the local community in the event of a major incident.

On the night of 5 December 2015, 61,000 houses in Lancaster lost power when an electrical substation at the side of the River Lune was submerged in flood water. Houses in Morecambe, Heysham and here in Carnforth also lost power due to the substation being flooded.

Although this seems a very long time ago now work is still ongoing to protect the infrastructure in Lancaster and in turn electricity supply here in Carnforth.



If you would like to catch up on the flood protection work, here is a great link to all get of the latest news - <https://thefloodhub.co.uk>

Cllr Chris Smith

Around the Community:



Carnforth Swimathon: 'Can you swim? Do you value having a Community Swimming Pool in Carnforth? Are there any specific Charities you like to support?

You can do all these things at the same time by taking part in the Third Community Swimathon on the weekend of **7th and 8th March 2020**. Each participant is allowed up to 55 minutes in the Pool, with each length being counted by the stewards.

You can obtain sponsors at an agreed amount per length or a one-off payment.

Half of the money raised will go to the Community Swimming Pool and half to a Charity of your choice.



All monies are collected in by Carnforth Rotary Club and cheques presented to the various participants and charities at a presentation evening in April.

This event is for everyone, all abilities and ages, so please join us for this special Community Event - Keeping fit and raising money for worthy causes.

For more information please email swimathon@carnforthrotary1190.org

Councillor (and Rotarian) Malcolm Watkins

Crag Bank Park Group: The Town Council, through Councillor Steve Watson are supporting the creation of a new group whose aim is to play a vital role in protecting and enhancing the play area and green space in Crag Bank.

Working in partnership with the council, the group of residents will have a greater say in the development of this local area that backs onto Johnson, Croasdale, Tarnbrook, Browsholme Closes, The Drive and Hunting Hill road.

Once the group have been formally established as a 'Friends' group, with a formal constitution, they will be able to apply for funding from several sources to make improvements.

Some of the ideas already proposed include; wild meadow / wild life garden; replace all the kids play equipment with up to date kit; football nets & marked pitch; basketball / netball nets; dog agility equipment for our 4 legged friends; outdoor gym equipment.

Some of these ideas may not come to fruition due to space or funding, but there are some great plans already. If you live around the Crag Bank area, look out for our leaflet that will be coming through your



letterbox in the next few weeks that will give you some more information. If you want to get involved, please contact:

Bob Bailey, Town Clerk, email: clerk@carnforhtowncouncil.org

