

CARNFORTH EXPRESS

Carnforth Town Council – Working for you

July & August 2021

HAVE YOUR SAY ON OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN



Since mid-2018 a group supported by Carnforth Town Council has been working on a Carnforth Neighbourhood Plan for the town that will be a blueprint for its future.

Throughout its development residents and businesses have been consulted to form the plans, vision and objectives. Technical support has helped to gather evidence to inform the plan and provide expert advice on housing needs and design codes that will apply to any new development to ensure that they support and enhance the quality of Carnforth's existing character and heritage.

Carnforth Town Council have just been awarded the final funding, making a total of £18,000 (the maximum available) to develop a plan that will support sustainable development that reflects the distinct local character of the town and delivers cohesive, sustainable transport links that will help reduce air pollution and support active and healthy communities.

Together with improvements to pedestrian and cycling links, many more residents, visitors and those working in the town will see suggestions for an efficient alternative to car travel. New growth will meet local needs and allow the town to become more self-sufficient, with increased support of local tourism, enterprise and community led events.

The draft plan has also sought to understand the views of the local community on the suitability of social and technological innovations to decarbonise transport in Carnforth. This work makes the draft neighbourhood plan one of the first in the country to be Carbon Neutral!

The Carnforth Neighbourhood Plan is now reaching the final stages. Residents, local businesses, neighbouring town and parish councils and statutory bodies will be consulted over a six-week period between 26th July and 5th September. **See also pages 9 – 12 of the Carnforth Express for a residents letter and Frequently Asked Questions** Representations made at this stage will be taken into consideration before submission to Lancaster City Council and an independent examination. After that the neighbour plan, with modifications if necessary, will be subject to a local referendum before the final plan is adopted as part of the development plan alongside the Lancaster District Local Plan.

The neighbourhood plan is paramount to the future of the town and community engagement is essential to its success. I encourage the Carnforth community to have their say on how the town develops for decades to come. The full Carnforth Neighbourhood Plan, supporting information and online consultation questionnaire are available on our website here: <https://carnforthtowncouncil.org/neighbourhood-planning/>.

There will also be opportunities to attend informal drop-in's on August 4nd and 25th between 10am and 1pm and 6pm and 8pm at Ashtrees Way, Carnforth Civic Hall, Crag Bank Village Hall and on Highfield (Look out on social media and Council Noticeboards for more information)

Bob Bailey, Clerk & Proper Officer

AUGUST 21st IS FESTIVAL DAY!

JOIN US FOR OUR COMMUNITY HEALTH & FUN DAY



SATURDAY 21st August
10am to 3:30pm



In association with Carnforth ICC

at Carnforth High School Kellet Rd., Carnforth, Lancs. LA5 9LS.



FREE Confidential Health Checks



Lots of interesting stalls for Health information and advice



Activity demonstrations for all the family



The Swimming Pool inflatable for under 18s (Bring your cozzies)



Smoothie Bike - pedal your way to a healthy smoothie



And lots, lots more!!



Ash Trees Surgery

Why not make your own Smoothy on the specially adapted bicycle ? Or take part in one of the taster sessions held throughout the day.

There will also be free swimming tickets for youngsters to enjoy the mammoth inflatable in the swimming pool. Check the programme when you get there to find out what is available and when - you may need to book your slot.

The fun doesn't end there because in the late afternoon and early evening the Town Council are organising a **Street Festival!**

Designed to encourage visitors and shoppers back into the centre of Carnforth, there will be a wide range of attractions with a variety of street food vendors, side stalls, children's rides and entertainment and many of our local businesses will remain open late. Check out our dedicated [Facebook page](#) for more details!

To provide a safe environment for everyone attending, Market Street will be closed to traffic from approximately 3pm and will re-open to traffic shortly after 8pm. Please put Saturday 21 August in your diaries, tell your friends and come and enjoy what Carnforth has to offer for all the family! **Councillor Malcolm Watkins**





A NEW CHAPTER BEGINS! After many months of negotiations and discussion, Carnforth Town Council finally took over the custodianship of Crag Bank Village Hall in June. The Hall was built in 1985 and has been run by a trust comprising members of the local community ever since. Regrettably, over the years, the number of trustees has dwindled to the point where only former Mayor of Carnforth, George Birkett, remained.

Ably supported by volunteer, Julie Davey, George now aged 90, felt that the time was right to ask the Town Council to step in to safeguard the future of the Hall.

Crag Bank Village Hall is a wonderful community asset and the Town Council is planning to work closely with existing

users, including the Crag Bank Under 5s group, whilst developing what it has to offer for new groups, organisations and individuals.

Exciting changes are in the pipeline and include an [online booking service](#) as well as an electronic keyless entry system. Facilities inside the Hall will be upgraded over the coming year to ensure that it will appeal to a wide variety of future users.

We will provide regular updates on the developments at Crag Bank so watch this space!

Councillor Jim Grisenthwaite

CELEBRATING THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE:



As you will all know, the Queen will have been our monarch for 70 years in 2022. There is to be an extensive programme of public events over an extended 4 day Bank Holiday Weekend - 2nd to 5th June. The National Events will mix traditional pageantry with cutting edge technological displays.

The Town Council wants our town to rise to the occasion and have our own events over these 4 days.

We are inviting schools, businesses, community groups, churches, uniformed groups and all our residents to come together to celebrate this 'once in a lifetime' occasion. We are looking for your input and commitment to make this a 'not to be forgotten' weekend of celebration.

A small planning group has already been formed to start our thinking and they would like your input. Please forward any ideas, comments and/or offers of help, to Bob Bailey, email: clerk@carnforthtowncouncil.org and he will share them with the planning group.

Councillor Malcolm Watkins

WE ARE HITTING THE ROAD! Your Town Council meets on a monthly basis at the Council Offices (or sometimes Carnforth Civic Hall) to discuss issues affecting the communities of Carnforth and Crag Bank. Meetings are always open to the public but we appreciate that it is not always easy for people to access them. In future, to improve accessibility, the Town Council will be relocating some of its meetings. Locations being considered are Crag Bank Village Hall and a suitable meeting venue nearer to Highfield Estate. Any changes in location will be publicised on our website: <https://carnforthtowncouncil.org/> and Noticeboards.

Councillor Chris Smith

As a newbie to the council, I had only attended one meeting in mid-June and then it was straight into the Annual Town Meeting on June 30th and it was a real eye-opener!.

After the usual shenanigans of people working out whether they were 'on mute', echoes and an interesting selection of backgrounds the meeting kicked off with City Councillor Jackson homing in on the great work of Carnforth Town Council and the community since the start of the pandemic. There has been a positive change in the Town's working relationship with the City Council and effective collaboration and improved communication has delivered real and lasting outcomes for Carnforth and surrounding areas. Councillor Jackson described Carnforth as '*exemplar during that time*' and said that the City Council had found it '*reassuring that Carnforth had pulled together so effectively to support its most vulnerable residents*'.

Councillor Kath Bromilow (Town Mayor for the previous two years) and fellow councillors then presented the Annual Report for the year ending 31st March 2021 which had seen unprecedented challenges as well as significant achievements and positive outcomes. The most recent highlight being the acquisition of Crag Bank Village Hall which really is a tremendous asset to the community, and the council has immediately shown its intent with the significant upgrading of the facilities and the new online booking system.



Emma Paul from the Integrated Care Community fought through her technical issues to give a great presentation on the support functions that have been in place during the pandemic including Ok2Ask (ASK = Ask for Advice, Search for Support, Kindness is Key) and the Carnforth Cares event. Emma and her team, supported by the Town Council and community groups attending the Annual Meeting, also did an amazing job of supporting children with vouchers for Christmas and at Easter and the elderly with Christmas Hampers. There was also huge praise for the outstanding job Ashtrees Surgery has done with the vaccination programme.

The Carnforth and surrounding areas covid19 support group, is a great example of community spirit and as well as providing a great communication network the volunteers offered hands on support, providing shopping for almost 100 of our most vulnerable residents; plenty of dog walking, and ferrying 100's of patients to hospital appointments.

It was great to see Carnforth Rotary Club still flourishing despite Covid19, and continually supporting the town, including the vaccination programme and assisting the Carnforth Wombles. The Salvation Army have also kept active – as well as supporting the Foodbank they have delivered over 500 actions of help to people in Carnforth, and they hope that going forward the shop will be utilised for support as well as retail. The popular lunch clubs will soon be reinstated.

We should all try and support our local businesses, and whilst the Carnforth Business network has had a very tough year, they have still been active supporting local schools and helping the community. Carnforth swimming pool has been very busy since reopening, and there are many swim programmes available for the public.

RAF 2246 squadron (Air Cadets Carnforth) has also suffered during Covid19 but has functioned online with a tremendous set of events and speakers. As an ex RAF cadet myself I cannot recommend enough the opportunity and fun this provides 12-17 year olds in Carnforth and they are recruiting - it's much more fun than an Xbox!

The meeting concluded on a very positive note looking forward to the Carnforth Street Festival this year, and the Queen's Platinum Jubilee next year. In summary it was great to see the effort and dedication people have for the community of Carnforth, coming through a torrid 2020/2021 and setting a fantastic foundation for us all to build on in the future. Thank you to all those that attended and their teams that have contributed to an outstanding year in the most difficult of circumstances! **Councillor Ian Betley**

LOVE YOUR PARKS: The 23rd of July is the start of Love Parks Week - an initiative run by Keep Britain Tidy. We are fortunate to have several very nice parks in Carnforth and Crag Bank but do we give them the love they deserve? Most mornings, litter can be found in our parks and most of this is probably left by children - sweet wrappers, pop bottles and cans. If your child uses the park unsupervised in the evening please reinforce the message that the bins provided are for rubbish - not the areas surrounding play equipment. I have picked up broken glass around swings and slides on several occasions. It doesn't take much imagination to realise how dangerous this is. Come on kids - love our parks. If you want to find out more visit [keepbritaintidy.org](https://www.KeepBritainTidy.org). **Councillor Chris Smith**





**Canal &
River Trust**
Making life better by water

Lancaster canal Towpath Taskforce

Would you enjoy learning new skills, meeting new people,
keeping fit and generally messing about on and by the canal?

Carnforth towpath taskforce is the volunteer group working on the canals around Carnforth. We work on vital tasks such as planting hedgerows, tackling problem plants, painting locks, mending towpaths and generally making the waterside a more attractive place for everyone.

All tools and equipment will be provided, together with expert and friendly support

and refreshments. No experience is necessary, but do contact us if possible to let us know you'd like to take part, we'd love to hear from you!

We meet monthly on Saturdays with activities scheduled between 10am and 3pm (any time given within this is appreciated). Please get in contact for more details.

For more information please contact:
Anna Barlow on 07810 378910
Anna.Barlow@canalrivertrust.org.uk
📍 CanalRiverTrustVolunteers
📱 @CRTVolunteers

Charity no. 1146792
Issue Date 08/2020



canalrivertrust.org.uk

CARING FOR THE CANAL

The canal through Carnforth is a beautiful green ribbon that runs right through the heart of our town. During the covid epidemic the canal has re-established itself as a major leisure asset and many people use it for walking, running, cycling, dog walking and many more activities! But it does need care from time to time and particularly now as the vegetation starts to grow over the towpath.

If you have just a small amount of time to offer you can join other volunteers that support the Canal and River Trust in maintaining the canal corridor for all of us to use.

If you can please contact Anna Barlow – details on the poster.

Councillor Chris Smith

WOMBLE'D WASTE: Have you ever wondered what happens to all of the litter that the Carnforth Wombles collect in and around our town? Well I was recently asked and I didn't have an answer, so I thought I should investigate and let you know. In an ideal world there would be no litter in our town, in the parks, or in the canal! Litter that you take home can be segregated efficiently and then recycled. The vast majority of waste is reused in this way. But what about litter that ends up in mixed waste bags? Litter picked into mixed waste bags is collected by Lancaster City Council and sent to one of two waste facilities operated by Lancashire County Council.

The two facilities provide slightly different treatment but in summary - the bags are split with the larger elements such as plastic and plastic film removed. Metals are also removed leaving a biodegradable fraction. The larger waste stream is then further processed to produce a fuel that is used either in electricity production or cement manufacture in cement kilns. The biodegradable part is further processed into waste derived compost.



Segregation of mixed waste is difficult so it is far better if you take your litter home with you for recycling, but if you need to throw it away please use one of the many bins around the town. Please do not drop litter and please teach your children to do the same. Littering and disregard for our environment is an attitude that is established when we are young and children tend to copy parents. Help keep Carnforth Clean and give our litter pickers a big wave next time you see them. **Councillor Chris Smith**



Your dog can't clean up after itself,
it's up to you!



Dog waste on the canal towpath continues to be an issue. Some dog owners make no effort to clean up after their dogs, others clean up into a plastic bag and then dump the bag in the verge or in the canal!

There is an on the spot fine of £80 for dog fouling so please clean up after your dog, then bin it or take it home. We are working with the City Council dog warden to see what can be done to make the message clearer.

Feeding the ducks on the canal is a favourite pastime for families with children - but after you have finished why would you throw old bread wrappers away on the towpath? The canal is there for you to enjoy but why spoil it by inconsiderate littering? Please think of others and keep it tidy for your next visit. **Councillor Chris Smith**

COMMUNITY SHORTS: Carnforth Community Primary School are currently

looking for a new Co-opted governor to join our friendly governing board. Our governors come from a range of different backgrounds, skills and experience but all share a common interest of wanting the best possible education for the children in our school.

We would be delighted to hear from anyone who:-

- Is interested in children's education and the performance of the school;
- Is community spirited and would like to represent the community;
- Has spare time and the energy for the role;
- Is able to work well as part of a team;
- Has an enquiring mind and the confidence to ask questions and debate issues that affect the school;
- Can consider matters objectively and make informed judgements.

For more information about our school visit our website www.carnforthprimary.lancs.sch.uk or call Mrs Sarah Hudd on 01524 732435 or email: head@carnforthprimary.lancs.sch.uk



HOT OFF THE PRESS

A601(M) Update: Design work and associated investigations / studies are ongoing on the various elements of the design and the de-specialisation of the motorway status. The Coronavirus pandemic resulted in a delay to the Traffic Count Survey, but this is now in progress allowing a revised programme to be developed.

The Programme for delivery is now as follows:

Traffic Count Surveys	July 2021
Design	April to November 2021
De-specialisation	July 2021 – March 2022
Procurement	December 2021 to March 2022
Construction	April 2022 to March 2023

It is still the intention to discuss the final design with local City Councillors and Carnforth Town Council prior to the scheme going out to procurement. It is expected that this will be around the end of November 2021. A full public consultation exercise involving a leaflet drop of the area and an exhibition showing the works will be undertaken, subject to Covid guidelines, in Carnforth during the procurement period.

County Councillor Phillippa Williamson

Music and Memories the award winning music group for people living with Dementia and memory issues and based in Carnforth will be at the Carnforth Health and Fun Day on August 21st at Carnforth High School. Find out more about what we do and have a chat with one of our team. You won't miss us we will be wearing our new blue polo shirts!! In the meantime you can contact Marilyn on 07547957371 or email dementiafriendlycfm@gmail.com for further details regarding our relaunch in September

Carnforth and District Twinning Association : As you may have noticed each time you drive past the signs at the entries to Carnforth, our town is twinned with Sailly-sur-la-Lys, a small town in the province of Pas de Calais in northern France. The Twinning agreement between our two Town Councils started in the summer of 2003 at the instigation of Frank Barton, Tony Rimmer and George Birkett and ever since the Twinning Associations of the towns have acted as hosts to their counterparts in alternate years, welcoming them into their homes.



Situated near Béthune, Armentières and Lille, Sailly sur la Lys is a small town of similar size to Carnforth; the canalised River Lys runs through it with several old factory buildings along its banks. The town was the site of active fighting during both world wars and there are British Commonwealth cemeteries both in and around the town.



The purpose of twinning has always been to encourage and strengthen ties between countries and to promote cultural, educational and recreational activities. To this end, not only have we had links with the local primary schools from time to time and set up communication between French and English schools, but we have helped to arrange accommodation and placements for three French students in the area and ran an activity day at Borwick Hall for French and English children. There have also been two visits by Sailly sur la Lys's wind band – l'Harmonie –

when they played concerts at the Morecambe Winter Gardens, with Morecambe Brass Band, and at the Ashton Memorial in Lancaster.

During the visits to Carnforth there have been trips to Leighton Hall, Lancaster Castle and Museum, and Sizergh Castle as well as further afield to Leeds Armouries, Windermere, Hadrian's Wall and Liverpool, to mention just a few. Our visits underline the depths of the friendships that have developed between our two associations.

Under normal circumstances the Association also runs social events each year – wine tastings, quizzes, tombola's, Lancashire Night, French meals and French film nights – and we hope to get these started again as soon as seems sensible.



Obviously, the visit that was planned for August 2020 could not go ahead and the possibility of rearranging it to this August was soon scuppered but we have high hopes that our French friends will be able to come over in 2022 and the visits will be able to continue our ties of friendship for another two decades and beyond. We are always eager to welcome new members to the Carnforth and District Twinning Association. You don't have to be fluent in French

to be a member. A few words of basic French can be very helpful, but members who speak no French are always welcomed by us and by our friends in Sailly, many of whom speak some English. **Lesley Simon, President, Carnforth and District Twinning Association**

CARNFORTH

DRAFT NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN



Dear Resident

Notification of formal consultation on Carnforth Neighbourhood Plan (Regulation 14, Town and Country Planning, England, Neighbourhood Planning Regulations)

I am pleased to advise that the Regulation 14 Consultation of the Carnforth Neighbourhood Plan runs for a six-week period between 26th July 2021 and 5th September 2021.

During this time of social distancing the Neighbourhood Plan is available to view online via the Neighbourhood Planning page of Town Council website:

<https://carnforthtowncouncil.org/neighbourhood-planning/>

Subject to advice in respect of social distancing paper copies of the Neighbourhood Plan may be available to view at the following locations:

Carnforth Library, Lancaster Road, Carnforth LA5 9DZ

Carnforth Civic Hall, North Road, Carnforth LA5 9LJ

If you would like to make representations, please download the pre-submission consultation comment form from our website or scan the QR code below:

Representations can be submitted by email or by post:

By email: **clerk@carnforthtowncouncil.org**

By post: **Carnforth Neighbourhood Plan**

c/o Carnforth Town Council

46-48 Market Street

Carnforth LA5 9LB



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert Barker', written over a horizontal line.

Clerk & Proper Officer



WHAT IS THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN?

The Neighbourhood Plan is a document which will help determine planning applications across Carnforth. It is the first document of its kind to have been prepared for the area. It is important to note that the Neighbourhood Plan has been drawn up over the past three years by local people and is a result of extensive consultation and engagement. Although it has not been prepared by Lancaster City Council, it will be used by them to help determine future planning applications in the area.

WHY HAS A NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN BEEN PREPARED?

The purpose of the Carnforth Neighbourhood Plan is to help improve the quality of life and environment for the community as a whole. The Neighbourhood Plan is set in the context of the new Local Plan recently adopted by Lancaster City Council. The Local Plan has set housing targets for new development across the district, including land for development in Carnforth, at Lundsfield Quarry and the former TDG Depot on Warton Road. The Neighbourhood Plan seeks to influence the form and quality of new development, on these sites and elsewhere, as well as seeking to protect important green spaces and locally important heritage assets and helping to move towards a more sustainable future. Importantly, because the Neighbourhood Plan has been produced with extensive input from the local community, it reflects local issues, concerns and aspirations. It has very real potential to influence change for the better – and more so than any other documents prepared before.

CAN'T THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN BE USED TO STOP DEVELOPMENT?

No. Government policy does not allow this, it has to plan for the amount of new development set by Lancaster City Council for Carnforth. But, the Neighbourhood Plan can be used to make sure that future development in Carnforth reflects the characteristics and qualities of the area that we value and enjoy, and brings as many benefits as possible to the Parish.

WHAT DOES THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN DO?

It gives local residents a say in planning decisions and sets out policies which will be used by Lancaster City Council to determine planning applications. It covers a large number of important local issues including housing and design, landscape, green space and heritage assets, access, local services and facilities. It also allows the local community to identify important infrastructure projects that should be improved and which could be funded through development or in partnership with other delivery partners, such as the highways authority.

REGULATION 14 CONSULTATION: FAQs

AREN'T THERE ALREADY POLICIES IN THE LOCAL PLAN FOR CARNFORTH?

Lancaster City Council has prepared a new Local Plan for the entire district. This identifies areas for new development. It also has policies in respect of local services and the natural environment, open spaces and heritage. The Neighbourhood Plan develops these further, providing more locally based policies than set out in the Local Plan and which specifically respond to the Carnforth context.

WHAT IS HAPPENING NOW?

The Neighbourhood Plan has been drafted following consultation feedback on issues and emerging ideas. It is now being consulted upon by the Town Council before being submitted to Lancaster City Council to commence independent examination of the Neighbourhood Plan.

WHAT ARE THE POLICIES IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN?

The policies respond to key concerns raised during previous consultation events. In summary, the policies in the Neighbourhood Plan seek to:

- Establish design guidance that promote the highest quality of development in and around Carnforth.
- Make it easier, more attractive and convenient for all people of all ages to be able to move around Carnforth, particularly by foot and by bicycle.
- Conserve, manage and enhance the natural environment, including protecting important open spaces.
- Protect, support and strengthen important local services and facilities, as well as important local historic features.

These themes and policies were developed and tested through earlier consultation events to make sure the Neighbourhood Plan reflects local opinion.

HOW WILL INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS BE PAID FOR?

Lancaster City Council currently receives financial contributions from developers (Section 106 Planning Obligations) to fund on and off-site infrastructure works. The City Council is considering whether to introduce a Community Infrastructure Levy. If so, this will be chargeable on new developments over a certain size, with 15% of all monies payable coming back to Carnforth Town Council. If and when the Neighbourhood Plan is made, and if the Community Infrastructure Levy is in place, this will increase to 25%. This will help pay for improvements to things such as important road junctions, green spaces and play facilities, walking and cycling routes, and improved community facilities. The Neighbourhood Plan includes a set of projects that we would like to see funded.

WHO HAS PREPARED THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Neighbourhood Plan has been led by a Steering Group set up by the Town Council and has involved significant consultation with local residents and businesses over the last three years.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

WHAT IS THE REFERENDUM?

Everyone who is eligible to vote within the town boundary will have the chance to say whether they think the Neighbourhood Plan should be used to begin shaping future change and determining planning applications. If more than 50% of the votes cast agree with the Neighbourhood Plan then it will become part of formal planning policy for Carnforth.

