



HELSEBY NEWS

www.helsbynews.net

ISSUE 102 • AUTUMN 2022

FOODBANK START-UP IN HELSEBY

Since our lead article in the Spring edition asked the question "Will we need a Foodbank in Helsby?" work has been going on to establish a small Foodbank service in Helsby.

With the support of Parish Councillors, the Methodist Church, and the surgery, amongst others, one has now been set up for our village. Still in its infancy but a start nevertheless.

As a first step, over the summer, working in conjunction with West Cheshire Foodbank, a volunteer village delivery service from the Methodist Church has been established.

Until now any Helsby resident needing help has had to access other food bank sessions out of the village and rely on local public transport to get there.

Pressure from the folk of Helsby has resulted in Tesco putting up a separate Helsby Foodbank Trolley so that folk can elect to donate directly to the new village service.

How do I get help?

Foodbanks were established to help people in financial crisis access emergency food. The first step to obtain help and a referral is to call free phone 0808 208 2138 where you will be given information about the process.

How can you help?

Donate food, either at the special Helsby Foodbank Trolley at Tesco or at Helsby Methodist Church on Monday, Friday and Sunday mornings. You can find out what is most needed by contacting helsby@westcheshire.foodbank.org.uk.

Increasingly money is needed to purchase food as the demand begins to outweigh supply and it doesn't look like things will get better any time soon.

Find out more at www.westcheshire.foodbank.org.uk



*A long life of dedicated service....
A promise to us kept.
Thank you, Your Majesty.
Rest in peace.*

COMMUNITY SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

Inside this edition of Helsby News, you will find a community survey. Parish Clerk, Claire Jones says

“To help Helsby Parish Council develop future plans, we are seeking your views to find out what issues are most important to you. You can complete a paper copy of the survey or fill it out online. We look forward to hearing your views.”

The results will be reported in a later edition of Helsby News.



Get social! Follow Helsby News on Twitter and Facebook

 @Helsby_news

 /welcometohelsbynews

Helsby News Editorial Team

Marj Thoburn, Barbara Ginty, Vicky Mohring, Chris Ellams, Lisa Ellams, Ian Oulton and Margaret Marsh.

Printed by NeuroMuscular Centre
Supported by Helsby Parish Council
Web: www.helsbynews.org.uk
Email: editorial@helsbynews.org.uk
Tel: 01928 724848 / 722304

Design kindly provided by



Parish Council News

Parish field lighting and CCTV project

Helsby Parish Council is pleased to report that the parish field lighting and CCTV projects have now been completed. Contractors have installed several new lighting columns along the top and bottom paths of the parish field as well as a new CCTV system adjacent to the children's play area. These areas have been the recent focus of vandalism and anti-social behaviour.

Helsby Parish Council agreed to carry out these projects to discourage any further incidents as well as to enhance the general levels of public safety in Helsby. Funding has been received for both projects through grant monies and developer contributions. Chairman of the Council's Parks, Cemetery and Allotments Committee, Councillor Sarah Temple, said

“ The Parish Council is delighted to have completed these two important community safety projects. We would like to thank the Protos Community Fund for their generous contribution. ”



The Kings

A Come and Sing Concert

£7.50 on the door

Fri 2 December
7.30pm in St Paul's Church, Helsby **Information 07976 729 449**

Return of the Family Fun Day

A very successful Open Day was held at Helsby Community Sports Club and was blessed with glorious weather. Local families were welcomed to join in the fun activities. The day started with Becky Sings, adding some musical atmosphere. Kids bounced on the inflatables, tots played in the mini play areas and lots of faces were painted, all while munching on a BBQ lunch, popcorn and candyfloss.

There were animal friends on hand – Spirit of the Herd brought along 2 of their ponies and Erin Hounds Sight Hound Rescue introduced their lovable



greyhounds.

The wonderful One Voice Choir from Frodsham entertained while the Tennis section provided coaching and served delicious cream teas. The Running Club ran old fashioned races; wet sponge and potato races being the favourites.

Helsby Rugby Club had out their inflatable and kids were thrilled to join in training games. **All in all a brilliant day!**

Jackie Mitchell

GREEN FLAG FOR OUR QUARRY

Helsby Quarry is one of the nine sites across Cheshire West and Chester awarded Green Flag Status for this year. The Green Flag Award Scheme is organised by the Keep Britain Tidy consortium and recognises and rewards the best green spaces in the country.

Contrary to the newspaper reports this is not the first time Helsby Quarry has gained this award. It has been awarded to the site many times in the past, but we have not been entered in recent

years. We even have a flagpole!

Many thanks to members of The Friends of Helsby Quarry who help keep the Woodland Park clean and tidy and work with the CWAC ranger, David James to ensure the site remains accessible and enjoyable for all.

Sue Lorimer





A Card from The Queen

Not only was there a lovely birthday tea for the residents of Heathercliffe, to celebrate the 100th Birthday of fellow resident, Doreen Milligan but also a special visit from Parish Councillor, Terry O'Neill to mark the occasion.

Doreen, surrounded by family, friends and staff, was given flowers and cards and Councillor O'Neill presented a very special card from Her Majesty the Queen.

Our picture shows Doreen enjoying her day and particularly valuing the special greetings from Her Majesty.

Marj Thoburn

NEW PRODUCTION FOR HELSBY PLAYERS

Helsby Players would like to thank all the people who came and supported our first production - The Secret Garden. The weather was not kind to us but our audiences were - we were so encouraged by all the positive comments.

Our next production is The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe which we will be performing in St Paul's Church from 7th to 10th December. Tickets will be on sale at the beginning of October.

What's happening to our Bus Services?

Questions have to be asked about the withdrawal of bus services by Stagecoach and Arriva in such a way as to make life impossible for workers who need to get to and from work beyond Frodsham, particularly at the end of the day.

I learnt on local social media site that Stagecoach were planning to stop bus services beyond Frodsham after 5:30pm. Some time ago Arriva stopped the X30 service that passed through Runcorn at about 6:30pm. How then, should this happen, do you get beyond Frodsham, home from work to Frodsham and Helsby, catch the free Hospital shuttle from the Shopping City?

Now here is my point, to drive a bus you need to have a PSV licence, a Public Service Licence. I feel the service we get from both operators certainly do not serve the public with the reduction in services. Arriva and Stagecoach

seem to think the universe beyond the traffic lights in Frodsham does not exist beyond 5:30pm, well for a few it does, and they rely heavily on public transport.

Main reason the service was to be withdrawn was 'purely economical', so the fact these companies make substantial profits, and the shareholders get their dividends, the inconvenience to the passenger doesn't seem to matter. As I lifelong resident of Helsby I can remember when we had a service run by one company, Crosville. Nice clean well maintained, on time green and cream busses did exactly what it said on the tin and provided service where service was needed. But perhaps that is just a passing thought in these days where profit seems to come well before any level of good service to the paying passengers.

Chris Ellams

'WELLBEING' IN QUEEN CHARLOTTE'S WOOD!

In July Helsby Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts joined together with others from the Mersey Weaver Scout District to enjoy a "Wellbeing Weekend" in Queen Charlotte's Wood.

Activities spanned the five ways of wellbeing - keeping active, learning, giving back, taking notice and connecting - activities were as diverse as forest yoga, woodworking, crate stacking, bubble challenges and blindfolded assault courses. As you can see from our photo "Great fun was had by all"

Judith Potts



HELSEBY HILLSIDE WI

Helsby Hillside WI held a sports evening in August for its members, to welcome back a return to normal. It was lovely to see so many returning and enjoying seeing each other after such a long time and having a good catch-up. Members tried their hand at curling, darts, quizzes and crafts. The evening was concluded with a lovely buffet with soft drinks and a final hand of bingo.

The Sports Section will be resuming with ten-pin bowling. The monthly lunch club returns to visiting local

restaurants and further outings are planned starting with our Birthday Party in November.

Our regular meetings from September 13th with James Walton with 'Films of local interest. On 11th October with Gary Conlon telling the story of 'Dream' and on 8th November with Sheila Walsh talking on 'Women of Influence'. Our year concludes on 13th December with our Christmas Party.

We would like to welcome new



members to our Group. We meet on the 2nd Tuesday of every month in the Helsby Community Centre at 7.30pm.

If you would like to know more, or just come for a visit, contact Pam Hinkley on 01928 722161.

Pam Hinkley

HELSEBY VILLAGE SOCIETY... ALIVE AND KICKING

We are still here and opening on Thursday 29th September with a programme of interesting talks and slide shows.

The membership subscription is still only £10 or if you just want to come for one particular visit, the cost is £3. Tea/coffee and biscuits are included.

The programme for 2022 is as follows: -

September 29th

John Dower
Troughs and miniature gardens

October 27th

Tony Bostock
Cheshire's historic houses and their treasures

November 24th

Jim Holmes
Cambodia and landlocked Laos

December (date TBC)

Xmas social
Members only

The programme for 2023 will be in the winter edition of the Helsby News.



SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday 3rd December 2022

www.hohohelsby.co.uk

Reserve a stall at Ho Ho Helsby

www.hohohelsby.co.uk/stall-bookings

Limited availability, reserve your stall now!

BINGO

Friday 21st October | Helsby Sports Club
Advance tickets from JTO Tea Rooms

ALL DESIGN WORK BY
carswellcreative.co.uk

HoHoHelsby   

Marshes Community Benefit Fund – 8 Projects Awarded Grants of £61,500



The Marshes Community Benefit Fund (MCBF) Panel reveals which projects have been awarded funding from the latest round of awards from the annual £120,000 community payments made by Frodsham Wind Farm Limited.

Eight community-based projects have been awarded £61,500. The following is a summary of this round's successful applicants and how the funding they receive will be used: -

Made up of 17 Scout groups which includes a Sea Scout group, a Young Leader Unit, 4 Explorer Scout Units and a District Network provision, the **Mersey Weaver Scouts** requested £22,544 for an all-weather area and target sports range. The funds allocated will enable them to provide a variety of target sports with wheelchair access, as part of the required 33% of activities to be delivered outside to allow for a success scouting programme.

Alvanley Cricket Club asked for £18,554 to provide a new Grounds Store away from the car park location of the existing store, built more than 30 years ago by members. The club, which is run by volunteers, provides high quality cricket experiences, to children from the age of four through to open age cricket. Approximately one hundred and sixty young people make up the junior section 30% of which are girls. Alvanley is also the leading club developing women's cricket, former members include world number one bowler Sophie Ecclestone. The new stores' location, away from the car park, will not only increase

the clubs parking capacity but will also allow all machinery to be stored securely and accessed away from cars and pedestrians.

Serving as an important bridge between statutory service providers and residents **Frodsham Bee Friends @ The Hive** grant of £3,319 will enable them to create opportunities for people to come together across the community of Frodsham, Helsby and Elton. Their focus is on those within the estimated population of 37,000, identified as socially isolated. The funds will provide resources to support the projects outreach facility, the idea being that 'The Hive' a wellbeing hub, based within Frodsham Castle Park, will be able to be replicated across the catchment area through a series of pop-up hive spaces.

The Helsby & Elton Patients Participation Group (PPG) plays an active role in the concept of developing community care, the £2,000 awarded will go towards providing a welcoming, cosy Care Community Corner within the GP practice, The cozy corner will be hosted by a PPG committee member and other supportive groups such as Maggies, Age UK, Mind, OPAL, Diabetes UK and Benefits Adviser to name a few.

Helsby Community Sports Club have requested £5,094 to provide a Pavilion Canopy and Defibrillator. The pavilion canopy will allow all year-round access for all ages to the Crown Green bowling on the new artificial greens. The defibrillator will be an

essential addition to the club allowing them to safeguard the 130 members against medical emergencies that require lifesaving first aid.

Formed in 2019 the **Ince Neighbourhood Plan Group** seeks to ensure that the residents are able to have a say in the local communities objectives and plans around such things as wildlife and biodiversity, greenspace and heritage, they have asked for £7,164 for the Taking Care of Our Heritage programme and they wish to produce a Neighbourhood Plan, that once ratified by Cheshire West and Chester (CWaC) will run through to 2023.

Promoting well-being and social interaction through singing **One Voice Community Choir** have been awarded £379 to purchase equipment that will improve the experience for the audience when the Choir perform at community events, festivals and in support of local charities.

Red Lion Bowling is an independent volunteer group that promotes the sport of Crown Green Bowling for the people of Frodsham and the surrounding areas. The club encourages people of all ages, abilities and ethnicities to take part in crown green bowling. The £2,500 awarded will be used to purchase Bowling Equipment which will help the club further expand its membership.

*Joyce Bammeke-Bailey,
MCBF Panel Member, PR*

An Accident waiting to Happen?

Can anything be done to improve the bad driving behavior of drivers on the roundabout on Callender Way, or do we have to wait for an accident to happen before anyone will take notice?

Many residents of the estates below the traffic lights near Tesco, report that they

have had near misses with cars, hurtling on to the two roundabouts from the direction of Tesco, frequently without indicating and certainly with no regard to the rule "give way to the right on a roundabout".

Drivers, indicating would be a great

idea. It is LEFT if you are going up to the lights. Also, indicate which way you will be leaving the roundabout. If you have INDICATED and there is, heaven forbid, a crash - you might be VINDICATED!

Margaret Marsh

A READING HUT FOR HILLSIDE

In July, we opened a new "Reading Hut" on the Key Stage One playground as part of our drive to promote reading for pleasure at Hillside. Our youngest Reading Ambassadors helped to cut the ribbon on the hut which was funded by the Friends of Hillside PTA group and children have already started to use it as a place to relax and enjoy a good book.

Nothing like a Good Book!!

Judith Potts,
Helsby Hillside



YOUNG LEADERS OF THE FUTURE?

Helsby High announces the appointment of a new Director of Sixth Form, Mrs Tor Cross.

Mrs Cross has worked with the Deputy Director of Sixth form, Mrs Jo Robinson, to elect the new Head Student Leadership Team for 2022 to 2023.

Mrs Cross said "it was a pleasure to read all the applications submitted, meet the students in the interview situation, and listen to their responses to some very challenging questions".

The field of students applying and shortlisted for Head Student interviews was extremely strong this year, and five exceptional students were chosen to be a part of the new team at Sixth Form Helsby.

Grace W, Josh BK, Darcy T, Gemma S and Izzy D were the successful candidates and have now been appointed as the new Head Student Team.



Active Travel Officer

Helsby High has an exciting project in prospect with CWAC. An Active Travel Officer is to be appointed for one year to provide Helsby High and surrounding primary schools with support to encourage youngsters to be more active travellers to and from school.

The funding for the role has come about due to the creation of the new cycling infrastructure between Helsby and Frodsham. The officer will be based at Helsby High school and will deliver assemblies and work with students in lessons to promote active travel.

RECRUITING FOR POPPY APPEAL

Helsby Poppy Appeal will once again have stands at Hapsford Service Station and Tesco from 29 October until 12 November. I would be pleased to hear from anyone with a few hours to spare who would be willing to help at either place during the Appeal.

As always, anyone requiring wreaths or crosses, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Fiona Purcell, Tel 01928 724412
Helsby Poppy Appeal Organiser





RESULTS DAYS AT HELSBY HIGH

Two Sets of cracking results for Year 13 and 11 brought joy and celebration to students at Helsby High as they opened their envelopes to learn of their success in A-Level and GCSE examinations.

Students from the Sixth Form and Year 11 are seen here smiling, proud and perhaps just a little relieved too. Headteacher, Martin Hill said: "Our student's resilience has been tested more than it ever has before over the last two and a half years. These two

groups of students deserve all the success they have achieved and we wish them all the very best for the future"

In recent years Helsby High School's Sixth Form has consistently been one of the highest performing Sixth Forms in the area and this high level of performance has continued in 2022.

Deputy Headteacher Dr Pritchard-Roberts said:

“ Year 11's wonderful GCSE results bode well for the future and we look forward to continuing to work with this fabulous group of young people in our Sixth Form. ”

Well done Helsby High.

Marj Thoburn





Running Club 2023

SAVE THE DATE Essar Four Villages Half Marathon Sunday 15th January 2023

Entries open on 1st October 2022 and you can find out more about the race including how to enter at <https://www.helsbyrunningclub.org.uk/four-villages-half/>.

The race is organised by Helsby Running club and funds raised are donated to the local community groups and charities who are involved with the race.

Laura Baynham-Hughes



Photo taken by Phil Barker

HELSEBY GOLF CLUB POWERED WHEELCHAIR APPEAL ENJOY ANOTHER MEGA FUNDRAISING DAY!

Helsby Golf Club recently hosted their 20th Merseyside Entertainers Golfing Association (MEGA) Day.

After everyone had enjoyed a fine afternoon of golf, the highlight of the day was the presentation of powered wheelchairs to 3 youngsters – Olivia O’Neil (aged 13) from Wallasey, Isabella Gray (aged 14) from Bootle and Emily Coulthard (aged 16) from Morecambe.

In the evening, the clubhouse was packed with members and supporters who enjoyed the great entertainment provided by the MEGA stars.

Thanks go to all our supporters and the MEGA team who helped raise around £3,000 for the Appeal. This brings the total number of wheelchairs presented by the Appeal to 416.



Helsby Parish Council

North Ward

Alan Gardner	722360
Sarah Temple	722181
Vacancy	
Vacancy	
Vacancy	

Central Ward

Chris Ellams	724409
Patricia Holder	727384
Terry O’Neill (Chair)	723205
Paul Standing	

South Ward

Peter Duffy	722908
Michael Branigan	607821
Margaret Marsh	725562
Vacancy	
Vacancy	

Clerk

Claire Jones	726433
Parish Office: Helsby Community Sports Club, Callender Way, Helsby, Cheshire WA6 0FX	