

Tattenhall & District Parish Council Annual Report 2020-2021

Chairman's Report - Councillor Iain Keeping



Despite my optimism last year, we are still in lock-down, though hopefully near the end. The last full, face-to-face, Parish Council meeting was 2nd March 2020 and the Parish Meeting was postponed again, date to be decided. Despite the difficulties virtual Council meetings, continued until May this year, and various objectives were achieved. Government regulations stipulate that post May, Parish Council meetings can no longer be held virtually thus it was agreed to cancel our June meeting and at the time of writing we remain unsure if we can meet face-to-face in July 2021. The Youth Council has continued to be a success and the members should be congratulated for their enthusiasm. High amongst their projects is the establishment of a multi-use games area (MUGA) for which they have already started fundraising. The Council are actively seeking a site which would be acceptable and meet a long list of requirements.

The speed limit changes on roads into the Village have now been completed at the Parish Council's (your) expense. The footpath from Tattenhall to Newton has also been completed at the expense of the developers of the new housing at Newton-by-Tattenhall. The path is a significant improvement not least to pedestrian safety.

There have been no major planning applications in the last 12 months and, as well as the Newton development, the Retirement Village, Frog Lane is approaching completion with the commencement of Phase 3. Tattenhall Community Land Trust, supported by the Parish Council, have now been given planning permission for the plots on Keysbrook Avenue, former garage sites. Four high quality, energy efficient homes for local young people in housing need are to be built, two 1-bedroom houses and two 1-bedroom bungalows for affordable rent. The Chester Road site for 30 houses has been the subject of a new, full planning application after out-line permission was given in 2017. The decision is currently pending.

The Neighbourhood plan review continues, albeit slowed by COVID restrictions. A number of changes and omissions have been identified by the committee. Grant funding approval from Locality (locality.org.uk) is awaited before proceeding to develop a new plan with assistance from Cheshire Community Action. In line with the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government guidance, the review committee is also updating the Tattenhall Village Design Statement to a Design Code. A first draft is underway with help from AECOM, funded by Locality.

In January we were reminded of the consequences of failures in the planning process when for the third time since their completion in 2000, properties in Old Mill Place were flooded by storm Christoph. Everyone was evacuated safely, but the damage to homes and businesses was severe. A new law since the 2000 flood requires that the causes should be fully investigated and a report produced with details of the measures to be undertaken to reduce the risk of future events. The Parish Council, with the assistance of many residents, has been able to submit evidence for the inquiry from a wealth of local knowledge.

The MUGA (Multi-Use-Games-Area) is a project identified by the Open Spaces Group in 2018 and as part of the same process the use of existing open spaces was examined to make sure the village was benefitting fully. With expert advice a plan to create a Nature Park in the village centre was drawn up. The aim is to enhance and extend the green heart of our village, benefit biodiversity, provide a source of environmental education and engagement for the entire community, an opportunity for physical activity.

The Parish Council have been successful in a bid for a grant from FCC Communities Foundation, land-fill fund, to progress the first part of the plan, the Spinney. Details of the plan may be viewed here: <https://tattenhallpc.co.uk/the-spinney-project/>. The wild nature of the Spinney will be preserved whilst access is improved. Some would like the Spinney to be 're-wilded', but this would exclude all access, including the perimeter footpaths, and it is not an option for the Parish Council. The large number of trees are at risk of

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Chairman' Report continued

falling and the Council is liable for any consequent damage to property or person. The Spinney cannot be left alone, the trees must be inspected at least every 2 years and any remedial action taken immediately. The cost is significant, £6000 per year is earmarked for this maintenance of the Spinney & trees in the precept. We should benefit more from the expenditure on these areas. To have access to this unique natural area in the centre of our village is especially important given the restrictions on travel and reduced access to the immediate countryside such as by the threat to stop access to Jubilee Wood by closure of permissive footpaths and public rights of way. Access to nature should not be restricted to the privileged few.

Grants were suspended this year in order to support funding of any flood investigations and mitigation works required.

Finally, I would like to thank all Councillors and public members of committees and work groups for the support you have given through a difficult year. I am looking forward to meeting you all again soon! I couldn't do this job without the expertise and hard work of Ann Wright, our Clerk, for which many thanks, especially for not 'muting' me once in any of the many virtual meetings.

Dr Iain Keeping MD FRCP
Chairman, Tattenhall & District Parish Council

Planning

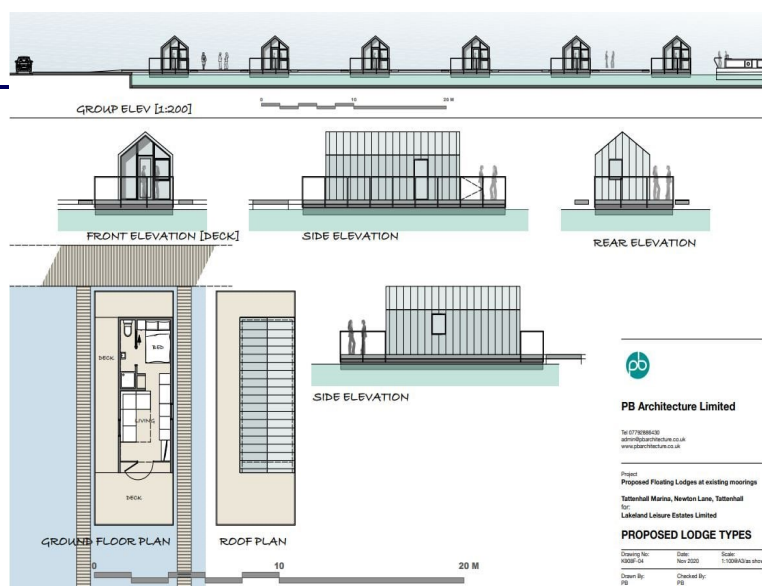
Between May 2020 and May 2021, the Council year, the council was notified of 36 planning applications the same as the previous year.

13 of these were extensions to existing properties, 7 related to works on trees in the conservation area or with a tree protection order and 2 related to the erection of green houses or garden sheds. 1 application was for a replacement dwelling.

Gifford Lea submitted 2 planning applications during the year, to convert the marketing suite into a maintenance store and a second application to erect a new maintenance store, relocate parking spaces, construct a petanque piste, landscaping including the re-siting of the pavilion and village green, both applications were approved.

In October the Council received an application for 30 new dwellings on land off Chester Road, this site had already been granted outline permission for 30 dwellings. At the time of writing the application has not yet been decided by CW&C.

In January we were notified and fully supportive of an application to create a drive-thru for the Ice Cream Farm which



has been approved by CW&C.

One of the more unusual applications we received this year was for 6 floating holiday lodges at the Marina (above image) which has also been approved by CW&C.

Since May the Council has been notified of 6 more planning applications including a temporary 3 year consent for the use of land at Bolesworth Castle to provide a family winter lights event. This event will include a lights trail, ice skating, sleigh rides, Christmas village with Santa's grotto and Christmas themed food and beverage stall. The Parish Council supported this application and we await the decision from CW&C.

You can keep up to date on planning applications by following our Facebook page where we post information on all planning applications received.

Accounts & Precept

Balance Brought Forward (2019-2020)	92,840	
Precept 2020-2021	54,486	
Other Income	4,137	Includes: £2,120 VAT Refund £1,400 Grants—Covid Support & Bunting £270 Gatesheath Allotments Rent £54 Interest
Staff Costs & Administration	15,935	Includes: £640 Insurance
Other Costs	14,470	Includes: £6,390 Grounds maintenance £1,050 Community Events/Christmas £782 Ecological Assessment of Spinney £245 install Defib. Cabinet & emergency phone
Balance Carried Forward (2021-2022)	121,057	Includes: £12,000 new speed limits not yet invoiced. £8,000 Earmarked for Spinney Projects £5,000 Play area repairs/replacement

The covid pandemic and lockdown has significantly reduced the Council's expenditure during the last financial year. The full accounts and audit information for the 2020-2021 financial year can be found at:

<https://tattenhallpc.co.uk/the-parish-council/finances>

In January 2021 the Council set the precept for 2021-2022 financial year at £56,405 a 2% increase on the previous financial year.

The Parish Council recognises that normally its expenditure each year is exceeding its precept. To be able to maintain the facilities we provide and services we undertake our precept will need to increase in future years while at the same time the Council seeks to obtain best value for the money it spends.



Attendance at Meetings

During the 2020-2021 council year three Councillors who joined us in 2019 stepped down, and to date we have been able to fill two seats through co-option, in November 2020 we welcomed John Bailey and more recently in April 2021 we welcomed Paul Kerr. At the time of writing we will consider filling the final seat at our next meeting.

During this year due to covid we held all 11 of our scheduled meetings plus an extraordinary meeting in November 2020 virtually via Zoom and we have had an average attendance of 11 Councillors at each meeting.

The Council had an average of 7 members of the

public attend its meetings over the year with 20 attending the February meeting as a result of the flooding caused by Storm Christoph.

All Parish Council meetings are open to the public and include as an agenda item Public Participation when the public can raise any matter which relates to the Parish Council area.

On 7th May this year the ability for Parish Council meeting to meet virtually ended, as a result and due to the continued Covid restrictions the Council cancelled its June meeting. It is hoped if restrictions are lifted, and it is safe to do so we will resume face to face meetings in July.

Tattenhall Neighbourhood Plan Review

Tattenhall & District Parish Council formed a committee in 2019 which has been undertaking a review of the Tattenhall & District Neighbourhood Plan which was adopted by Cheshire West & Chester Council (CW&C) in June 2014 following the public referendum on the 24th October 2013 when the Plan received just over 95% support from residents of the Tattenhall area.

The Neighbourhood Plan is a planning policy document which CW&C has to take into consideration when deciding all planning applications in the Parish Council area. The Neighbourhood Plan policies are as important as those in the CW&C Local Plans. Therefore our Plan is very important in shaping what development can take place in Tattenhall, Newton-by-Tattenhall and Gatesheath and making sure the Plan is up to date will help ensure the Plan does not lose its planning influence or strength.

The Neighbourhood Plan which is described as a 'living Document' was written to be reviewed every 5 years during its lifetime.

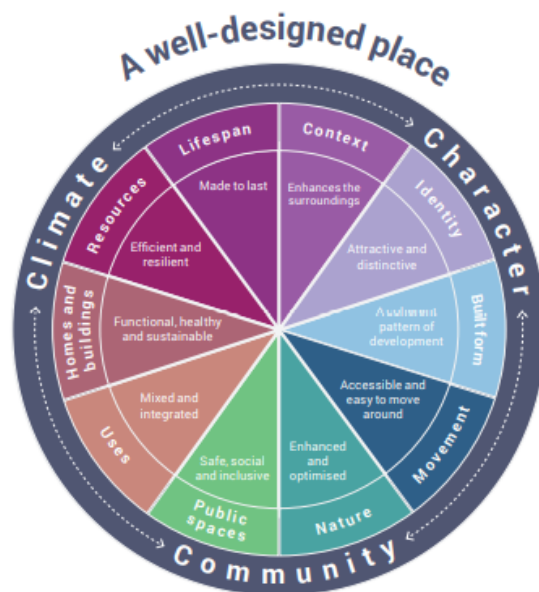
The Committee which is made of councillors and residents has undertaken a large amount of work to monitor the Plan by reviewing all planning application decisions made by CW&C since January 1st 2010 until the end of December 2020 against the 8 objectives included in the Plan.

This has allowed the Committee to assess which policies have been successful and which need to be changed.

The next steps for the Committee will be to consult on their findings and any changes to the Plan and over the coming months you will be asked to provide your comments on the Plan and possible changes.

As part of the Review the committee has also begun a review of the Village Design Statement, which was produced in 2009, and in line with current government guidance will be updated into a Design Code.

The Design Code once completed will become part of the Neighbourhood Plan and will focus on the design details of future developments to help create 'well-designed places'

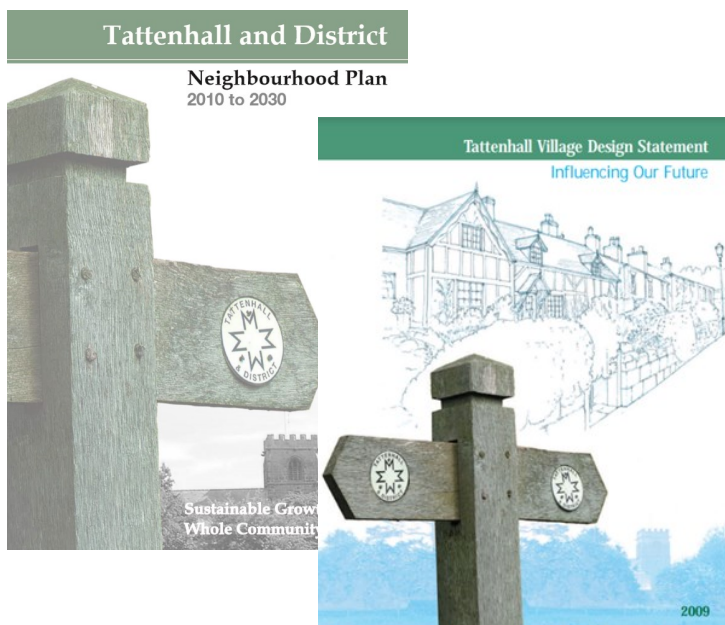


The creation of the Design Code is being supported by AECOM, the funding for which is provided by Locality, who manage grants for the creation and review of Neighbourhood Plans.

We have also applied for funding to appoint an expert from Cheshire Community Action to help with the next stages of the Neighbourhood Plan review which will include consultation on any proposed changes to the Plan.

To find out more visit <https://tattenhallpc.co.uk/the-parish-council/the-neighbourhood-plan>.

If you would like to get involved with the Review or have any queries contact the Clerk to the Parish Council.



Spinney Project

Following public consultation in November 2020 the Parish Council applied for funding from FCC Communities Foundation to undertake works in the small woodland known as the Spinney.

In March 2021 we received exciting news that our grant application for just under £70k had been approved.

Work is now starting to pull together the necessary detail for the project to be put out to tender, due to the size of the project and financial regulations this will be done through CW&C, although the winning tender will be approved by the Parish Council.

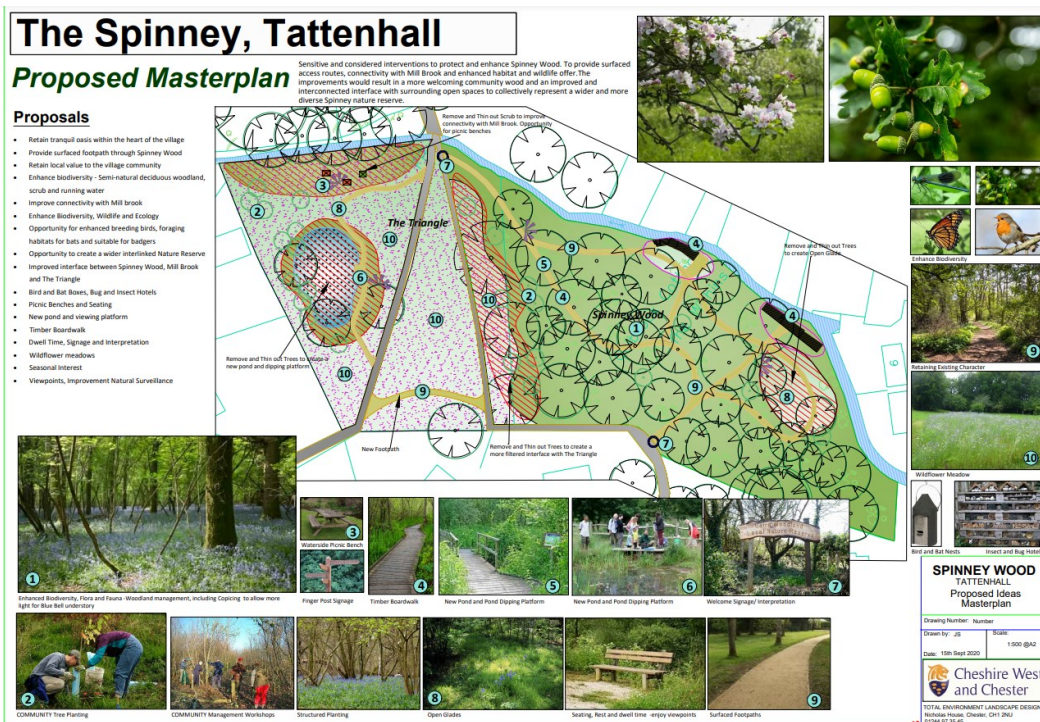
The project will improve accessibility into the Spinney by creating a network of paths with boardwalks over biddy areas and seating where people can relax and enjoy the surroundings. The carefully planned works will also seek to enhance the existing environment by opening up small glades which have been lost as areas have become overgrown.

It was hoped the works will commence early autumn this year.

Parish Council and CW&C representatives have met to discuss future management of the grassed area adjacent to the Spinney which is owned by CW&C and whether works can be undertaken on that land to compliment the Spinney.

Over the next few months the Council will be working on creating a 'Friends of' group to work with the Parish Council to support with some of the design aspects as well as to help maintain the area. In addition we will also be looking to undertake a community project to create bespoke art/information boards which will be located in and around the Spinney.

If you would like to find out more or get involved with the Spinney Project please contact the Clerk.



Tattenhall Youth Council

Hi, we are the Youth Council. We were set up in April 2020 by the Parish Council to give a voice to young people in our community. In the past year, we now have over 100 followers on Instagram, ran two successful trails and started a Transition Tattenhall project.

So, what's next?

We have so many more ideas for 2021 like creating a Youth Club, decorating the Youth Shelter to become more inviting and colourful and working with the Parish Councillors to bring a Multi-Use Games Area (Muga) to Tattenhall which would include a basketball court and football goals.

We also hope to get a few more members as we are quite limited with the seven girls (Between Years 6 & 9) we have currently, so if you do know anyone aged between 10-18 that would like to join and have a voice in Tattenhall, please email tattenhallpc@outlook.com.

If you'd like to keep up with what we are doing, want to share ideas and show your support, follow us on Instagram @tattenhallyouthcouncil.

Continued on next page....



GET INVOLVED WITH
TATTENHALL YOUTH
COUNCIL

OUR HOPES FOR TATTENHALL

THIS IS A MUGA OR A
MULTI USE GAMES AREA
WHERE YOU CAN PLAY BALL
GAMES. TATTENHALL YOUTH
COUNCIL WANT ONE FOR
OUR VILLAGE. WOULD YOU
WANT TO SEE ONE IN
TATTENHALL?



TATTENHALL SPINNY

***We are taking a forgotten
corner of Tattenhall and
revamping it into a place to
watch the wildlife,
relax ,explore and walk.***



WHAT IS TRANSITION TATTENHALL ABOUT?

TRANSITION TATTENHALL IS ABOUT PREVENTING
CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES. IT'S
ABOUT MAKING THE COMMUNITY COME TOGETHER
AND MAKING THE VILLAGE A BETTER PLACE FOR
EVERYONE



WHAT DO WE WANT TATTENHALL TO LOOK LIKE IN 10 YEARS?

LESS CARS AND MORE PUBLIC TRANSPORT?
LESS FLOODING AND
ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE?
MORE AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR
YOUNG PEOPLE?
MORE JOBS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE?
MORE INDEPENDENT BUSINESSES?

THE CHOICE IS OURS AND WE CAN WORK
TOGETHER TO ACHIEVE IT!

WHAT WE'VE DONE



THE PUMPKIN TRAIL

FOR HALLOWEEN WE ORGANISED A PUMPKIN TRAIL. WE BEGAN BY CREATING AN INSTAGRAM POST, ADVERTISING FOR PEOPLE TO TAKE PART IN THE TRAIL BY BOTH HUNTING FOR PUMPKINS AROUND THE VILLAGE AND BY DISPLAYING PUMPKINS ON THEIR DOOR STEPS. WE THEN CONTINUED TO POST THROUGHOUT THE SPOOKY SEASON, UPDATING THE VILLAGE ON SOME OF THE BEST PUMPKINS. THE TRAIL WAS A SUCCESS AND MANY PEOPLE TOOK PART. THIS WAS A GREAT WAY TO KEEP COVID EXCITING DESPITE COVID.

WE HAVE NEW RECYCLING BOXES FOR CRISP PACKETS ONLY!



THE PACKETS ARE MADE OF A DIFFERENT KIND OF PLASTIC TO MOST THINGS SO THEY CAN BE RECYCLED

TATTENHALL ELF TRAIL

WE MADE AN ELF FOR THE TATTENHALL ELF TRAIL AND RAN A COMPETITION ON INSTAGRAM TO DECIDE ITS NAME. THE WINNING NAME WAS 'BUDDY'.



FOR EASTER, THE YOUTH COUNCIL PLANNED AN EASTER EGG HUNT AROUND THE VILLAGE. EACH COUNCILLOR DESIGNED A PICTURE OF AN EGG WITH A LETTER ON IT, ALL TOGETHER THESE LETTERS SPOKE OUT AN EASTER PHRASE. THE EGGS WERE SPREAD AROUND THE VILLAGE AND A MAP WAS DESIGNED TO SHOW THE WAY.

THE EASTER TRAIL WAS A SUCCESS WITH LOTS OF POSITIVE FEEDBACK FROM FAMILIES AROUND THE VILLAGE.

OUR INSTAGRAM...

FOLLOW US @TATTENHALLYOUTHCOUNCIL



Tattenhall Youth Council
Youth Organization
Looking for new members aged 10-18. Please let us know if you know of anyone. Link to our website is below
tattenhallpc.co.uk/tattenhall-district-youth-council/

PIC-COLLAGE



OPEN TO ANYONE IN OUR COMMUNITY AGED 10-18

WHY JOIN THE YOUTH COUNCIL?

'THE YOUTH COUNCIL IS A PLACE WHERE CHILDREN GET THEIR VOICES HEARD, HAVE THEIR SAY AND MAKE A CHANGE FOR THE THINGS THAT ARE IMPORTANT FOR THE YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY. BEING A YOUTH COUNCILLOR IS FUN, EXCITING AND WELCOMING.'

Meeting Dates 2021-2022

July TBC

Monday 6th September 2021

Monday 4th October 2021

Monday 1st November 2021

Monday 1st December 2021

Monday 3rd January 2022

Monday 7th February 2022

Monday 7th March 2022

Monday 4th April 2022

The Parish Council normally meets on the first Monday of the month, from 7.30pm in the Barbour Institute, the agenda is published a week before the meeting and can be found on the Council's website and is displayed on the Council's notice board on the High Street. All Council and Committee meetings are open to the public and include public participation when members if the public can speak.

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Vacancy



For more information contact the Clerk:
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