

Before the decision was taken by CWaC, the PC was able to make a number of points including

- when the scheme starts, there should be no work carried out on any alternative route(s) at the same time (unlike when Holme Street was resurfaced and work was also undertaken on the road from Tarvin to Waverton)
- signage on the A54 approach to the Tarvin roundabout should tell drivers to use both lanes on the Chester side of the roundabout to maximise the capacity of the road.

Since the decision was taken the PC has written to CWaC suggesting that in implementing the scheme they incorporate our Neighbourhood Plan aspiration of a new footpath adjacent to the A54 from the Tarvin roundabout as far as The Cottage. This would minimise cost and disruption and be an example of “joined up” Government.

TRAVELLER DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Since CWaC deferred its proposals to identify a number of new Travellers sites, potentially including a site in Tarvin, the PC has been monitoring the situation because it is clear the issue has not gone away. The PC now understands that in November CWaC will consider a revised a Traveller Development Plan (TDP) report. This report will be issued as a public document. Although the PC has not seen the TDP it believes that the same site that was identified on Tarporley road will still be named, but identified as “Unavailable”. The reason for this designation is that land in question, although owned by CWaC, is subject to a life-long tenancy agreement. Although the land may currently be unavailable that might not always be the case. The PC has also asked CWaC to confirm that all the rules, particularly regarding public consultation, will be followed. The PC has also sent the CWaC Cabinet members the comments it made last time the issue was considered.

It must be stressed that the PC has no idea on the contents of the TDP and so does not know if any site in Tarvin is likely to be considered a possibility, but it must be prepared so it has taken the steps outlined above.

It should be noted that in the Neighbourhood Plan, where all sites suitable for additional recreation facilities were evaluated, the most suitable site was the same CWaC owned site on Tarporley Road.

Cllr. David Cotgreave (740231)	Cllr. Rob Ford (740371)	Cllr. Helen Flynn (309300)
Cllr. Matthew Pochin (741136)	Cllr. Pet Twigg (740509)	Cllr. Ted Lush (741468)
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NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Most of the Autumn Tarvin Times was devoted to the Tarvin Neighbourhood Plan and this brief article brings everyone up to date.

The referendum on the Plan was held on 5th September. 94% of those who voted approved the Plan. Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWaC) “made” (or approved) the Plan on 9th September which means that it must be taken into account when CWaC make planning decisions that effect the Tarvin Plan area between now and the year 2030.

The Plan also included a number of aspirations which the Parish Council (PC) has now prioritised. These aspirations are, in priority order, extending the Tarvin Community Woodland north to the A54; providing a new footpath adjacent to the A54 from Tarvin roundabout as far as the existing footpath which begins at “The Cottage”; providing a 45 space public car park on land owned by the Church of England but leased for farming on the east side of Church Street; providing new recreation facilities on land owned by CWaC on the east side of Tarporley Road and a safe cycle route between Oscroft and Tarvin, land in various ownerships.

The PC is currently pursuing the first four of these aspirations. Progress is unlikely to be rapid because, as is made clear above, the PC does not own any of the land required to deliver these aspirations. However, the PC is aware that residents back these projects because surveys undertaken during the Plan’s production showed overwhelming support for their delivery.

LOCKED GATE BETWEEN THE RIDGEWAY AND FORGE WAY

Members of the public have been concerned about the locked gate between The Ridgeway and Forge Way. The PC had met the owners of the 5 houses on what was Top Farm as they had erected and locked the gate in question. The PC listened to the reasons why the residents had taken their action but wanted them to reconsider because it had always been the PC's aim that there should be full public access to and from Forge Way. The residents of the 5 houses did reconsider but told the PC that a majority wanted to keep the gate locked, as the property was "privately owned and maintained". One of the 5 households, the owners of 36 The Ridgeway, strongly disagreed with the action. Members of the public told the PC that they felt let down by CWaC and told the PC that they would be continuing their enquiries of CWaC, in particular the conditions imposed as part of the planning permission. As far as the PC is concerned the matter is now closed. However, this could change as a result of the enquiries to CWaC about the planning conditions and any action any or all of the residents of the 5 houses may take at some future date.

NEW DEFIBRILLATOR

A new defibrillator has been installed on the wall of the Scout/Guide hut on the King George Playing Field. The equipment has been bought and donated by the George Heath Foundation. The PC is grateful to the charity and the PC will be responsible for its regular inspection and maintenance. The PC has donated the existing defibrillator which is located in the Community Centre entrance to the Community Centre Committee of Management, who will be responsible for its maintenance and inspection. This defibrillator has been out of service for some time but is now back in use as the Committee have purchased a new battery and pads.

DELEGATION OF ENFORCEMENT POWERS

CWaC has consulted on delegating some enforcement powers to PC's so that they can be more responsive to low-level environmental crime in their areas, such as dog fouling, littering, and anti-social behaviour. The PC's view is that it does not have the capacity or the will to take this responsibility on. The proposal is seen as a way for CWaC to save money in areas which is its responsibility. Indeed, the PC is concerned that existing enforcement action in the rural area is very patchy and so it hopes residents will respect their community by not littering, cutting back their hedges, dealing with dog mess and reporting anti-social behaviour

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FOOTPATHS

The PC has been working with Tarvin Civic Trust, interested residents and the CWaC Public Rights of Way unit on the maintenance required on the path to the Roman Bridges. The PC is also keen to see this popular stretch of path formally adopted as a public right of way as for some reason this is not the case.

In the same area the PC has asked CWaC Highways to inspect Platts Lane between The Sheaf and the start of said path. The road has been very heavily churned up by farm vehicles and now mixed building rubble has been tipped onto the road, much of which seems unsuitable.

The PC also hopes that blocked public footpaths on Platts Lane that the public have identified will soon be dealt with by the relevant owners. The PC have notified these paths to CWaC Public Rights of Way for action.

ROADS ON THE SAXON HEATH DEVELOPMENT

The PC has been in contact with CWaC regarding the adoption of the roads on the Saxon Heath estate off Tarporley Road. CWaC responded that the developers, Taylor Wimpey (TW) have a number of legal and technical matters which need to be addressed before the roads can be adopted; CWaC is not responsible for any delay. As the roads are not yet adopted, they are still owned by TW who are responsible for maintaining them. Any residents with issues about the state of the roads should raise these with TW directly. CWaC has also consulted on imposing a 20mph speed limit on the Saxon Heath roads (something which the PC asked for and agrees with). Even though the roads are unadopted, they are accessible to the general public and so CWaC is responsible for setting their speed limits.

PARKING ON THE RIDGEWAY CLOSE TO THE HIGH STREET

In response to concerns expressed by residents, the PC asked our PCSO Sue Keers to monitor parking on the Ridgeway near to the junction with the High Street. She considered that whilst parking on the road considerably slows traffic down, it is not dangerous. However, she has also told the PC that as she cannot monitor the area 24/7, if a member of the public sees a vehicle that is parked in what they consider to be a dangerous position they should report it to her and, if possible, take and send a photograph. Email: sue.keers@cheshire.pnn.police.uk Tel: 101

A51 IMPROVEMENT SCHEME

CWaC will implement a £7m investment scheme in 2020 to improve the A51 between the Tarvin roundabout and the A55. Most of the money will be spent just outside the PC boundary at Stamford Bridge. The PC welcomes the investment but recognises that it will not solve all the congestion problems that we experience and during construction there will be disruption for local residents.

