

Chair Report – Financial year ending 31.03.25

We are extremely lucky to have a dedicated team of Parish Councillors in Sutton Weaver ably assisted by a very efficient Parish Clerk.

Despite careful budgeting and due to rising costs, we have this year been unable to avoid a rise in the council tax precept. As a result the precept was increased.

As you are aware the PC applied for funding to improve the playground and reached a total of £47,572. The money was used to improve the facility for use by disabled children. Work is now complete with the installation of new swing, roundabout, new gate and hard paths. We have also installed new perimeter fencing which has helped reduce acts of vandalism and we have had no reports of anti-social behaviour since the installation of the fence.

Members of the community volunteered to open and close the playground and to monitor any activity. Many thanks to them.

I would like to thank everyone who donated to this project and the volunteers who helped in managing the funding process.

Over the past 12 months communication from the police has improved. We now have PCSO Neil Flanagan as our point of contact and he regularly attends Council meetings.

Speeding on the A56 through the village has improved with the reduction of the speed limit. From the Murdishaw roundabout into the village it has been reduced from 60mph to 40mph to the present 30mph through the village. From just passed Aston Lane it has been reduced from 60mph to 50mph over the Swing Bridge and then 30mph into Frodsham. Cheshire Police have also reported a reduction in the issue of fixed penalty notices for speeding.

We now have a 'Speed Watch Group' consisting of three members of the community. A grant was approved by the Members Budget and the Parish Council purchased a camera and high-viz jackets so that the job could be done. The group can regularly be seen on the A56.

To Commemorate the 80th Anniversary of VE Day, the Members Budget has provided funding for the Parish Council to purchase The Royal British Legion 'Unknown Tommy and Women in War Statue Pair'. They stand approximately 4 feet 10 inches tall and will be placed near to the Parish Council notice board.

The Parish Council requested the installation of a Pedestrian Crossing on the A533 near to the Murdishaw roundabout. Funding was promised by Highways England but involved the money being given to Halton Borough Council because it was in their area. Unfortunately the funding did not appear and Halton do not have funding to install a crossing. The installation of a crossing is not going to happen in the near future.

Car parking in the village remains a major problem with complaints being made to the Council and Police. Please consider other road users when parking and do not cause any obstruction or park in a dangerous position.

Unfortunately the issue of dog fouling in the village still remains a problem especially near to and surrounding the Playground. I know many dog owners in the village do use 'dog poo bags' and take the waste home with them or place them in the bins provided. Unfortunately others do not. I would ask them to please consider others in the community and use 'dog poo bags'.

Events:

All events were held by the Sutton Weaver Residents Community group with appropriate funding when required from the Parish Council and have proved to be successful.

The Christmas light, hanging basket and sunflower competitions proved popular.

Finally, I would again like to thank those members of the community who continually help the Parish Council.

Big thanks to Mike Pusey for his continued help with the maintenance of the playground, KDE Ltd for erecting the Christmas tree and lights and Nick Greenwood for his help in the maintenance of the playground.

We have a vacancy for one Parish Councillor. If you are interested then please contact the Parish Clerk, parishclerk@suttonweaver.com or speak with one of the Councillors.

Brian Starkey
Chair,
Sutton Weaver Parish Council