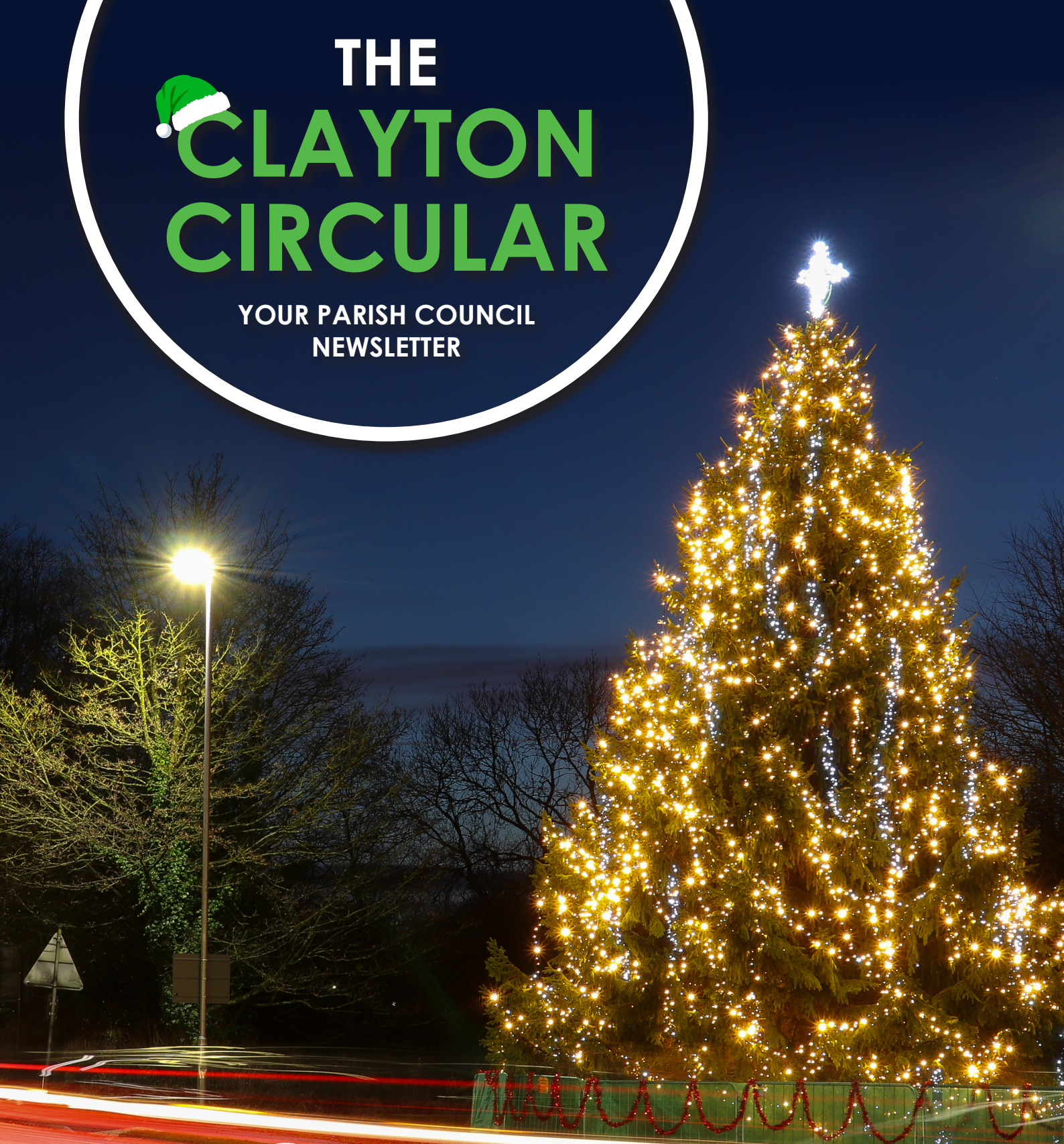




THE CLAYTON CIRCULAR

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL
NEWSLETTER



MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR



WINTER 2023

CLAYTON-LE-WOODS
PARISH NEWSLETTER

Telephone: 01257 264 854 | Email: clerk@claytonlewoodsparishcouncil.org.uk

Website: www.claytonlewoodsparishcouncil.org.uk

A Warm Welcome From Your Chairman

Dear Resident,

I would like to welcome you to the Winter edition of the Clayton Circular and wish a warm welcome to those who have recently moved to our beautiful village.

The Parish Council will be holding the Annual Christmas Tree Light Switch On event on Saturday 25th November 2023 and I hope you will put it in your calendars. The festivities will start at 5.45 pm with a sing-a-long from Just Gorge. The Christmas Lights Switch On will take place at 6:30 pm and then everyone is invited to The Lord Nelson Pub, Sandy Lane afterwards for more music from Just Gorge, Chorley Silver Band and Matt Phillips til late. There will also be free pizza slices, mince pies and mulled wine available.

Our Summer Fair was a great success again this year with nearly a 20% increase on attendance and plans are already underway for a bigger and better event next year. A massive thank you to our committed volunteers because without them putting on this event would not be possible.

Please feel free to email any suggestions to myself or the council on how we can improve it whether that is a small change to the layout or a brand-new act!

The schools in our community will soon be participating in the annual Clayton Cup event. It was an extremely close competition last year and maybe a different school will take the top prize this year, keep a lookout on our social media channels for more information.

Did you know your local Parish Council is on Social Media? In a bid to reach all the members of our village, we have set up accounts on Facebook and Instagram to keep the community up to date with our events etc. Please give us a follow and stay in the loop with all things Clayton-le-Woods: @claytonlewoodspc on Facebook and @claytonlewoodspc on Instagram.

Do you have an idea of how we can improve our local area? You can get in touch with me directly by emailing: peter.gabbott@claytonlewoodsparishcouncil.org.uk

On behalf of Clayton-le-Woods Parish Council, we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Peter Gabbott

Peter Gabbott, Chairman of Clayton-Le-Woods Parish Council



Your Parish Council

Who Are We?

Parish Councils are the lowest or first tier of Local Government. Clayton-le-Woods is a large Parish within the boundary of Chorley and has a long history. It was established in 1894 and comprises 15 voluntary Parish Councillors who are elected for a four-year term of office to serve and administer to the needs of the residents of Clayton-le-Woods. The Parish Council employs two part time staff members, the Clerk to the Council, who administers the Parish Council and ensures that the Council conducts its business properly: and an Administration Assistant who assists the Councillors in delivering events across the Parish and managing social media and the website. The Parish Council is funded through a precept on each residential property in the Parish through your Council tax payments. This enables us to carry out our duties to improve and maintain the area in which we live.

What Do We Do?

The Parish Council owns several assets, including Back Lane Woods, several Play Areas and the Skate Park near Clayton Green library. The maintenance and improvements to these assets remains high on our agenda, as does the appearance of the Parish.

We employ Lengthsmen from Lisieux Hall to help keep the Parish litter free and we maintain many of the flower beds around the Parish. This helps to make Clayton-le-Woods one of the prettiest and tidiest parishes in the whole of Chorley. We hope you agree!

If you have any ideas to help improve the area, we would love to hear from you. Just contact your local Parish Councillor or the Parish Clerk. Contact details can be found on the front page of this newsletter.

Councillor Sam Lowe Moves On To Pastures New

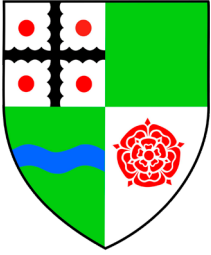
I announce my departure from the Clayton-le-Woods Parish Council. After serving for two and a half years, I will be leaving in December ahead of moving to Newcastle at the end of the year.

During my time on the council, we have worked on various community initiatives and worked to address local issues. I appreciate the cooperation and support I have received from my fellow council members and the community.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve on the council, and I look forward to seeing Clayton-le-Woods thrive in the future. Goodbye, and best wishes to all.



Meet Your Local Parish Councillor



Adam Halliday



Gail Ormston



Barbara Ward Smith



Avril Willis



Mark Clifford



Glenda Charlesworth



Sheila Edwards-Williams



Allan Balderstone



David Clough



Dulcie Dowrick



Peter Gabbott



Sam Lowe



Steve Maddock



Neville Whitham



Louisa Gallagher, Assistant



Tracy Morris, Clerk

Clayton Brook

Adam Halliday, Tel: 01257 264854
239a Preston Road, Clayton-le-Woods PR6 7PY
clerk@claytonlewoodsparishcouncil.org.uk

Gail Ormston, Tel: 01772 339 853
454 Preston Road, Clayton-le-Woods PR6 7JB
gail.ormston@claytonlewoodsparishcouncil.org.uk

Barbara Ward Smith, Tel: 01257 264854
239a Preston Road, Clayton-le-Woods PR6 7PY
clerk@claytonlewoodsparishcouncil.org.uk

Avril Willis, Tel: 01257 264854
239a Preston Road, Clayton-le-Woods PR6 7PY
clerk@claytonlewoodsparishcouncil.org.uk

Clayton Green

Mark Clifford, Tel: 07944 891 011
546 Preston Road, Clayton-le-Woods PR6 7EB
mark.clifford@claytonlewoodsparishcouncil.org.uk

Clayton-le-Woods South East

Glenda Charlesworth, Tel: 01772 314 947
463 Preston Road, Clayton-le-Woods PR6 7JD
glenda.charlesworth@claytonlewoodsparishcouncil.org.uk

Sheila Edwards-Williams, Tel: 07866 909 234
26 Ashdown Drive, Clayton-le-Woods PR6 7SQ
sheila.edwards-williams@claytonlewoodsparishcouncil.org.uk

Clayton-le-Woods West

Allan Balderstone, Tel: 01257 264854
239a Preston Road, Clayton-le-Woods PR6 7PY
clerk@claytonlewoodsparishcouncil.org.uk

David Clough, Tel: 07956 000 434
38 Cloughton Avenue Clayton-le-Woods PR25 5TL
david.clough@claytonlewoodsparishcouncil.org.uk

Clayton-le-Woods West

Dulcie Dowrick, Tel: 07834 952 555
239a Preston Road, Clayton-le-Woods PR6 7PY
dulcie.dowrick@claytonlewoodsparishcouncil.org.uk

Peter Gabbott, Tel: 07969 551 961
239a Preston Road, Clayton-le-Woods PR6 7PY
peter.gabbott@claytonlewoodsparishcouncil.org.uk

Sam Lowe, Tel: 07773 916 820
255 Preston Road, Clayton-le-Woods PR6 7PY
sam.lowe@claytonlewoodsparishcouncil.org.uk

Steve Maddock, Tel: 07715 396 767
37 Cunnery Meadow, Clayton-le-Woods PR25 5RN
steven.maddock@claytonlewoodsparishcouncil.org.uk

Neville Whitham, Tel: 07968 094 267
28 Cuerden Close, Bamber Bridge, Preston PR5 6BX
neville.whitham@claytonlewoodsparishcouncil.org.uk

Lancashire County Council Representatives

Mark Clifford (Clayton with Whittle) 546 Preston Road, Clayton-le-Woods, Chorley PR6 7EB | mark.clifford@lancashire.gov.uk

Alan Cullens (Hoghton with Wheelton) 719 Preston Road, Clayton-le-Woods, Chorley PR6 7EJ | alan.cullens@lancashire.gov.uk

Chorley Borough Councillors by Ward

Clayton East Brindle and Hoghton

Alan Cullens, 719 Preston Road, Clayton-le-Woods PR6 7EJ
alan.cullens@chorley.gov.uk

Michelle Le Marinel, Town Hall Market Street Chorley PR7 1DP
michelle.le-marinel@chorley.gov.uk

Pauline McGovern, 21 Top O'The Lane, Brindle, Chorley PR6 8PA
pauline.mcgovern@chorley.gov.uk

Clayton West and Cuerden

Michelle Brown, Maranatha, Wigan Road, Leyland, Lancashire PR25 5SD
michelle.brown@chorley.gov.uk

Mark Clifford, 546 Preston Road, Clayton-le-Woods PR6 7JT
mark.clifford@chorley.gov.uk

Neville Whitham, 28 Cuerden Close, Bamber Bridge, Preston PR5 6BX
neville.whitham@chorley.gov.uk

Wow! What An Amazing Summer Fair We Had!

The annual Clayton-le-Woods Summer Fair took place on Saturday 24th June and is becoming more successful every year thanks to the hard work from a dedicated group of volunteers and staff.

This year the highlight of the event was our lovely furry friends – Poppywood Alpacas! Visitors young and old enjoyed cuddling and stroking the Alpacas and many got the opportunity to take the Alpacas for a walk around our show arena.

We had over 50 retail, food and drink vendors to explore. With products to suit everyone including jewellery, art, bath products, toys, sweets, pancakes, Thai Food, Falafel, ice cream and many more.

Blind Tiger Inns and Box Bar Company were on hand to serve a selection of ice-cold beers, ciders, prosecco and spirits.

Our stage and show arena were both jam-packed with local talent with performances from Just Gorge, Wigan Ukulele Band, Karl Peters and Matt Phillips on our stage and Starlight Kids, Haydock School of Dance, Air Cadets and many others on our show arena.



Councillor Mark Clifford, our Event Manager says "This year's Fair was a brilliant day once again and we'd like to thank all the residents who came and made the day so special. There were so many things to do and see, the feedback we have received from you all has made it all worthwhile.

I'd also like to thank the many stall holders, entertainment acts, officers, the events team and volunteers for all their hard work. We couldn't do it without them. It may be Winter, but we are already on with planning an even bigger and better Summer Fair for 2024. We hope to see you all again at the next one!"

Finally, Clayton-le-Woods Parish Council would like to extend their gratitude to the Air Cadets, Clayton Green Scout Group, Radio Leyland and the many other volunteers who helped make this event happen. Without them, we could not run this event!



Helping To Keep Our Parish Tidy

The Clayton-le-Woods litter pick meets every Tuesday 1 - 2 pm to litter pick a different area of the village each week. The location of each litter pick is announced on our website and social media each Monday.

The volunteers are a friendly bunch and it's a great way to combat loneliness and keep active. Why not join us? We're always happy to see new faces. Equipment is provided but we recommend wearing a waterproof jacket and sturdy shoes.

This is a great way of giving back to your community. Each volunteer receives 1 Tempo Time Credit for each time they volunteer which can be spent in retailers locally and nationally.



Join Our Online Community

Clayton-le-Woods Parish Council run a very popular and active Facebook page and Instagram account.

Why not follow our accounts and see all the good work that the Parish Council do? Simply search Clayton le Woods Parish Council on either Instagram or Facebook to find us!

Westwood Primary's Forest School: A Natural Haven For Learning Outdoors



We are thrilled to announce the opening of our new Forest School here at Westwood Primary School in Clayton-le-Woods!

Our Forest School is based on the understanding that children have a built-in desire to investigate the world around them through play. Forest school provides an opportunity for all children to develop key skills for life through learning outside the classroom.

By participating in engaging, motivating and achievable tasks and activities in a woodland environment each participant has an opportunity to develop intrinsic motivation, sound emotional and social skills. These, through self-awareness, can be developed to reach personal potential.

At Westwood, we are lucky to have school grounds that are surrounded by beautiful trees and woodland where our pupils can have a variety of experiences.

Whether it's building shelters, tracking wildlife, or crafting with materials found in the forest, our curriculum is designed to ignite curiosity and creativity.

If you have a child due to start school in September 2024, we encourage you to visit our website or contact our school office team to find out more about Westwood and our Forest School.



Join This Year's Christmas Photography Competition

Are you an amateur photographer? Do you enjoy taking photos?

If so, the Parish Council are holding a photography competition and is asking entrants to take some fantastic images of our Christmas Tree and the Christmas Light Switch On.



The Christmas Light Switch On takes place on Saturday 25th November 5:45 - 6:30 pm with free slices of pizza, mulled wine, hot Vimto and mince pies being served at the Lord Nelson Pub from 6:30 pm alongside festive entertainment from Just Gorge, Matt Phillips, Chorley Silver Band and a DJ.

Whether you fancy taking a photo of our beautiful 40ft Norway Spruce Christmas Tree or the switch-on event itself all entrants are welcome. These photos can be taken on a camera or a phone.



The winner of 1st prize wins the opportunity for their photo to feature in our Winter 2024 and Summer 2024 newsletter which is delivered to 7000 households.

They will also have their photo featured on our Facebook and Instagram accounts and our website.

To enter simply email any photographs you capture at the Lights Switch On to our Admin Officer, Louisa Gallagher on admin@claytonlewoodsparishcouncil.org.uk by the entry closing date of **Friday 22nd December 2023**.

Winners will be announced via our website and social media in January!

Join In With The Festivities At The Christmas Light Switch On 2023

Oh yes, it's nearly that time of year again! This year the Clayton-le-Woods Christmas Light Switch On is taking place on Saturday 25th November and what an event we have planned.

Our 40ft Christmas tree will be back, one of the largest in the area, opposite Lidl on the A6 Preston Road.

We are pleased to announce that this year Just Gorge will be back. At last year's event, she proved a hit! She will be back performing popular Christmas songs around the Christmas Tree with some help from Clayton Green Scouts, which will get everyone in the Christmas spirit ready for the countdown to the light switch-on carried out by Parish Council Chairman Councillor Peter Gabbott.

Everyone is then welcome to join us down at The Lord Nelson Pub on Sandy Lane after the switch on for free pizza slices, mulled wine, minced pies and hot Vimto to warm us all up all while being entertained by Chorley Silver Band, Matt Phillips, Just Gorge and then finishing with a DJ and disco until late.

The event will start at the Tree on Saturday 25th November at 5:45 pm with entertainment from Just Gorge and the lights will be switched on at 6:30 pm. Food and music at the Lord Nelson will follow from 6:30-late.



We can't wait to see you all there!



OAP Christmas Meal 2023

Every year we hold a Christmas Meal at a local pub for residents of Clayton-le-Woods.

Last year we all enjoyed a delicious 3 course meal at The Ley Inn as well as Christmas songs performed by Manor Road and Clayton-le-Woods C of E Primary Schools.



Some attendees were lucky enough to be amongst the winners of some fantastic raffle prizes including a beautiful Christmas wreath made by Cllr Sheila Edwards-Williams.

We look forward to welcoming residents to our 2023 meal on Tue 5th December & Wed 6th December at The Ley Inn.

Please contact the Louisa Gallagher on admin@claytonlewoodsparishcouncil.org.uk or **07878 586 082** to secure your place. Places are limited and allocated on a first come first served basis.



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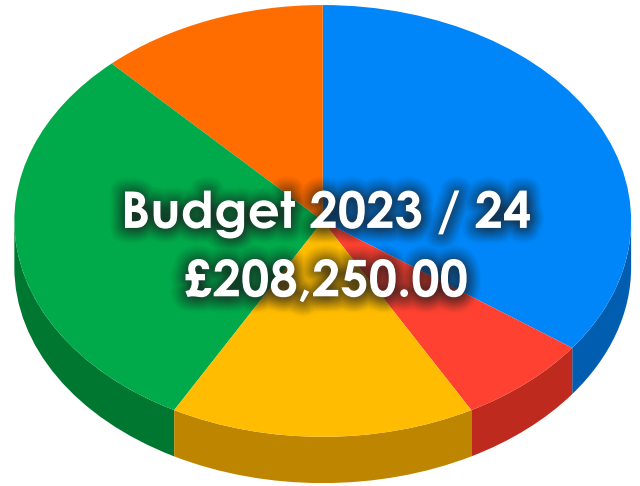
Clayton-le-Woods Parish Council Financial Information 2023 / 24

Annual Budget 2023 / 2024

The annual budget was compiled by all the Members of the Parish Council by Committee. The budget was set by the Parish Council in January 2023.

The pie chart gives a representation of the proposed spending budget for 2023/24. Adjustments will be made during the year according to the needs of the village.

- Officer Costs (35%) ● Parish Projects (7%)
- Wide Variety Of Community Events (16%)
- Maintenance (30%) ● Environment (12%)



Precept 2023 / 2024

Once the budget is set the annual 'Precept' or local tax amount is calculated. The Precept is calculated by a formula based on a Band D household which is £30.00 for the year 2023/24. In order to continue to provide the best level of service for our residents the Parish Council decided to increase the precept on a Band D property by £5.00 from the 2022/23 level.

The graph below shows all the precept bandings set in Clayton-le-Woods for 2023/24 (A - H). The Income from the Precept for 2023/24 is £166,210.00 which is made up of £154,752.00 collected from the residents plus £11,458.00 deprivation grant.

CLAYTON-LE-WOODS PARISH COUNCIL PRECEPT BANDING 2023 / 2024								
Band A (Disabled Relief)	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
5 / 9ths	6 / 9ths	7 / 9ths	8 / 9ths	9 / 9ths	11 / 9ths	13 / 9ths	15 / 9ths	18 / 9ths
£16.66	£19.99	£23.33	£26.67	£30.00	£36.67	£43.33	£49.99	£60.00

Precept 2023 / 24

In addition to the Precept the Parish Council receives Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding which is monies that are received from certain new developments within the Parish.

CIL funding can be spent on any project which provides a permanent infrastructure within the local area.

Applications are evaluated by the Parish Council in February and July of each year. You can read about some current CIL funded projects in the newsletter.

The Community Infrastructure Levy budget as of the 31st March 2023 can be seen in the following graph.



Scarecrow Festival 2023 - Another Really Successful Year

Scarecrow Festivals are held in many towns and villages across the U.K. and are a fun way to bring together the community.

Scarecrows have been used since ancient times to protect farmers' crops from feeding birds.

In recent years, many communities have begun to hold Scarecrow Festivals as a way of bringing different groups, businesses, schools and residents together and bringing back the "community feel" that seems to have been lost in an era of technology and busy working families.

The Clayton-le-Woods Scarecrow Festival returned 24th September - 1st October.

We had lots of entries and judges were pleased to see some



creative and original ideas from the entrants. There were 6 different categories with cash prizes for the winners and runners-up of each category.

The entry that wowed the judges this year and won Best Overall Scarecrow was the Riding Family with their Danger! Men at Work entry! Thank you and a huge well done to all who entered for putting in such effort and it was evident to see that hard work had been put in by all

Come And Enjoy A Brew And Chat With Local Residents At Our Warm Space



The Parish Council will be holding a Warm Space provision from October to March in our meeting room.

The Warm Space is a chance to come along, have a brew and a biscuit and meet others in the community.

With the cost-of-living crisis still ongoing, the Parish Council hope that the Warm Space will be a place for local people to come and get warm.

The Council also hope the group will help to combat loneliness. There will be board games, jigsaws and a book swap to keep everyone busy or simply sit and drink your brew and have a chat.

The Warm Space will open its doors for the first time on Monday 9th October 2023 and will run from 10:00 - 11:30 am.

The Warm Space will meet every second Monday of the month from October to March at the Clayton-le-Woods Parish Council Office and Meeting Rooms, 239a Preston Road,

Clayton-le-Woods, Chorley, PR6 7PY (we're behind Whittle Surgery). There is plenty of parking available.

Back Lane Woods Forest School

On Thursday 3rd August, Clayton-le-Woods Parish Council ran two FREE Forest School Sessions in Back Lane Woods in partnership with Lancashire Wildlife Trust.



It was the perfect opportunity to showcase all the wonderful work the Parish Council have been doing to the woodland in recent years.

The Forest School gave the children (and their grown-ups) space and freedom to play, explore and connect with the natural environment whilst facilitating fun activities for the children to join in with, such as games, den building, natural crafts, and fire striking. There was also an opportunity to toast a tasty treat around the fire!

Everyone who attended really enjoyed the session and we have had some great feedback!

We would like to thank Hayley from Lancashire Wildlife Trust for planning and running the sessions.



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Grant Funding Available



Did you know that the Parish Council have set aside £2,500 in their budget to distribute to local charities and voluntary community organisations?

The application can be for a piece of equipment or a specific purpose or project. If you wish to apply or want to know more about it the Parish Council's Grant Policy can be found on the Parish Council's website: www.claytonlewoodparishcouncil.org.uk

You can contact the Clerk if you wish to find out more.



Upcoming Events

Here's some of the events we have for the rest of 2023 and 2024!

Clayton Cup	Christmas Lights Switch On	Next Year's Summer Fair
14th Nov 2023	25th Nov 2023	22nd June 2024

Parish Council 2024 Meetings

The Parish Council meeting dates for 2024 are currently being finalised and once they are ready, these will be listed on our website from January 2024.

If you wish to attend or participate in any of our future Parish Council meetings, please contact the Parish Clerk in advance.

Useful Information



Clayton Green Library Opening Times

Please check Lancashire County Council website: www.lancashire.gov.uk

Contact the Library on: 0300 123 6703



Chorley Police

Call Chorley Police: 101

For more info: www.lancashire.police.uk



Clayton-le-Woods Policing Team

PC Christian Seddon, PCSO Catherine Flett and PCSO Michelle Appleton



Clayton Green Sports Centre

Contact Chorley Council: 01257 515 333 or visit: <https://bit.ly/3wH9NBz>



Clayton Hall Landfill Odour Issues

Environment Agency: 0800 807 060

Residents' Helpline: 07961 403 782



Chorley Borough Council

Main number: 01257 515 151

Out of hours: 01257 515 142

Become A Parish Councillor

In the New Year there will be vacancy available in the Clayton West ward of Clayton-le-Woods Parish Council.



Parish Councillors represent residents in their local area, attending monthly Parish Council meetings and helping make decisions on what services/ projects and events are provided in the area.

You do not need any qualifications or specific experience however you must be over 18 years of age and live and / or work within 3 miles of the Clayton-le-Woods Parish boundary.

For further details please contact Tracy Morris and Louisa Gallagher at Clayton-le-Woods Parish Council on: clerk@claytonlewoodparishcouncil.org.uk

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Whilst every effort has been taken to ensure that the information in this community magazine is accurate and correct at the time of going to press, we, Clayton Parish Council do not accept responsibility for any inaccuracies.

All advertisers are independent of our magazine. The content of adverts does not necessarily reflect the views of Clayton-le-Woods Parish Council.

This newsletter was design, printed and delivered by Green Man Marketing.

Contact Clayton-le-Woods Parish Council

T: 01257 264 854 | clerk@claytonlewoodparishcouncil.org.uk | www.claytonlewoodparishcouncil.org.uk

Registered office address: 239a Preston Road, Clayton le Woods, Chorley, PR6 7PY

Don't miss out! Keep abreast of Parish Council news and updates on our website and social media pages.

