

Prescot
Town
Council

ANNUAL REPORT

2016





Prescot Town Mayor Cllr. Dave Friar



Following our year as Mayor and Mayoress of Prescott for 2015/16, Suzanne and I would like to thank everyone who helped us to raise money for the Mayor of Prescott's Charity. Suzanne and I saw so much excellent work being carried out in our local community through local voluntary groups and larger more organised groups, that we had a tough time deciding who would receive a donation. Suzanne and I have had a terrific year and have met people of all ages and from all walks of life. I'd like to personally thank Rev John Taylor and his team (Jeff and Peter) for their valuable support throughout the year. Finally, there are three occasions that readily spring to mind; first, the Armistice Day service with a fabulous array of poppies around the BICC memorial stones, provided by the Friends of Prescott Churchyard and Cemetery Group. The second was the Prescott Carnival that was, yet again, a huge success despite early rain. Finally, meeting the Yr 2 children of St. Mary & St. Paul's C of E School – I was absolutely terrified, but they were all very kind to me.

Recipients of Donations from the Mayors Charity 2015/2016



St Pauls Social receiving a cheque from the Mayor for £500

I was very proud to have raised just over £3,900 which was split between the following local organisations:

Willowbrook Hospice	£1,000
1st Prescot Scouts	£500
Prescot Festival	£1,000
Friends of Prescot Cemetery & Churchyard	£500
Knowsley Older Peoples Fun Olympics	£400
St Pauls Social	£500



Events Program

Over the last three years the Town Council has steadily built up a diverse events programme. All of our events are organised, paid for, delivered and staffed by the Town Council.

EVENT	LOCATION	ACTIVITIES	MONTH
The Mayors Parade The only event of its kind in Knowsley	Eccleston Street to Wood Lane.	Parade led by Prescott Army Cadets and the Mayor supported by local community groups of all ages.	June
Prescot Carnival The only event of its kind in Knowsley	Brown's Field, Wood Lane.	Large Fun Fair, a wide array of free activities such as bouncy castles, reptile workshops, cage football, Variety performances, and traders stalls.	June
Armistice Day Service	BICC Memorial Prescot Cemetery, Manchester Road.	Memorial Service for local residents, supported by St Mary's church and Our Lady Immaculate Church, and The Friends of Prescot Cemetery and Churchyard and local schools.	November
Prescot Christmas Lights Switch On The only event of its kind in Knowsley	Eccleston Street / Prescot Shopping Centre.	This event includes Father Christmas's Grotto, DJ Roadshow, Children's Fair Ground rides, donkey rides, willow weaving workshop, community stalls, catering tent, and of course the big switch on.	Last weekend in November or first in December

For further information on the events programme please contact the Town Council on 0151 426 3933 or email enquiries@prescot-tc.gov.uk



Town Clerk's Report

2015 has been another exciting year for Prescott. The prospect of the new Shakespeare North Theatre is a monumental development that could really put Prescott high up on the cultural map. The Town Council has supported the project by providing funding towards MATE's Shakespearian productions at various locations around the town. Both I and a number of the elected members were featured in the promotional trailer for *As You Like It*, reciting lines from the famous 'seven ages of man' speech.

As many of you will be aware these are difficult financial times for public services, especially in our region. So much so, that in August the Town Council were made aware that KMBC could no longer afford to provide Christmas Lights in the Town Centre. Fortunately, the Town Council was able to work with Prescott Town Team, Rainfords Christmas Tree land, Ash Electrical & Fire Services and the new owners of Prescott Shopping Centre (Geraud Markets) to provide Town Centre Christmas Lights, and huge Christmas Tree outside St Mary's Church.

Finally I'm very pleased to report that the Town Council's annual events have all gone extremely well this year. A particular highlight was the Armistice Day Service at the BICC memorial in Prescott Cemetery. This year the Friends of Prescott Churchyard and Cemetery had planted 2000 recycled poppies around the memorial as special dedication to mark the 100 th anniversary on the 1st World War.

Daniel Wilson – Town Clerk – Prescott Town Council

Report from the Leader of the Town Council



I would firstly like to take this opportunity to thank Prescot Town Councillors for supporting me in becoming leader this year. Once again they have continued to volunteer their time and energy for the benefit of their communities, without which the work of the council would not get off the ground.

We have achieved a great deal through community working this year, for example the work the town council have done alongside Friends of Eaton Street to open up the new pavilion.

The annual Prescot Carnival is another example of how working with our partners, we are able to grow the event year on year, offering plenty of free activities for local families.

During the year a number of Town Councillors and two local residents started up a luncheon club at the Town Hall. Each week we volunteer time to provide an afternoon of good food, games and a social gathering for some of our older members of community. Luncheon Club takes place every Wednesday at 11.30am and all Prescot pensioners are welcome to attend.

The Town Hall continues to go from strength to strength, hosting community activities, charitable events, christenings, birthdays etc., which leads on to my final point, the staff. This is a good time to thank the council staff for all of their hard work and commitment this year, without whom the work of the council would not be possible.

Cllr Lynn O'Keeffe



Shakespeare North

It's an exciting new era for Prescott with ambitious plans to create a Shakespearean playhouse in the town. Shakespeare North Trust has been working on plans for a theatre in Prescott for more than 10 years, due to the town's significant role in the history of Elizabethan drama. Now with support from Knowsley Council, progress is being made to make the plans a reality! In Elizabethan times, Prescott was the only English town outside of London to have a purpose built indoor playhouse. At that time the Earl of Derby's troupe of players, for whom Shakespeare is believed to have been closely involved with and wrote a number of his plays for, including "Love's Labour's Lost", are considered to have performed there. The new Shakespeare North Playhouse gained planning permission in April 2016. It will be a 345 seat theatre and an International College, the first of its kind to focus on Shakespearean performance and practice. Students will study and perform his work in the very place where Shakespeare's company practiced their craft. The Playhouse will also provide educational and cultural opportunities for local people and act as a magnet for actors, writers, artists and students from all over the world. Work is well underway to secure the estimated £26 million it will cost to make the playhouse a reality. Knowsley Council has committed £6 million, as well as the land for development and the former Museum building, recognizing the enormous benefits that the theatre will

bring. A further £5 million has been contributed from the Government. Shakespeare North Trust is also making good progress with the philanthropic giving and corporate sponsorship to finalise the whole funding package. A major funding bid is also being submitted by Knowsley Council to the new Liverpool City Region Combined Authority.

BENEFITS TO KNOWSLEY

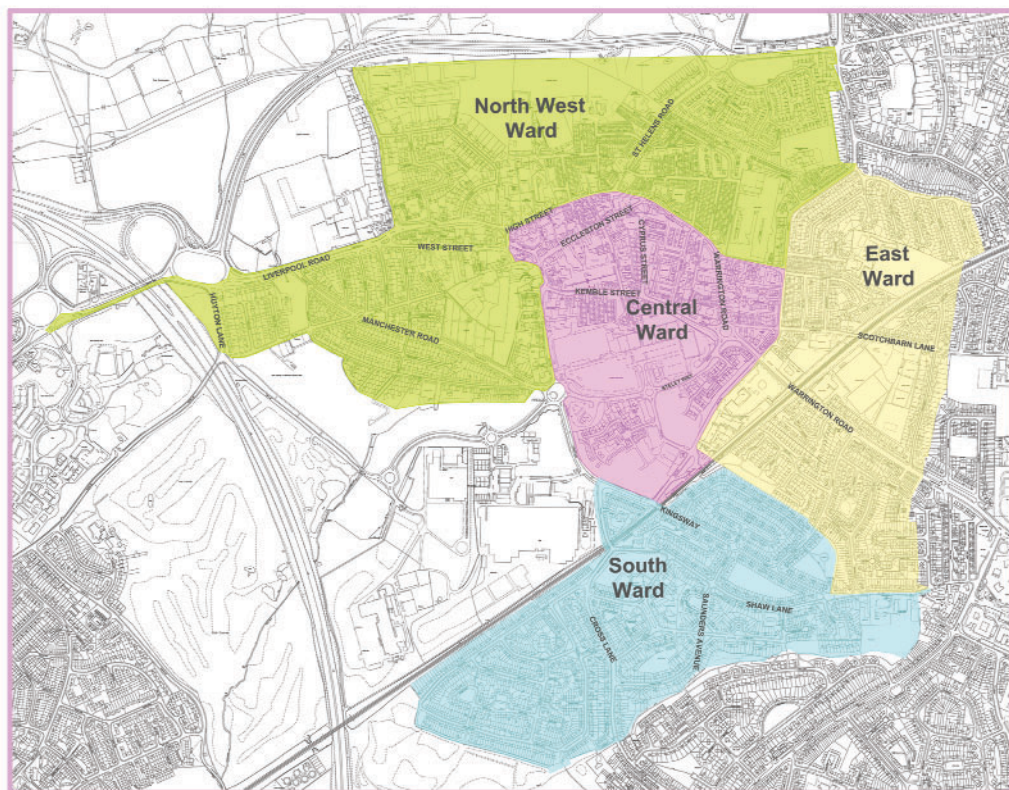
The Shakespeare North Playhouse will bring a number of benefits to Prescot and the wider area, including:

- £2,000,000 worth of added value to the local economy
- Over 200 construction jobs.
- Over 20 full-time jobs directly in the facility.
- Over 30 indirect full-time jobs locally.
- Attracting over 150,000 visits per year to the town.

The Shakespeare North Playhouse will be a major attraction for scholars, students and visitors helping to create a thriving evening economy in Prescot town centre. Follow @KnowShakespeare on Twitter for Shakespeare related news and developments in Knowsley or visit the Shakespeare North Website at www.shakespearenorth.org.



Prescot Town Council Ward Map



NORTH WEST WARD - ELECTORATE - 3093

Cllr. Matthew Allen

Labour

T: 0151 426 3933

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Councillor Stephen Pimblett

Labour

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Cllr. Margi O'Mara

Labour

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Cllr. Jennifer Chadwick

Labour

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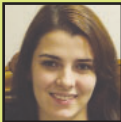


Cllr. Shannon Arnall

Labour

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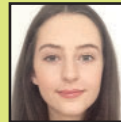


Cllr. Sophie Whitley

Labour

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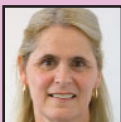
CENTRAL WARD - ELECTORATE - 1094

Cllr. Lynn O'Keeffe

Labour

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Cllr. Steff O'Keeffe

Labour

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SOUTH WARD - ELECTORATE - 2253

Cllr. Gillian Flatley

Labour

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Cllr. Dave Rigby

Labour

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Cllr. Dave Friar

Labour

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Cllr. Joan Molloy

Labour

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Cllr. Michael Friar

Labour

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EAST WARD - ELECTORATE - 2462

Cllr. Denise Allen

Labour

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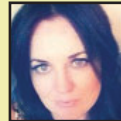


Cllr. Heather Baker

Labour

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Cllr. Dena Fairclough

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Cllr. Kathleen Swales

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Prescot Town Council Annual Financial Report



The Funding cuts continue to bite hard, with the Town Council having lost circa £23,000 since the introduction of the Local Council Tax Support Scheme in 2012. The Central Government policy of abolishing Council Tax benefit will also see the Town Council lose a further £45,000 over the next two years. In addition to this, the withdrawal of previously free services provided by Knowsley MBC, such as grounds maintenance, has seen additional pressures placed on the Town Council's budget. In light of this we are working extremely hard to maintain a high quality inclusive service we provide to residents. Fortunately the income derived from the operation of the Town Hall has helped to offset the impact of the cuts.

Each year the Town Council's accounts are prepared by the Town Clerk and scrutinised by both an Internal and External audit, to ensure they comply with current legislation. Copies of the Accounts are available by request (chargeable) or free from the Council's website www.prescot-tc.gov.uk.

The budget for 2016/17 was agreed at the January meeting of the Council. In spite of public sector funding cuts we are pleased to report that for the 6th year running the Precept levied on residents has remained frozen which means the precept has not increased since April 2011.

PRESCOT TOWN COUNCIL
Income & Expenditure Account 2015/16

2014/15 £	<u>Income</u>	2015/16 £
186,947	Precept	198,581
61,006	Grants/Rate Refund	50,332
1,198	Public Open Space and Outdoor Provision	69,875
5,650	Administration	5,282
21,135	Town Hall Income	32,794
119	Interest	96
276,055	Total Income	356,960
	<u>Expenditure</u>	
30,362	Administration	37,130
13,203	Public Open Space and Outdoor Provision	102,684
72,552	Town Hall	70,261
5,483	Grants to Outside Bodies	6,480
317,352	Capital Payments - Town Hall Development	39,545
79,137	Salaries and Wages	99,371
518,090	Total Expenditure	355,471
	Cummulative Fund Balance	
332,810	Balance b/f at 01/04/15	90,774
276,066	Plus Total Income	356,960
518,090	Less Total Expenditure	355,471
90,774	Balance as at 31/03/2016	92,263

Community News

Prescot benefits from a wealth of community and voluntary organisations, that helps to improve both the area and the wellbeing of residents. New groups continue to form and add to the sense of community spirit. A recent example of this is Prescot Luncheon Club, formed by a number of town councillors. The Luncheon Club meets on Wednesdays in the Town Hall from 11:30 to 1:30 and provide lunch and social activities for local pensioners.

Burglars Beware

During the Year the Town Council joined forces with Merseyside Police to pioneer the distribution of Selecta DNA kits. The jointly funded project between Prescot Town Council, Healthy Homes in Knowsley and Merseyside Police has seen 300 DNA kits purchased and provided to homes across Prescot. Distribution has been based on police intelligence. The kits include a smart fluid that can be applied to any items of value such as televisions, jewellery etc. Each kit has its own unique DNA code meaning all property can be traced back to its original owners. The fluid can also transfer onto the burglar's skin and clothes meaning they can be traced to the scene of the crime.

Prescot Town Council Community Fund

The Community Fund is administered under the Council's legal powers and invites applications from all active community organisations operating in the Township of Prescot for the benefit of Prescot residents. Applicants can request up to £500 in support of their organisations project or activities, provided they can demonstrate they are:

- Not for profit and meet the grant criteria
- The organisations project or activities, are of clear benefit to the residents of Prescot

For more information on how to apply visit the Town Council website www.prescot-tc.gov.uk

The Town Council are proud that they have been able to support applications from:-

Applicant	Purpose	Amount Awarded £
E M H Residents Ass	Community Garden Project	500
MALS Merseyside	Fundraising Event	320
FOPCC	Infrastructure improvements	500
Family Voices	Creepy Crawley Show	500
Prescot & Oddysey Cricket Club	Maintenance Equipment	500
Westgarth JFC	Training Equipment	500
MATE Production	A Midsummer Night's Dream	500
Annual Contributions Approved by Council		
Prescot Festival of Music & the Arts	Contribution towards running costs of the festival	1,000
St Mary's Church	Contribution towards maintenance of the Town Clock	500
Phoenix Night	Contribution towards running costs of the Event	1,000
Total		5,820
In addition to the Community Fund, the Town Council have, for the third year running, also sponsored a free shuttle bus from Prescot to the Knowsley Flower Show.		400

Arts in Prescot, including the 12th Annual Prescot Festival



In October the Prescot Festival was named Cultural Group of the Year at the 2015 Knowsley Sports Cultural Awards. Presenting the ceremony at Knowsley Culture & Leisure Park, Radio City broadcaster Steve Hothersall lauded the achievements of the annual 10-day festival as well as its year- round programme of arts and music.



The Mayor of Prescot's Charity Christmas Concert in December attracted over 350 people and raised £1,053.05 for local charitable causes. The excellent Liverpool Brass Ensemble headlined the programme, with festive classics that included 'Winter Wonderland' and 'Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire.' Also featured were the talented school choirs of St Mary & St Paul's Primary and Evelyn Community Primary – plus, the Evelyn Staff Choir. Knowsley Ladies' Choir and Prescot Parish Church Choir also entertained the jubilant audience. Proceeds from the festive musical occasion, organised by Prescot Festival on behalf of the Mayor of Prescot, were split between

Willowbrook Hospice and Prescott Army Cadets. The 12th Annual Prescott Festival of Music the Arts showcased big bands, orchestras, choirs and acoustic singers to draw in the crowds between 17 and 26 June. For the first time in its 11-year history the Festival attracted more than 1,600 visitors. Among this year's highlights was a moving performance of Mozart's Requiem, held to remember Prescott's War dead in the 100th year since the town erected its War Memorial - among the first of its kind in the country. The 10-day programme also included a screening of the 1977 BBC film *Our Day Out*, by special permission of Whiston-born writer Willy Russell, in honour of local character actor Bill Moors, who passed away in 2015. The event was the first to sell out when tickets went on sale in May. It was down to the South Liverpool Orchestra and trumpeter Hannah Mackenzie to draw the proceedings to a close on Sunday, with a Regal Festival Finale paying tribute to William Shakespeare and Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Planning has already started for the 13th Annual Prescott Festival which is scheduled from Friday 16th to Sunday 25th June 2017. Audiences can keep up-to-date with this and other year-round arts and music events at www.prescotfestival.co.uk.

By Dr Robert Howard Festival Director



Public Open Space

Prescot Town Council lease two Public Open Spaces from Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council; King George V Playing Fields, known locally as Browns Field and Eaton Street Recreation Ground. In addition to our two parks, Prescot Churchyard and Cemetery, located between Manchester Road and St Mary's Church, also offers a tranquil setting for a quiet stroll.

The Town Council believes that Public Open Space is very important to the health and wellbeing of the Township, therefore the Council seeks to make the most of its public open space by constantly looking at ways to develop the spaces for the benefit of our residents. This often involves applying for external funding in partnership with Friends Groups and Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council.

New Pavilion Building at Eaton Street Park



In March 2016 the Town Council took delivery of a new pavilion building at Eaton Street Park. The delivery of the building was the culmination of a year long project to replace the old buildings on site with a new fit for purpose facility. The Town Council were supported by Knowsley's Greenspace team and the Friends of Eaton Street Park who contributed to the design process.

The new pavilion has provided the Friends of Eaton Street Park with a base to increase their activities in the park. Evelyn Primary School are continuing their long standing relationship with the park by using the building as an outdoor classroom. Children from the gardening club also helped out with the soft landscaping works. The new building has also helped to encourage increased usage of bowling green.



What's On at Your Town Hall



Prescot Town Hall continues to fulfil its purpose in meeting the needs of the community and we are pleased to say that we have enhanced the safety of building by adding a defibrillator. The Defibrillator was purchased through the Oliver King Foundation in March this year.

The Town Hall provides a range of facilities for business and community use including:-

- A multipurpose room for group activities and private functions
- A licensed bar and kitchen facility
- Accessibility for all including enhanced disabled facilities and an accessibility lift.
- A conference room available for public use
- Small meeting room/s available for public use
- A secure car park to serve users of the building

For more information on how book the facilities at the Town Hall please call us on 0151 426 3933, email us at enquiries@prescot-tc.gov.uk or visit the Town Council website to download the booking form and check the online calendar on our facilities page at <http://www.prescot-tc.gov.uk/>

Current List of Activities Available to the Public

Monday	Moky Fit Exercise Class	6.30pm – 7.30pm	Andrea Field 07491577583 andrea1993.mokyfit@gmail.com
Wednesday	Aerobics Class	7.30pm – 8.30pm	Sharon Swindels acerswn@aol.com
Tuesday	Chair Exercise Class for for Older People	1.30pm – 2.30pm	Dorothy Rimmer dorothyrimmer@hotmail.com
Tuesday	Kumon – Maths & English Classes	3.30pm – 6.00pm	Clare Dawson prescot@kumoncentre.co.uk
Tuesday	Prescot School of Kung Fu - Martial Arts Classes	<u>Kids Class</u> 6.30pm – 7.30pm <u>Adults Class</u> 7.30pm – 8.30pm	Stephen Hale 07511 875969
Wednesday	Pensioners Luncheon Club	11.30am – 1.30pm	Prescot Town Council 0151 426 3933 enquiries@prescot-tc.gov.uk
Wednesday	Breathe Easy	1.30pm – 3.30pm	Anita Brownlow 0151 449 1705
Wednesday	Aerobics Class	8.00pm – 9.00pm	Sharon Swindels acerswn@aol.com
Thursday	Kumon – Maths & English Classes	3.30pm – 6.00pm	Clare Dawson prescot@kumoncentre.co.uk
Thursday	Prescot School of Kung Fu - Martial Arts Classes	<u>Kids Class</u> 6.30pm – 7.30pm <u>Adults Class</u> 7.30pm – 8.30pm	Stephen Hale 07511 875969
Friday (Every two weeks)	Prescot Over 55's Deaf Club	<u>12.30pm – 4.00pm</u>	Colin Wilkinson colin_wilkinson@sky.com
Saturday	Slimming World	8.00am & 9.30am	Lynn Titherington 07739 167051 slimmingworldlyn@aol.com
Saturday (term time only)	Helen O'Grady Drama Classes	Ages 4-8 10.00am – 11.00am Ages 9-11 11.00am – 12.00pm <u>Musical Theatre</u> 12.00pm – 1.00pm	Tracy Shirley 0151 482 0443 07908 811159 liverpool@helenogrady.co.uk

The Story of Prescott Cables

By Glyn Williams



Prescot FC was founded in 1884, sharing a ground on Warrington Road with the local cricket club. A dispute with the cricketers led to three years without football and a move in 1906 to Hope Street. By now Prescott Athletic, it competed mostly in Liverpool leagues. In the 1920s it attracted the interest of British Insulated Cables Ltd, especially during the 1927-28 season when Lancashire Combination club Fleetwood went broke half-way through the season. Prescott stepped in,

completing the season and securing a permanent place in the division. BIC Ltd responded with funds to build a stand, and the club changed its name to Prescott Cables although it has never been the “works” team.

The years 1927-33 proved successful, the team winning the Liverpool Challenge Cup and finishing runners-up in the Lancashire Combination (each three times). Post-war years witnessed success in the Lancashire Combination Cup (1948), the championship (1957) and three Liverpool Senior Non-League Cups (1952 to 1959). The late 50s also saw two good runs in the FA Cup before defeat at Hartlepool (1957) and Darlington (1959). The club's change to Prescott Town in 1964 brought little fortune. Voted out of the Lancashire Combination in 1975, it spent 25 years in the Mid-Cheshire and North West Counties leagues. The club won the Worthington Challenge Trophy in 2001/02 and a year later the North West Counties League championship. This secured promotion to Unibond League Division 1. The team graduated to the Unibond Premier League in 2004 and currently holds its place in the Evo-Stik First Division North.

Games are played at Volair Park, Hope Street on Saturdays at 3.00pm and Tuesdays at 7.45pm with admission prices £7.00 adults, £4.00 concessions and children under 16 free. Come along and enjoy Non League football in a convivial atmosphere and enjoy a drink in our comfortable bar/lounge and food from our snack bar.

If you wish to sponsor Prescott Cables please contact Steve Garnett on 07843 345761, Mike Flaherty on 07532 218807 or Peter Kneale on 0151 282 1111.

Friends of Eaton Street Park



We are a group of likeminded people whose common aim has been to establish a community driven partnership reclaiming and revitalising Eaton Street Park for the benefit of all residents and visitors. We were established in December 2010 with the aim of encouraging ongoing development and maintenance of this Prescott Town Centre Green Space and bringing Our Community Together. We work with Prescott Town Council, Knowsley MBC, local businesses and relevant organisations to encourage the restoration, improvement and maintenance of Eaton Street Park.

Our achievements to date include, Surveying Park Use, Initiating and Getting the Road Tarmacked, Replanting the Rose Garden and Improving Disabled Access. Buying and Installing Flintstone Benches for the Wildflower Meadow Area. Working with the Community and Schools to create a Mosaic Wall. Organising the Design of New Gates with a local school and Part Funding them. Installing Display Boards, Attaining Green Flag Status, Toddle in the Park Event, Dog Flag it and Bag It Initiative, Nature Walk Event, Tree Planting Initiative, Planting of the Wildflower Meadow, Summer Picnic in the Park Event. More recently we supported the Town Council's application to access funds to pay for the Pavilion development.

Come and join us at the Pavilion in Eaton Street Park 2pm-4pm Summer Months and 12-2pm Winter Months. Bring Friends or Come and Make Friends. Refreshments are reasonably priced and served with a portion of conversation if invited. Indoor and Outdoor seating (with Parasols) and toilet facilities available. Bowls available for anyone who fancies a game and we have a book exchange! If you are interested in joining us with ideas or to get involved in the delivery of our events we would love to hear from you. Some volunteers offer a couple of hours once every couple of Months and others volunteer at the Pavilion Weekly. please call at Pavilion at the above times.

Prescot Town Council

Annual Report 2016



Contact Details

Mr Daniel Wilson (Town Clerk)
Mrs Louise Sephton (Deputy Town Clerk)
Mr Liam Johnson (Administration Officer)
Mr John Fairclough (Principle Caretaker)
Mr Joseph Cain (Caretaker)

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