

HISTORY DETECTIVES

ON THE AGENDA – Help Archie decide which Town Officers should take responsibility for each issue

- Trees located within the Earl of Derby's private woodland have been chopped down, presumably for firewood.
- A sewage ditch near Yates' Plantation is polluting the water reservoir.
- There have been reports of a number of thefts at the market on Monday. A man, not familiar locally, was spotted taking fruit from one stall and not paying for it.
- Mr. Fillingham questions the strength of the beer in The Crown Public House. He believes it to be watered down.
- Last night, an argument broke out between Mr. Gilbert and Mr. Ashcroft regarding an unpaid debt. The matter remains unsolved
- Sadly., the body of Mrs. Jacobs was discovered in her home. The cause of death is currently unknown.
- Due to an increase in livestock being transported for market, there has been a significant increase in the amount of animal dung around Market Place.
- There was an accident in on of the Mills and a worker was pressed to death.
- Mrs. Manion complains that the flour sold by Mr. Barker in the markets was infested with weevils and unsuitable for consuming.
- The alleyway connecting Moss Street and Saint Helens Road has become heaped with rubbish making it difficult to walk through.
- Mr. Speakman and his wife currently live in Manchester but Mr. Speakman has taken new employment nearby so would benefit from living within the area.
- Fences along Trap Lane have blown down and become damaged in strong winds.

PRESCOT TOWN OFFICERS

THE FOUR MEN

The Four Men ensured woodland and common waste ground was protected and made sure no one was admitted to live in the town without the permission of the court. Two of the Four Men were nominated by the court jury to represent the local people, the other two by a steward for the interests of King's College.

THE CONSTABLE

The Constable was responsible for law and order. He would have to tackle all sorts of law breakers, from minor arguments to thefts and sometimes murder. All townspeople had to help if he called.

THE CORONER

The Coroner was responsible for presenting the causes of deaths. If someone had committed suicide all his goods were forfeited to the Earl of Derby. If someone had died in an accident, the thing that had caused the accident was forfeited to the Earl.

ALETASTER

The Aletaster had to check the quality of flour, bread and beer, that there were no short measures and prices were fair. In order to test the beer, the Aletaster would pour some onto a bench then sit on it wearing leather trousers while he drank the remainder. If he stuck to the bench after drinking, then it was too sugary and not strong enough

BURLEYMEN

Burleymen had to make sure that people built their fences and hedges in the right place and kept in good order, and that ditches did not pollute or block the waterways.

STREETLOOKERS

Streetlookers were responsible for sanitation in the town, ensuring rubbish and animal dung did not pile up in the streets.

APPLICATION FORM

Name:

Date of Birth:

Position Applied For:

Explain why you should be considered for this role: