

Culcheth *Life*

Magazine

ISSUE 214 | JUNE 2021
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Editor's Comment



IT was all change at the town hall in the local elections in Culcheth, Glazebury & Croft as the Conservatives took three seats off Labour, while also making an unexpected gain at Birchwood.

A turn out of more than 45 percent, in Culcheth, Glazebury and Croft compared to an average of 36 percent across the whole borough, which sadly shows, the majority of people chose not to use their vote.

I am sure, like me, many people, were put off by some of the toxic politics which has been taking place.

Things can generally get a little heated in the run up to any elections but this year seems to have been worse and Warrington was generally not shown in a good light nationally.

I do hope now the elections are over a line can be drawn in the sand and everyone can work together for the good of the community.

Most people enter local politics to help make a difference in their local community – and as always Culcheth Life will always work with anyone doing their best to improve things in the area, whatever their political beliefs.

We now have three years to the next elections and in the coming weeks and months we need everyone pulling in the same direction as we attempt to get back on our feet following an extremely difficult time during the pandemic.

While cases are generally low in the local area, cases are again on the increase nationally and there are known cases of Indian variant in the Warrington area.

It remains extremely important to follow the health guidelines and ensure all the hard work that has been done during the latest lockdown isn't undone as we return to some kind of normality.

We are certainly not out of the woods yet although it is great to see local events like Culcheth Open Gardens returning.

Finally a huge thank you to everyone who has continued to support us throughout the pandemic. It is much appreciated.

Producing a free publication which relies on local advertising from local businesses forced to close during a pandemic is not easy!

For anyone launching a new business or looking to increase their customer base we are here to help.

As well as the magazine we can also help promote businesses online and via our various social media channels.

**Deadline for
the July issue of
Culcheth Life
is June 22**



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Weight restrictions welcomed in local villages

RESIDENTS and Councillors are celebrating the introduction of new HGV restrictions on their roads in Culcheth, Glazebury and Croft.

The new weight restrictions came into force on Monday 3rd May and the signs have now started to appear on local roads.

Parish Councillor Ben Alldred said: "Local Councillors and residents have pressed for years to see action taken to address the issue of heavy goods vehicles using our local roads. In Glazebury many homes and a primary school are just a few metres from the road. We are so pleased to see the restrictions now in place, reducing the use of our villages as a cut-through for overly large vehicles. Heavy goods vehicles have been seen turning around after seeing the new signs,

changing the routes they have used for years as shortcuts between the East Lancs Road and motorway network."

Former Councillor Matt Smith, who chaired the Glazebury Traffic Working Group, praised the work of residents: "The working group was set up following a public meeting to address the traffic concerns in Glazebury and consists of residents, council officers and councillors. I would especially like to recognise the work of residents on the group whose contributions were invaluable. They were able to make an exceptionally strong case justifying why these measures had

to be put in place for the health and wellbeing of everybody in the area".

Councillors Janet Seddon and Christine Smith were elected to represent Glazebury and Mee Brow on the Parish Council in May and added: "This weight restriction was one of a series of measures considered to address traffic issues in Glazebury. The former Cheshire Police and Crime Commissioner had pledged to work with the Borough and Parish

Councils to install average speed cameras along Warrington Road in Glazebury with the full support of the working group.

"The second point on the newly elected PCC John Dwyer's "Plan for a Safer Cheshire" is for safer roads. Culcheth and Glazebury Parish Council are writing to John Dwyer asking that he upholds this commitment by supporting the provision of average speed cameras through Glazebury."



Onwards and upwards at Hunter Healey accountants

After an exceptionally busy trading period supporting clients during the pandemic with furlough claims and applications for Covid grants and loans, local Chartered Accountancy Practice, Hunter Healey has appointed a new practice manager to strengthen the team and assist with the continued growth of the firm.

Paul Flint joins the firm bringing over 35 years of experience with expertise in the delivery of audit, accounts and taxation services to the owner-managed business sector.

Nigel Healey, senior partner stated: "I'm pleased to welcome Paul to the firm. Having strong technical knowledge and extensive understanding of the sector, we are certain that he will be a huge

asset to the firm and will support us through our planned future development"

Paul said, "Being born in Culcheth and still living locally, I was already aware of the fantastic reputation of the firm and therefore seized on the incredibly attractive opportunity to join the team and be instrumental in their future development."

Paul is well versed in the training of junior staff and as part of the continued growth and development, Hunter Healey is now recruiting for two accountancy apprentices. Anyone interested can call the office on 01925 767222 to discuss the opportunity further with Alicia Flint, partner or email their CV with covering letter to alicia@hunterhealey.co.uk



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Novelist inspired by history of Winwick church

JACKSON Beck is a Warrington novelist using areas of the town as inspiration for his writing –as well as unearthing some amazing historical facts at the same time.

His debut novel *The Sanctuary Cipher*, was released on Amazon in paperback and kindle versions in September last year.

It uses St Oswald's Church in Winwick as its centre point with historical artifacts from inside the church featuring strongly.

He describes his writing as "action and adventure novels with a twist of history" and he aims to include historical facts in each of his books, with the next literary offering

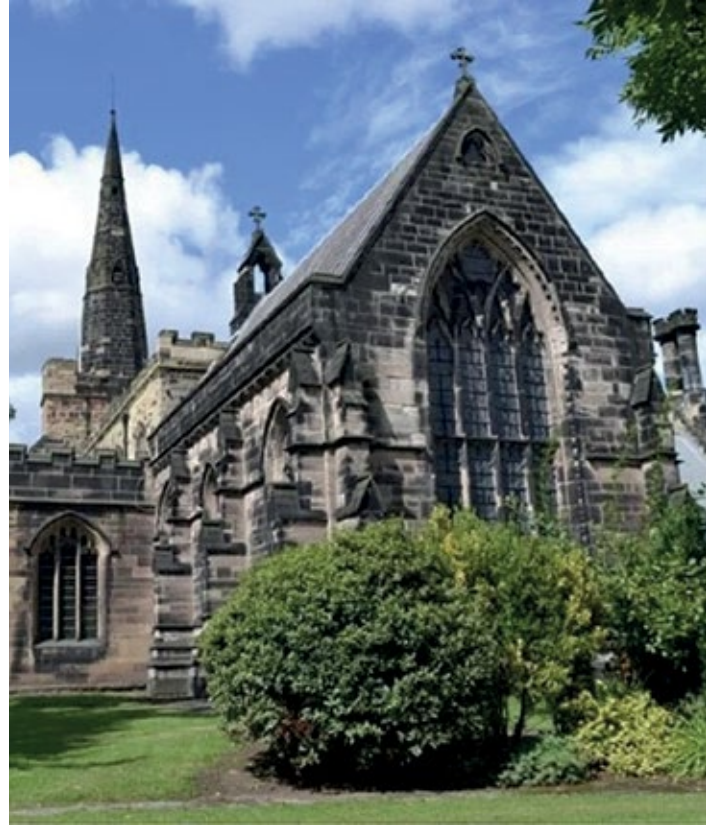


due for publication this summer. He is passionate about history and archaeology, and his love of history was initiated when he became part of an archaeological group.

He has worked on sites all over England ranging from Roman and Anglo Saxon to the Victorian era and his enthusiasm for history was endorsed when he became a member of St Oswald's Church in Winwick.

Beneath the surface, the church is steeped in history and he was astonished to find out that, apart from being a Grade One listed building and sitting on the English Civil War battlefield site of 1648, it is also listed in the Domesday Book of 1086. This background set the scene for his novel, *The Sanctuary Cipher*, which triggered his imagination for writing and he hasn't stopped since.

His second novel *Cabin in the Clouds* is due to be released this summer and is the first of a trilogy starting in New Zealand featuring ex-detective, Nathan Mason. Jackson Beck is currently working on his third novel *Nightfall in Famagusta* which continues with the action and adventure theme in Cyprus. For more information visit www.jacksonbeck.com



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Promoting Health & Wellbeing

Culcheth Open Gardens event will support St Rocco's and Methodist Church

CULCHETH Open Gardens will take place on Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th July 2021 from 1.30-5pm.

There will be 13 gardens in total with refreshments at one and plant sales at another.

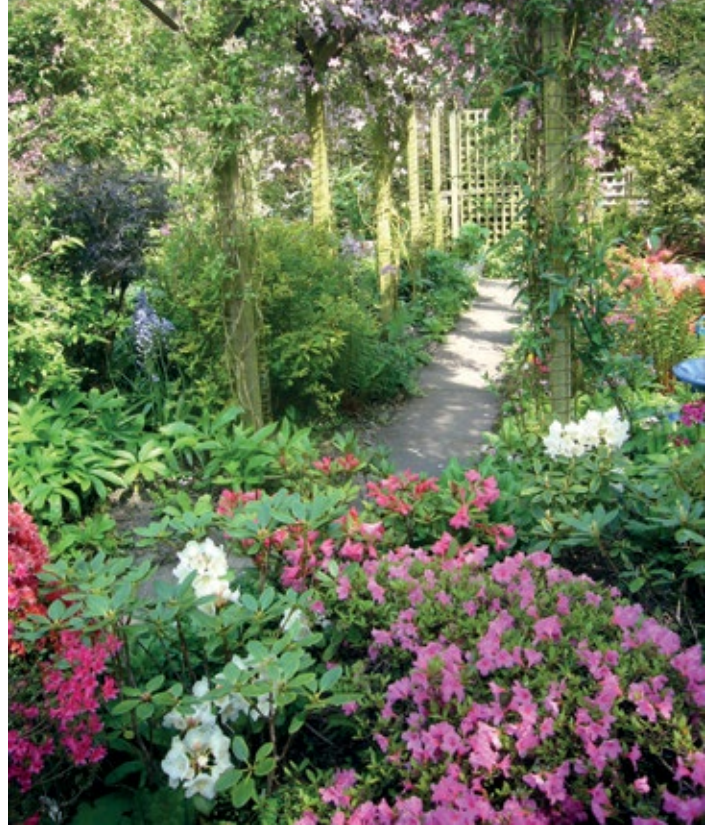
Tickets will be £5 in advance from Poyntons Florist or Buds n' Shakes Culcheth or £6 from any garden on the day.

Proceeds from Culcheth Open Gardens will be split between St. Rocco's Hospice (registered charity number 511592) and Culcheth Methodist Church (registered charity number 1129901).

A great big thank you to everyone who is kindly opening their gardens.

Details of Gardens at the present time:
44 Severn Road

- 27 Culcheth Hall Drive
- 29 Culcheth Hall Drive – Plant sales
- 1 Chatsworth Avenue
- 2 Chatsworth Avenue
- 46 Lodge Drive – Refreshments barbeque/ hot dogs
- 16 Chatsworth Avenue (front garden)
- 14 Lowther Avenue (front garden)
- 25 Chiltern Road
- 22 Chiltern Road – Refreshments teas, coffee, juice and cakes
- 66 Sutton Avenue
- 64 Sutton Avenue
- 17 Beechmill Drive
- Culcheth Methodist Church Community Garden



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All change locally

IT was all change in the Local Elections as the Conservatives regained Culcheth Glazebury & Croft and the added bonus of a seat in Birchwood.

The May 6 results saw a turnaround in the Warrington Borough Council elections with four out of six of the seats previously held by Labour in the WA3 area going to the Conservatives Party.

In Culcheth Glazebury & Croft the Tories took all three seats back from Labour with a convincing majority and gained one in Birchwood.

Cllr Wendy Maisey OBE said: "We ran a clean campaign that struck a chord with residents on the doorsteps."

"It was clear they wanted local Councillors to represent them on the issues that affect day to day life such as fly tipping, potholes and better local transport. We will work hard and be that strong voice on bigger issues too such as the Golborne Spur which we want to see scrapped. Our aim is to protect the Green Belt and prevent houses being built needlessly on it, whilst delivering the right mix of affordable and social homes for residents."

Cllr Carol Benson added: "I am delighted to be elected to both Borough and Parish Councils for our Villages. Focusing on the pledges made to the voters to gain much needed improvements to local highway services and sports/recreational facilities for all our residents to enjoy. Many residents have already been in touch with their issues and progress has started. I've now joined several Committees on WBC and Parish to help with decision making."

Cllr Valerie Allen said "After many years as a Parish Councillor

in both Croft and Culcheth & Glazebury, I was absolutely delighted that I was elected once again to the Parishes and as a Borough Councillor.

"This means residents can be certain their voices are heard at the Town Hall and that local issues will be at the forefront of decision making."

"My priorities remain protecting the greenbelt, improving facilities for our young people and safety on our roads".

Commenting on the election results for Birchwood, Councillor Nigel Balding added: "I feel honoured and excited to be elected as one of three people to represent Birchwood on Warrington Borough Council."

"In the next three years I hope to make a positive difference, advocating for the safe management of Council finances and looking for new ways to improve Council services."

CULCHETH, GLAZEBURY AND CROFT – 3 seats

Ben Aldred, Labour 1442

*Valerie Allen, Conservatives 1925

*Carol Benson, Conservatives 1942

Jan Davidson, Labour 1154

*Wendy Maisey, Conservatives 1845

Eddie Sloane, Liberal Democrats 362

Matt Smith, Labour 1556

Gary Williams, Greens 528

BIRCHWOOD – 3 seats

Craig Allen, Conservatives 1068



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at the town hall

*Nigel Balding, Conservatives 1076
 *Russ Bowden, Labour 1521
 David Eccles, Liberal Democrats 298
 *David Ellis, Labour 1389
 Judith Guthrie, Labour 1073
 Matt Scott, Liberal Democrats 351
 Paul Young, Conservatives 743

PARISH ELECTIONS

Croft (Southworth)
 *Valerie Allen (CON) – 525 votes
 *Keith Bland (CON) – 424 votes
 *Paul Campbell (CON) – 334 votes
 Constance Cummerson (LD) – 317 votes
 *Gary Farnsworth (LAB) – 349 votes
 *Normans Partington (LAB) – 358 votes
 *Philip Sharpe (CON) – 411 votes
 Isaac Tweedale (CON) – 328 votes

Culcheth and Glazebury (Culcheth)
 *Valerie Allen (CON) – 972 votes
 *Carol Benson (CON) – 1063 votes
 *Keith Bland (CON) – 945 votes
 *Susan Bland (CON) – 901 votes
 *Peter Holmes (LAB) – 842 votes
 Paul Young (CON) – 702 votes

Culcheth and Glazebury (Newchurch)
 *Ben Alldred (LAB) – 369 votes
 Helena Campbell (CON) – 286 votes
 Paul Campbell (CON) – 303 votes
 *Siobhan Carr (LAB) – 321 votes
 David Hutchinson (CON) – 249 votes
 *Neil Johnson (LAB) – 366 votes

Glazebury & Mee Brow (Uncontested)
 Janet Seddon
 Christine Smith

Winwick (Winwick)
 Alex Abbey (LAB) – 225 votes
 Judith Guthrie (LAB) – 148 votes
 *James Herron (IND) – 306 votes
 *Ann Iddon (IND) – 342 votes
 *Cathy Mitchell (LAB) – 303 votes

Houghton Green Ward
 Diana Friend
 Graham Friend
 Frank McGinn
 Andrew Warnock-Smith



The Gardening Guide



“Lawns will need mowing regularly to keep them in good condition”

Simon Bax,
Plant Area Specialist

- This is the month to get those gaps in your borders filled. Choose vibrant perennials and shrubs for instant impact, we have a huge choice.
- Watering is especially important during dry spells - also soak the ground before carrying out any new planting.
- Plants in containers and pots can be particularly greedy and will need feeding regularly with plant food to maintain blooms.
- Your first salad crops should be ready this month - including lettuce, radish and new potatoes.

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Compere awarded Honorary Life Membership



COMPERE David Hill of Culcheth has been awarded Honorary Life Membership of The Three Towns Operatics Society in recognition of his dedication and commitment.

David retired this year after 18 years as their Concert Compere entertaining audiences with his knowledge, wit and humour.

Previously he had worked backstage as Props Manager for 23 years, nine of those as Stage Manager for Three Towns annual musicals formerly at Lowton Civic Hall and latterly at St. Joseph's Hall in Leigh. He was presented with the award by David Kay (Vice-Chairman) and Derek Morris (Treasurer).

David said, "I would like to say a big "Thank you" to the Three Towns for honouring me as they have. I have enjoyed every moment of working with such talented and friendly people, whether in the Theatre, or on the Concert Platform, and I shall miss them all. Thank you also for the magnificent photograph album containing happy memories of so many "Nights of Gladness"."

In 2009 David was presented with the National Operatic and Dramatic Association (NODA) Commendation Medal for his valued service to the Society.

Chairman of the Society, Ann Batchelor said "David will be missed by members and audiences alike. He was a member of the Three Towns family and regularly came to rehearsals to listen to what he called 'the fantastic Three Towns full sound'.

He delighted in researching the items that we sang and introduced them with enthusiasm and humour."

The Three Towns are now in rehearsal for their annual concert with everyone's foot-tapping favourites planned for 19th and 20th November at St. Joseph's Hall, Leigh.

For more information visit www.threetowns.net

Veteran councillor is elected chairman at Croft – again!

VETERAN councillor Keith Bland has been elected chairman of Croft Parish Council for the second time.

Cllr Bland – also a member of Culcheth and Glazebury Parish Council – brings with him a wealth of experience in local government, having been a councillor for almost 40 years.

He has been a member at Culcheth and Glazebury since 1982 and has been chairman several times.

Cllr Bland was awarded the MBE in 2010 for services to the community in Cheshire and Warrington and, almost uniquely has been made an Honorary Alderman twice!

He was granted the honour by Warrington Borough Council to mark 15 years membership and also by the old Cheshire County Council where he served for 13 years.

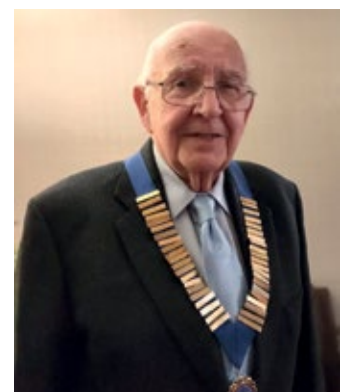
During his time on the borough council, Cllr Bland was deputy leader for five years, leader of the Conservative Group and chairman of the Warrington Partnership.

He has also served on numerous committees and outside bodies, including Warrington Collegiate, Warrington Educational Trust, Culcheth Primary School and the

Fostering and Adoption Panel.

When he was made an Honorary Alderman a second time, Cllr Bland said: "I really am delighted to receive this award. I have loved nearly every minute of being a councillor and even though I never went into public service to receive any of these awards I am proud and delighted to accept them."

Cllr Bland's wife, Sue, is also a member of Culcheth and Glazebury Parish Council and a former borough councillor.



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Siobhan Carr
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Neil Johnson
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neiljohnson@culchethandglazebury-pc.org.uk

GLAZEBURY & MEE BROW WARD



Janet Seddon
janetseddon@culchethandglazebury-pc.org.uk



Christine Smith
chrissmith@culchethandglazebury-pc.org.uk

PARISH NEWS

MEETING DATES

7.30pm at the Culcheth Centre (the venue may change)

2021

17th May, 8th June, 13th July,
 14th September, 12th October, 9th November

2022

11th January, 8th February, 8th March

Publication of Information

The Parish Council has adopted a publication of information scheme. Details of who we are, what we do and how the public can access information is published on the main notice boards, Common Lane, Culcheth and Culcheth Library and on our website:

www.culchethandglazebury-pc.org.uk



Hairdresser loses battle over salon in a garage

PLANNING bosses at Warrington have thrown out proposals to establish a hairdressing salon in a converted garage at Winwick.

They have refused a part retrospective application by Tina Baker to open the salon at her home in Birch Avenue.

Representations had been received from two neighbours, one who had objected and the other who had supported the scheme because they thought the salon looked more pleasant than what was there previously.

But planners ruled that the proposal was inappropriate in a residential area and could have a detrimental impact on a nearby local shopping centre.

They said use of the former garage as a hairdressing salon was likely to result in increase customer activity, arriving on foot and by car, in a residential area.

In a report on the application, officers said in certain circumstances occupiers could run small businesses, ancillary to the use of their home, provided it was small enough not to affect neighbours.

But what had been created was a retail business that looked like a shop, had a shop window with a sign above it, and had two hairdressing stations, two washing stations, a formal reception desk and a waiting area.

Significant investment had gone into the business to enable it to accommodate a minimum of three staff and three customers, not including people in the waiting area.

The applicant had indicated she would not object to a condition limiting the staff to herself but this would lead to a situation where it became onerous for the planning authority to constantly check the conditions of the consent were being followed.

It could also be more difficult for the council to resist intensification of the business through additional applications.



Dublin Engineer joins Culcheth based Rawwater

Originally from Dublin, Aisling Walsh is the latest new recruit at Culcheth-based Rawwater Group.

Before joining Rawwater, Aisling, who has a Master's degree in Engineering, worked as a Research & Development Engineer at Knutsford-based Oliver Valves.

Joining Rawwater's busy engineering division as a Design & Test Engineer, Aisling will be


involved in the ongoing design and development of Rawwater's specialist techniques for use in nuclear decommissioning.

With a range of innovative technologies in the pipeline, there have been a number of high-profile appointments at Rawwater in recent months. In March, Padgate man and former consultant to Bentley Motors, Graeme Martin, joined the group as a Research & Development Design Engineer. While just before Christmas, Kat Lennox, previously an Account Director with the National Nuclear

Laboratory, was appointed to head up a new technology company within the organisation.







"Aisling has joined us at an important time of growth," comments Rawwater Group Managing Director, Professor Robert Eden PhD, "and Aisling's impressive range of skills will be of real benefit to our team".

To find out more about their work, please visit www.rawwater.com. The company is on the lookout for young graduates and not-really-ready-to-retire retirees alike.



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How to start a "family memories" project

SPEAKER at the recent Zoom meeting of Croft WI was Sarah Lott – and her topic was "Family Memories."

She stressed how important it is to capture memories to pass on to future generations and how easily they can be lost and forgotten.

Once an older member of a family dies there are questions most people wished they had asked about the past, but then it is too late. So sad that boxes of family photos are stored in cupboards, on top of wardrobes and under beds that are never looked at from one year to the next. It is so important to talk to elderly family members to hear their stories, without stories photos are meaningless.

Label the photos and compile albums, so that future generations will know who they are.

Few letters are written these days, so that record will be lost and probably in the near future written letters will become extinct.

Every day, 300 million are uploaded to social media sites – but in years to come these sites may no longer exist.

Starting a "Family Memories" project can be good for well-being, as it boosts self-esteem and keeps the brain active, as well as bringing families together.

Sarah compiles "Life Story Books" by listening to people's stories. She mentioned one incredible 100 year old lady she had known who had been at the start of all the fantastic inventions of the last century, from the first flight to the kitchen gadgets that we all take for granted. But it's a sad reality that one in six people at the age of 80 suffer from dementia. Family photos from the past help to trigger certain memories and also seeing photos of a person in their youth

contributes to carers understanding the person they care for.

There are a number of excuses for not bothering to compile a family history such as; "who would be interested in my boring life", or "I'm too busy at the moment, but will do it later". But nobody knows what is around the corner and by then it may be too late.

It was explained how to approach listening to stories if you are starting a family project. Don't use a notebook or use a pen, or the person will change the way they speak, rather use equipment put at the side. Just let the person chat naturally, rather than asking questions, this is called "Active Listening" and don't look away or yawn, as this will change the dynamic of the interview.

Kindness, respect, empathy and patience, plus a dollop of humour will all help.

Try to imagine the person when they were teenagers or young adults, this will all help in achieving the best life story.

President Anne Lamming thanked Sarah for a really inspirational talk.

Vicky Gaskell explained the WI resolution "A call to increase the awareness of the subtle signs of Ovarian Cancer" - these being swollen tummy, being bloated, feeling full, needing to urinate more often, feeling sick and how the disease mainly affects women who have gone through the menopause and how the symptoms are often confused with Irritable Bowel Syndrome. A vote was taken for support for the resolution and was carried unanimously.

Privilege to be re-elected

CULCHETH & Glazebury Cllr. Ben Allred says it is a privilege to be re-elected Chair of the Parish Council.

Commenting on his re-election Cllr Allred said: "It has been a privilege to be re-elected as a Parish Councillor in Culcheth and Glazebury this year.

"I am extremely happy to have been nominated and elected Chair of the Parish Council for the second time.

"The Parish Council has many things it wishes to accomplish over the next three years. This starts with the commitment to improve the Children's Play area on the Green in Culcheth.

"There are also many things that need to be completed now that the Covid pandemic is beginning to subside, such as reinstating Community Day in 2022 and ensuring that the recruitment of a library support worker, which we have funded, goes ahead.

"It will be an interesting challenge to restart the projects that have been delayed for the past

15 months, and to start meeting in person in venues across the Parish.

"I am absolutely sure that the newly elected Parish Councilors will work together to support and deliver the commitments made to the local communities."



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