

Clerk's Report to Haigh Parish Council

7 May 2024

Clearing of Pavement on Red Rock Lane

Wigan Council have confirmed that they own the stretch of pavement between Glassbrook's Cottage and the canal bridge at Red Rock. They have also given permission for the Community Payback Scheme workforce to carry out the work needed to clear this stretch of footpath subject to a full risk assessment being carried out.

In the light of the above the resident who had enquired about this and I met with the representative from the Payback Scheme on site. Ms Sofia Barutta-Buckley informed us that this is the type of work that the team can do, but, because of the proximity of the work area to the road and the speed of the traffic using it, unless Wigan Council were prepared to close part of the road to vehicular traffic for a day, there were too many H&S issues and they will not be able to do it. Ms Barutta-Buckley has since consulted her line manager and confirmed this in writing.

In the light of this I have written to Wigan Council to find out whether they would be willing to close part of the road to enable this to happen. Should this be possible, Ms Barutta-Buckley has said that they will provide PPE and gardening tools for their workforce, but have asked if the Council will be willing to provide a skip. During the site meeting the resident showed us a place where a skip could be located.

Event Cover

I wrote to Zurich Municipal to ask them to confirm that the Council would have event cover for up to 2,000 people at any one time – this was in relation to the Bubblefest. They have sent the following reply:

“You will automatically have Public Liability cover for your events with up to 2,000 attendees at any one time, providing you:

1. Carry out a thorough risk assessment
2. Comply with HSE guidance for bonfires, beacons, fireworks or inflatables
3. Train your event volunteers and staff
4. Ensure that third-party suppliers have their own Public Liability Insurance

We already comply with Nos.1 and 4, No.2 will not apply, but we will need to discuss and implement some sort of training with respect to at least some personnel before the event in order to comply with No.3.

Bubblefest 24

Volunteers from St David's Brownies have agreed to cover the Parish Council stall. There are 5 available at present, but they are circulating the request around the county to see if they can find more. A resident is trying to source volunteers at Aspull Rugby Club from amongst those who organise the Remembrance Sunday Parade and Walking Day.

2024 Newsletter

This has been distributed either by volunteers or by post. More were distributed by post than last year, because the properties along Meadow Pit Lane were found to be difficult to access and contact could not be made with the volunteer who had previously delivered to the centre of Haigh.