



Freckleton Parish Council Newsletter Issue No. 62 – May 2026

The Annual Parish Assembly Meeting Tuesday 7th April, 2026

The Annual Parish Assembly took place on the 7th April, 2026 in The Village Hall where all 12 Councillors were present. The purpose of this meeting is to summarise the year's activities and to invite the public to hear these reports from the Chairman and Chairman of Finance, or any organisation that the Council give significant funding to, along with Financial Statements for the year. The public are provided with an opportunity for participation to express opinions on what the Council are doing. Unfortunately, there were no members of the public present.

Chairman's Annual Report 2026

I would like to express my gratitude for the commitment and support shown by Mrs. Fiona Newbold and Vice Chairman Pam Mulholland.

We are lucky to belong to a vibrant community, known for its flowers, music, churches, and more. Our village spirit shows in how we celebrate and support each other.

Last year marked the centenary of the men's bowling club, a remarkable achievement that stands as a testament to the enduring tradition, and commitment of its members over the decades. The club's history is woven into the fabric of our village life, and reaching this 100-year milestone is a source of pride for all involved.

In addition, this year we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the ladies' half marathon, a much-anticipated event that takes place every June. For half a century, this ladies marathon together participants and supporters from across the community, highlighting the spirit of inclusivity, perseverance, and celebration that defines our parish. Both milestones reflect the rich heritage and ongoing dedication of our community members, and we look forward to commemorating these significant achievements together.

Freckleton in Bloom was awarded the Northwest in Bloom gold award in October for its vibrant environment. This achievement is attributed to the efforts of Parish Council contractors and Janice, known as the Litter Fairy, whose contributions have also helped maintain the village's attractive appearance.

The parish extends heartfelt thanks to Councillor Norma Whalley for her outstanding efforts in organising the Christmas market. This event has become a cherished occasion in our calendar, bringing joy and festive spirit to residents and visitors alike. Councillor Whalley and her daughter's dedication ensured that the market ran smoothly and provided an opportunity for our community to come together in celebration.

Councillors Tommy Threlfall and Trevor Fiddler who have played an important role in our village's success and community spirit through their long-term commitment and support.

I would also like to express my sincere appreciation to everyone who generously gives up their time to help others or strives to make a positive difference in our community. Your selfless efforts and commitment are invaluable, fostering a sense of unity and compassion that strengthens the fabric of our parish. Thank you for your contribution, which is truly appreciated.

**Councillor Mrs C Thomas
Chairman of the Parish Council**

Chairman of Finance's report 2026

- Thank you to Mr. Ken Armistead and our new Clerk, Mrs Fiona Newbold for all the help and guidance this past year which has been much appreciated.

- **Precept account (including Open Spaces).**
 - The Council's expenditure for 2025/26 was over spent by £19,294 due to the increase in energy, fuel costs, and increase in material costs, repairs to the Buildings, Open Spaces areas & machinery. This will be paid for from the Council's Reserves.
 - **The Precept for 2026/27 has been set with an increase of 2.63%.**
Thanks go to all the Councillors for keeping a tight control on the budgets and ensuring it receives best value for the money being spent.

- **Community Development Account**
Interest rates have increased on the Council's savings Accounts. See below

- **Capital expenditure**

Repairs to John Deer Tractor	£1,572
Tree Cutting	£3,248
Replacement Defibrillator Pads	£ 324
New Toilets Bowling Club	£3,300
Resurfacing Path in Park	£5,888
Outdoor Gym	£4,532

- **Income**

Interest on the Council's Savings accounts	£847
Rent from Hire of land	£850
Donation for Bench	£500
LCC grass cutting contract	£4,419

- **Proposed Capital Expenditure for 2026/27 (The amount of expenditure to be agreed)**

Donation towards Play-zone (£225,00)	£12,000
Solicitors' fees for Morecambe & Morgan Project	£3,975
Drains for Bush Lane allotments	£29,000

COUNCIL FINANCIAL RECORDS ARE KEPT STRICTLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH FINANCIAL REGULATIONS AND ARE AUDITED REGULARLY BY COUNCILLORS AND ANNUALLY BY AN INDEPENDENT AUDITOR. ACCOUNTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING FROM THE CLERK TO THE COUNCIL.

Upcoming and On-Going Events.

Club Day & Half Marathon

The Annual Club Day Parade and Sports events will be held on Saturday 20th June and the Half Marathon will run on Sunday 21st June at 10.30am.

Freckleton Library

The Library opening hours are as follows:

Sunday and Monday	Closed
Tuesday	09:00 - 18:00
Wednesday and Saturday	09:00 - 13:00
Thursday and Friday	09:00 - 17:00

If you wish to renew your items you can do this online or by phone; more details are at <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/libraries-and-archives/libraries/library-services/borrowing-renewals-and-reservations/> Remember that our Digital Library is always open for eBooks and eResources <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/libraries-and-archives/libraries/digital-library/> There are lots of social activities that the Library support with the aid of the local friends group. You can find what's going on Facebook under Love Freckleton Library.

Freckleton History Group

The Freckleton History Group, which meets regularly at the library, in conjunction with Freckleton in Bloom, has established a Heritage Trail, available via an interactive map. The objective is to provide guidance to places of historical significance in the bounds of Freckleton and create a walking route around these. A copy will be made available on the Freckleton Parish web site. General access will be available by accessing a QR code on a mobile device. It is planned to go live with this in the summer.

Over 60's

We are actively seeking new members to come along and join us at our get togethers in the village Hall every 3rd Tuesday of the month from March to December (excluding August). Food and entertainment are supplied. Please keep your eye on the Village notice boards for details of what is happening or you can contact Mrs Liz Willis on Telephone 07706309706 email: ejwillis88@gmail.com or Mrs Jill Atherton on 07766104074 email: jill@waltonscaches.co.uk

Rawstorne Centre

We would like to make you all aware of the facilities and activities available at the Rawstorne Sports Centre:- Adult Football, Junior Football, Netball, Youth Club Wednesday 7.00pm and 9.00pm, Community Event's. Cricket when in season.

There is an All-Weather Surface that is available for hire, for tennis, football or other sports @ £12.00 per hour. The function room is available for private parties and family functions.

Room hires: - £50 For all hires. Please note there are no bar facilities but people are welcome to bring their own drinks. For further information please contact Mrs Jenny Hunter, email: rschairperson-freckleton@outlook.com or through our new Facebook page: Rawstorne Sports Centre.

Ribble Vehicle Preservation Trust Ltd

Ribble vehicle preservation trust based on Naze Lane in the village are actively seeking new members and volunteers to help with the restoration and preservation of classic Ribble vehicles.

For more information, please contact Jill Atherton on Mob: 07766104074 email: jill@waltonscaches.co.uk

Contacting the Police – NICE2Share – See something. Share something

We would like to remind residents' that if they have an issue which is not an emergency, they should contact the Police on 101. We are assured that dialling 101 will not only get a response but each report helps the Police to build a picture of events that are of a repeat nature and help them to deal with offenders more effectively. Help to make the local community a safer place for you and your neighbours.

If you have CCTV cameras at your home or business, register with NICE2Share. By doing so you will help us deter and solve crimes quicker. This is particularly helpful when investigating burglaries and vehicle crimes in your local area. This service is free of charge. Copy this link to sign up!

<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=EE9SXHc8PUKMgoQvwqlq-3b9Nwl9wo5Al26Sk7OAUbPjUQVFUS0xQWDEzSkNFWewxMUpUWDVEUFNKUy4u&route=shorturl>

Communication

Advance notice of all the Parish Council meetings are published on the council notice board. This is on the footpath opposite The Cenotaph and by The Coach and Horses Car Park. The minutes of all the Parish Council meetings are held on the Council's website www.freckletonparishcouncil.org.uk

Public Participation - There is an opportunity for public participation at full council meetings. The aim is to enable any member of the public to raise issues of local concern or observation and this should be addressed through The Chairman. Unless time permits, questions and statements will be limited to 3 minutes each (the length of time permitted is at the discretion of The Chairman).

Your Parish Councillors telephone numbers and email addresses are:-

Freckleton Village

Councillor Mrs P Mulholland	07867786604	shadowholt@hotmail.co.uk
Councillor Mrs C Thomas	07966831660	carolthomas23@hotmail.com
Councillor Mr K McKay	01772 634345	keithmckay140@btinternet.com
Councillor Mrs N Griffiths	01772 631870	noreen.griff8@tiscali.co.uk
Councillor Mr T.J. Fiddler	01772 634889	drtfiddler@gmail.com
Councillor Mrs E Willis	07706309706	ejwillis88@gmail.com
Councillor Mrs F Craig-Wilson	01772 632119	Fabianwilson1426@outlook.com
Councillor Mrs N Whalley	07715359451	norma57@outlook.com
Councillor Mrs Jill Atherton	07766104074	jill@waltonscaches.co.uk
Councillor Mr A Smith		andrew.psmithba@outlook.com
Councillor Mrs D Dickinson		dickinsons@blueyonder.co.uk

Outer Freckleton

Councillor Mr T Threlfall 07885200520 Cllr.tthrelfall@fylde.gov.uk

Contact point

The Clerk to the Council is Mrs F Newbold. Email: clerk@freckletonparishcouncil.org.uk
Tel: 07470165893. The office is open between 1pm-5pm, Monday to Friday.