

# CONTACT



SUMMER 2018

ISSUE 191



[www.healdgreenratepayers.org.uk](http://www.healdgreenratepayers.org.uk)

## Heald Green and Long Lane Ratepayers' Association

The work of the Association includes:

- - maintaining the local environment particularly streets and local parks;
- - ensuring Council services are working effectively in Heald Green;
- - helping to create thriving local schools through representation on the Governing Bodies of local schools;
- - playing an active role in making sure Council services work well across Stockport;
- - working with the Greater Manchester Police Force's local officers on law and order issues;
- - representing the interests of Heald Green residents through membership of Manchester Airport Consultative Committee;
- - promoting community spirit through involvement in organising events such as the Heald Green Festival.

In 1962 we started our magazine, CONTACT, which is delivered to every house in Heald Green three times a year. CONTACT is our way of keeping in touch and letting you know about issues and events in your community. We also have a website [www.healdgreenratepayers.org.uk](http://www.healdgreenratepayers.org.uk) and are on Facebook. If you're interested attending meetings, helping out at events, or generally getting involved – do get in touch.

**Annual Subscriptions** Membership subs can be paid at any time. It's £5 for 2 years. Just complete the slip below and return it with £5.00 to any of the Committee Members/Councillors, details elsewhere in CONTACT. If you would prefer to pay via BACS or are unsure whether you are up to date phone Norman Humphreys on 436 4696. Your personal details will NOT be disclosed to any outside body.

Name.....  
Address.....  
E-Mail/ Phone.....

Cheques to Heald Green and Long Lane Ratepayers' Association, thank you.

**CONTACT DELIVERERS URGENTLY NEEDED** Love CON T AC T? Value having your own copy through the letterbox? Please help us by joining our wonderful team of deliverers. It only takes 1-2 hours 3 times a year, but makes all the difference to keeping our local community connected and informed. Get the news first and keep fit! Contact Norman Humphreys to join us 436 4696.

## Who We Are

The Association is run by a committee. Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month (except August) at The Village Hall. The committee members are:

Chris Walsh (Chairman)	10 Waterford Pl	07974 914417
David Mullin (Deputy Chairman)	12 Hambleton Rd	436 1428
Margaret Burns (Secretary)	8 Westwood Rd	437 7197
Norman Humphreys (Treasurer)	1b St Austell Dr	436 4696
Julian Murray	42 Oakdale Drive	437 8436
Bernadette Murray-Robb	28 Westwood Rd	498 8837
Derek Whitehead	111 Oakdale Dr	437 5418
Owen Morris	36B Elmsleigh Rd	07454 662356
Catherine Stuart	59 Thornton Road	436 3020
Rebecca Turner	4 Bruntwood Ave	
Tom Golden	7 Drayton Drive	07970 823539
Peter Burns	8 Westwood Road	437 7197
Nick Feist	86 Rossendale R	286 9440
Julia Brosnan	38 The Oval	07870 306867
Carole McCann	276 Styal Rd	499 2406

## Councillors

Councillor Anna Charles-Jones 283 6568	97 Queensway
Councillor Sylvia Humphreys 436 4696	1b St Austell Drive
Councillor Adrian Nottingham 07701 092930	22 Outwood Drive



If you wish to consult your councillors, you can telephone them or call in to their surgeries on the first and third Friday of each month (except August) between 6.30 and 7.30 pm at the Village Hall, or email [email@healdgreenratepayers.org.uk](mailto:email@healdgreenratepayers.org.uk).

**GRANT SCHEME:** Do you belong to a club or society that needs financial help? Do you have an idea which would benefit Heald Green? The Ratepayers has a grant Scheme which you can apply to. See website for details.

## Centenary of World War I

This year marks the centenary of the Armistice, when WWI hostilities ended. Our War Memorial was originally erected in the mid 1920's on a patch of land almost opposite the end of what is now Etchells Rd. In those days there was very little traffic. Over the years things changed and the site became unsuitable for a Remembrance Day service of any kind. In the 1990's Ratepayers' Councillor Ron Stenson campaigned to have the Memorial moved to a better location. This involved negotiations with the Royal British Legion, the War Graves Commission, and the Council to gain permissions and finance. Eventually he was successful, and in 2000, the Memorial and the carefully numbered stones were re-erected in their current fine location.

Remembrance Services organised by the Ratepayers have been held in the new location and since 2000, This has become a Heald Green tradition. At noon this Remembrance Sunday\*, we will once more take the opportunity to give thanks for the end of the hostilities, whilst paying our respects to the those who died in the service of our country. In the last couple of years, we became aware of a name which had been missed off the memorial for WW2. We went through the lengthy protocol and paid for this name to be added. We also gained permission and had a plaque added to the pillars to pay tribute to one of our sons of Heald Green who died in the Ballykelly bomb in Northern Ireland in 1986.

In 2014, to mark the anniversary of the start of WWI, we held a Vigil and dug a bed and planted flowers.



This year, to commemorate the centenary we are arranging to have extra large poppies fixed to lamp standards in Heald Green and Long Lane. We will make these poppies available for purchase by residents for front doors or cars and for local shops. We are also forming a Working Group to help plan the event. If you would like to join please contact at Cllr Nottingham [cldr.a.nottingham@stockport.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.a.nottingham@stockport.gov.uk). Please make a special effort to attend on Sunday 11 November, "lest we forget".

\*It was suggested that the Service should be at 11, but for various practical reasons it was decided to keep it at Noon.

## Seashell Trust Planning Application

Following the Council's refusal of planning permission for the Seashell Trust's application to rebuild their school and build 325 houses on the adjacent Greenbelt, the Trust has stated that they will appeal against the Council's decision. The appeal will take the form of a Public Inquiry, probably next year. We are working with the Action Group, which did much research on the application, preparing for the Public Inquiry on the Appeal.

## Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF)

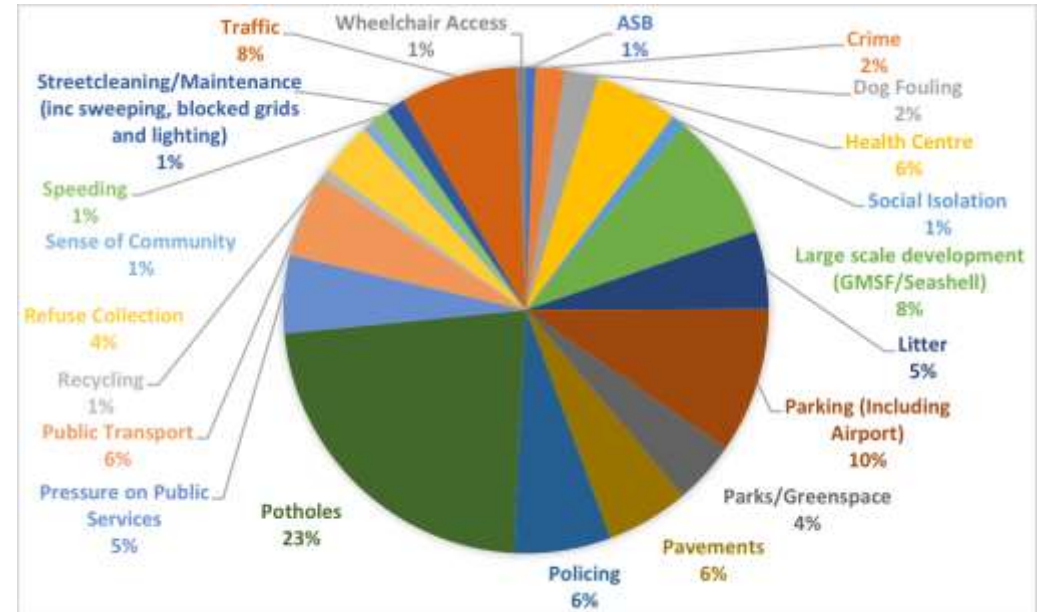
The next issue of GMSF will now be out in July, followed by a 12 week consultation period. This means that a large chunk of the consultation period will be in the main holiday period! When the document comes out, we will study it in great detail. We will mention it on our Facebook page and give a more comprehensive report on our website. In order to keep you informed, we have also arranged a Public Meeting at the Village Hall on 11 September, 7.30pm. Check our website [www.healdgreenratepayers.org.uk](http://www.healdgreenratepayers.org.uk).

## Comments please .....

With monies linked to the new road (A6MARR) construction, we are looking forward to some improvements in the pavements, crossings and signage along Finney Lane from the Library to the Railway Station. These improvements follow last year's public consultation and the work of our ward councillors liaising with the council's Highway department. However, since the consultation, an additional local proposal has come for a small paved area with a couple of park benches on the green space area in front of Café Unity. This new paved area would be made to look attractive with appropriate planting, but it may mean the removal of some or all of the existing beds. We would love to hear your views on this and invite you to contact any of our ward councillors to record your comments. We live in a very popular area! All talk of growth and prosperity puts Manchester airport, Stockport and North East Cheshire in the frame for residential and business growth. Whilst there are good reasons for the development of some well-placed new housing, there are also objections to mass house building and redevelopment, and you now have a chance to make your views known. The next draft of the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework comes out for public consultation this summer. We know that Heald Green is very likely to see new homes being built. What would you like to see happen? We have created an online form that will help us to know what you think. The information you share will be anonymised, however if you would like us to keep you informed of developments on this topic please notify us in the appropriate box. See the 'Future Housing' tab on our website [www.healdgreenratepayers.org.uk](http://www.healdgreenratepayers.org.uk). Hard copies available from Councillors.

## Your Say at the Election

In the run up to the local elections in May, we asked residents for their priorities and any comments or issues they wished to raise about living in Heald Green. We were pleased to receive more than 150 individual responses, categorised as seen below. This information will be used by both councillors and the Association to inform our future work and priorities.



Following a successful election campaign, we were delighted to see Adrian Nottingham returned as Councillor for Heald Green. Adrian took an impressive 59% share of the vote. This means that the Ratepayers' Association now has an 89-year unbroken record of providing councillors for Heald Green, the full election results were as follows:

	Votes	Percentage
Ratepayers' Association	2056	59%
Labour Party	608	17%
Conservative Party	416	12%
Liberal Democrats	203	6%
Green Party	114	3%
UKIP	82	2%

We continue to assist individual residents on a range of issues and would encourage you to contact us if we can be of assistance. [www.healdgreenratepayers.org.uk](http://www.healdgreenratepayers.org.uk)

## Societies Report: Heald Green Townswomen's Guild

The Townswomen's Guild (TG) was established in 1929 to learn about citizenship and the best use of the vote that the Suffragettes had fought for, and it was from these ladies that the idea of TG was born. We are still going forward celebrating 90 years in 2019 and our mission is to aim to make women's lives better. Princess Anne is our Patron and she attends the national AGM whenever she is able.

The Heald Green TG first met in the Heald Green Hotel in 1955, but moved to the newly built Village Hall in 1965, where we still meet on 1st, 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month at 7.30 pm. We have remained strong and welcome new members. Our interests are varied, we have speakers, arts and social group, choir and luncheon club. We organise many events e.g. theatre visits, and film shows twice a year which are very popular and well attended. This year we visited Elizabeth Gaskell House and Pankhurst Centre, who are celebrating 100 years of women having the vote. We are a friendly group and we are very proud of our history of encouraging women to have ideas and views to campaign on issues involving women and the disadvantaged and above all, we HAVE FUN. For further details, phone Josie; 0161 437 3196

## Save the Date!

Our next Ratepayers' sponsored Heald Green Community Litter Pick will be Saturday October 6th. Meeting in front of Café Unity at 10.00am, with pickers, bags and gloves supplied. Finishing at midday with a well-earned drink and piece of cake in Café Unity; courtesy of the Ratepayers Association. Bring suitable clothing and stout footwear! Come and join us and make a difference.



**Plus ...**Public consultation news: those taking place at present include the South East Manchester Multi-Modal Strategy and the Manchester Airport Draft Noise Action Plan 2019-2023. The councillors will be responding to represent the residents of Heald Green but individual submissions are also encouraged.

## Traveller Incursions

In June last year, a group of Travellers occupied East Avenue Park. The following day they moved to the Village Hall field, and did not leave until Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July. Our Councillors were on scene within an hour and continuously pressed the Council and Police to act as quickly as legally possible to remove the Travellers.

CCTV at the Village Hall indicated that the Travellers had used a key. Although our councillors did not have a key, such keys are not uncommon, as Police and ambulances may need access. Some years ago, a man had a heart attack on the field. A Council officer has told us that last year a lady was taken ill on the field. The ambulance was unable to drive onto the field because they didn't have a key to open the barrier. In the end the lady had to be carried to the ambulance, which delayed treatment. The Council need to consider this carefully. However, to prevent locks being cut off, steel cowlings have since been fitted around them.

Also following on from some active lobbying by Cllr Nottingham, SMBC has redrafted the Council's protocol for dealing with traveller incursions, to improve the actions and timetable of the Council, Police and Courts. Ratepayers have also responded to a recent government consultation on the subject, calling for stronger laws.

On 17 June this year, travellers again attempted to access the field. They were unable to drive over the bund or undo the lock. The lock was a non-standard lock, so, at the moment, emergency services are unable to access the field.

## Train Pain

Councillors are working with other political groups at the Town Hall to continue to press Northern Rail to improve the service to Heald Green station which has been severely affected by the recent well-reported timetable changes. We are also concerned with the impact of reduced bus services and congestion on local roads!

## General Data Protection Regulation

You will be aware that the law on data protection has recently changed. Here are some points from our policy which appears in full on our website.

We only hold information that you give us. This may include: Your Name, Address, Telephone number and email address. We need to maintain a list of members, because they are the only ones eligible to vote at a General meeting.

We also have lists of volunteers willing to distribute CONTACT magazine, leaflets or to help us in other ways, for example to display Ratepayers' poster prior to the local election. We will never share your data with external organisations unless required to do so by law.