

Whiston Town Council

Annual Report

2025

Whiston Town Hall, Old Colliery Road,
Whiston, Merseyside L35 3QX Tel: 0151 430 7200



'Serving the Community'



2024-2025

Whiston Town Mayor

Cllr. Stephen Henry

and Consort Mrs Carol Henry

I was extremely honoured and proud to be elected Town Mayor of Whiston by my fellow councillors for the year of 2024-2025. Of course, a Mayor does not work alone, and I want to express my deepest gratitude to my Consorts, fellow councillors, our dedicated Town Clerk and all the council staff who work tirelessly behind the scenes to keep everything running smoothly. Your commitment and hard work does not go unnoticed.

Serving as Mayor has been a great privilege and has enabled me to meet some wonderful and inspirational people. I have had the privilege of attending numerous community events and meeting so many wonderful residents and volunteers who make our town special. It has been inspiring to see the dedication and hard work of local groups, and I am proud to have played a role in supporting them.

The year has been full of highlights. One of the most memorable was attending the 100th birthday celebration of Sarah Fagan, (known as Sally), at Amberley Court Care Home, and presenting the lady with a plaque and flowers to mark the occasion, and making a promise that I would attend her 105th Birthday celebration! 2

I have also enjoyed attending the Local Democracy days as Mayor, in conjunction with other Town Councillors, where children from the three local primary schools, have attended on different occasions. This teaches the children about the Town Council and the work it does, hopefully inspiring them to be future decision makers.

Another memorable event was attending the Margaret Aspinall 'Honorary Freedom of the Borough of Knowsley'. She is truly an inspirational woman, and I was impressed by her dedication and hard work for Justice for Hillsborough.

I would also like to say thank you to the Reverent Andy Telfer, St Nicholas Church and his colleagues for arranging the Mayor's Civic Service, the first for many years, and having the opportunity to meet many of the congregation.

I was also proud to attend Remembrance Sunday at St Nicolas Church and lay a wreath on behalf of Whiston Town Council on the war memorial in the Churchyard.

Through various fundraising efforts, we have successfully raised over £1,200, which will be given back to local community groups to help them continue their vital work. Many of the groups I have been able to visit throughout my term in office. This achievement is a testament to the generosity and community spirit of our town and I am grateful to everyone who contributed.

As we look ahead, I am excited to continue working with local organisations, businesses and residents to foster an even stronger community. Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to making our town a great place to live and work.

The Clerk

A Year of Dedication and Community Spirit



Sandra Mayers
Town Clerk

As I reflect on the past year, I am filled with immense gratitude and pride in all that we have accomplished together as a Council. Having had the privilege of serving for 43 years, I have witnessed firsthand the dedication of our Council Members, staff, and the unwavering commitment of our community. This past year has been no exception.

We have worked diligently to support residents, enhance services, and strengthen our town. From hosting community events that brought people together to implementing initiatives that have made a meaningful difference in people's lives, every achievement has been a testament to the passion and hard work of our team.

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to our dedicated staff. Your professionalism, resilience and commitment do not go unnoticed. Whether ensuring the smooth operation of council facilities, supporting local projects, or going above and beyond in your roles, each of you has played an essential part in making this year a success.

To our community members, volunteers and local partners—thank you for your continued support and collaboration. It is through our shared efforts that we create lasting, positive change. As we look ahead, I am confident that our Council will remain steadfast in its commitment to serving the residents of Whiston with dedication and care. Here's to another year of progress, teamwork, and making a difference.

Sandra Mayers *Town Clerk*

Sally's 100th Birthday

In September, the Town Mayor, along with his Consort, Barbara Percy, attended the 100th Birthday party of Sarah (Sally) Fagan, who, until recently, resided in Whiston and regularly attended the Luncheon Club at the Robert Foulkes Centre. Sally was presented with a special award from Whiston Town Council and she had a lovely celebration, attended by family, friends and staff. Everyone enjoyed a tasty buffet and a sing a long, and were also entertained by a Scottish piper who played at this special event.



Poppies arrive in Whiston



Along with Councillor Neil Murray, the Town Mayor. Stephen Henry, armed with ladders, erected reusable, plastic poppies on lamp posts throughout Whiston Village and the surrounding main roads, in time for the annual Remembrance Day services in November.

WHISTON COMMUNITY RECOGNITION AWARDS 2024 –2025

On Thursday, 20th March 2025, the Staff, and Members of the Council, hosted a heartwarming afternoon to celebrate the Whiston Community Recognition Awards and honour the town's dedicated volunteers. The Town Mayor, Councillor Stephen Henry, allocated funds, raised during his municipal year, to several local groups. Alongside the Chair of the Events Committee, Councillor Tracey Murray, he presented the Volunteer of the Year Award to Marianne Burke Thompson and the Volunteer Group of the Year Award to Spectrum Connect CIO. The afternoon was filled with gratitude, laughter, and appreciation for those who selflessly give their time to the community. Volunteers enjoyed refreshments, shared stories, and were recognised for their invaluable contributions. The event truly reflected the spirit of Whiston, bringing people together in celebration of kindness, dedication, and community pride.



Marianne Burke Thompson and Spectrum Connect CIO receive their awards



Whiston Town Council Finances 2024/ 2025

The Town Council's accounts are prepared each year by the Town Clerk. These accounts are then audited by appointed internal and external auditors.

Calculation of Income	2024/2025
Balance b/f 01/04/2024	£ 378,836.24
Precept	£ 301,369.00
Ins Comm / Refunds	£ 120.00
Whiston Town Hall	£ 59,358.27
George Howard Centre	£ 52,228.44
Robert Foulkes Centre	£ 5,073.07
Multi Use Area	£ 4,212.00
Feed In Tariff	£ 1,852.50
Bank Interest	£ 7,331.89
Vat - Repayment	£ 18,587.80
	£ 828,969.21

A summary of the unaudited accounts for 2024/2025 have been produced for residents' information.

Residents can obtain a copy of these accounts, and inspect audited accounts from previous years at:-

Whiston Town Council
Town Council Office
Whiston Town Hall
Old Colliery Road
Whiston
Merseyside

Calculation of Expenditure	2024/2025
Administration	£ 32,977.65
Whiston Town Hall	£ 37,133.37
George Howard Centre	£ 32,476.09
Robert Foulkes Centre	£ 9,205.92
Muga / Open Spaces	£ 15,678.22
Repairs	£ 11,366.25
Section 137 payment	£ 4,000.00
Salaries	£ 256,477.58
Vat	£ 14,242.84
Balance c/f 31/03/2024	£ 415,411.29
	£ 828,969.21

Whiston Town Council Members serve the residents of the area on a voluntary basis.

(**) In addition to serving as your local Councillors, five of our Members are also Borough Councillors.

Elected May 2023, your Councillors are listed below.

Updates will appear on Whiston Town Council website as required.

WHISTON NORTH		
**Councillor J. Burke	Joanne.burke@ knowsley.gov.uk	07384900812
**Councillor K. Taylor	kai.Taylor@ knowsley.gov.uk	07955268829
Councillor N. Murray	neilmurray@ rocketmail.com	07561157404
**Councillor G. Wickens	grahamcwickens@gmail.com	07575011049
WHISTON SOUTH		
**Councillor D. Allen	Denise.Allen@ knowsley.gov.uk	07775681125
**Councillor T. Byron	Terry.Byron@ knowsley.gov.uk	07557849407
**Councillor R. Gaffney	ron.gaffney@ knowsley.gov.uk	0151 426 4883
Councillor S. Henry	Stephen.Henry1949@btinternet.com	07973361267
Councillor J. Mimmagh	c/o town.clerk@ whiston-tc.gov.uk	c/o 0151 430 7200
Councillor C.A. Powell	c/o town.clerk@ whiston-tc.gov.uk	c/o 0151 430 7200
Councillor T. Murray	traceymurray34@ gmail.com	07926722498
Councillor S. Rees	sheila.rees@live.co.uk	0151 493 2208

Whiston Town Council

Calendar of Events 2025—2026 at Whiston Town Hall

SUMMER FUN DAY - SATURDAY 26TH July 2025 12.00 - 4.00pm

A great afternoon out for all the family!

WHISTON WINTER WONDERLAND

SATURDAY 29TH November 2025 12.00 - 4.00 pm

Festive fun, crafts and a visit from Father Christmas!

MINCE PIE & MUSIC - THURSDAY 4TH DECEMBER

1.00 pm — 4.00 pm

An afternoon of music, refreshments and bingo for the over 55's!

ASHTON'S CHARITY

Ashton's Charity is a charitable organisation set up to help those in need within the Whiston area. A Committee of five Trustees meet to consider applications for financial assistance, on an individual basis, towards health, education or general support.

All information received is completely confidential.

If you think you or anyone else could benefit from this charity, please apply in writing to: The Town Clerk, Whiston Town Hall, Old Colliery Road, Whiston, Merseyside. L35 3QX.

Whiston Town Council

Below is a list of the facilities and open spaces which Whiston Town Council maintain for the benefit of our community:

Whiston Town Hall, Old Colliery Road, Whiston

George Howard Centre, Lickers Lane, Whiston

Robert Foulkes Centre, Brook Street, Whiston

Foxshaw Close Play Area, Foxshaw Close, Whiston

Multi Use Games Area, Old Colliery Road, Whiston

Whiston Town Council also lease the undermentioned Public Open Spaces from the Metropolitan Borough of Knowsley, and we pay an annual amount of £14,107.00 to have these areas maintained.

<u>Acres</u>	<u>Expiry</u>	<u>Location</u>
1.2	2066	Nelson Place/Fisher Place
4.64	2063	North Westerly Side , Dragon Lane
1.18	2059	Willis Lane / Paradise Lane
1.36	2076	George Howard Centre
0.93	2057	Easterly Side Gilbert Road
1.5	2060	Willow Avenue
0.83	2057	Foxshaw Close play area
0.20	2084	Robert Foulkes Centre

Whiston Junior Democracy Day

Whiston Town Council has successfully facilitated three Junior Democracy Days over the past year, engaging Year 6 pupils from each of our three local primary schools. These sessions, held at Whiston Town Hall, provide an insightful and enjoyable introduction to local government. Pupils take part in a mock council meeting, gaining a hands-on understanding of civic life, each participant receives a certificate of attendance to commemorate the day. These events combine education with fun, inspiring the next generation of local leaders.

A YEAR OF EVENTS 2024-25

Summer 2024 - Family Fun Day at Whiston Town Hall

Whiston Town Council held their very first Family Fun Day on 8th September 2024. Unfortunately, the weather did not co-operate and, sadly, it rained for most of the day. Despite this, many families came along to enjoy the **free** event and took part in the variety of activities, provided by stall holders and volunteers. These included a mini football tournament, a Morris Dancing display, Boxing Club activities, a Ukelele recital, Forest Ranger Crafts, Crazy Golf, the Community Police and Refreshments.

Council staff, along with a number of Whiston Councillors helped to ensure the event ran smoothly and all enjoyed the experience, despite the weather. Another similar fun day is planned on **Saturday 26th July 2025** and residents are invited to come along and enjoy a free afternoon out.





Mince Pies and Music December 2024



The Town Council invited Whiston's over 55's to a free afternoon of mince pies, music and bingo to start the festive season. Councillors Joanne Burke, Terry Byron, Sheila Rees, Neil Murray and Tracy Murray provided table service refreshments to our guests, while local celebrity, Kieran Kenny entertained them with a variety of songs to sing along to. A few games of bingo and prizes ended, a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon. A similar event has been arranged for

Thursday 4th December 2025

Whiston Community Recycling Project

The dedicated volunteers of the Whiston Community Recycling Project have hosted several events at Whiston Town Hall over the past year, offering local residents access to pre-loved school uniforms, winter coats (both recycled and new), and a selection of communion and prom outfits. Thanks to the generosity and hard work of the team, over 2,000 school uniform items have been recycled and redistributed to families in need. This valuable community initiative continues to grow, providing practical support and promoting sustainability across Whiston.

Whiston Winter Wonderland

November 2024



Father Christmas paid an early visit to Whiston Town Hall on 23rd November, to meet with lots of children, along with their families, who attended the Winter Wonderland event being held there.

It proved to be a huge success, enjoyed by all. Besides Father Christmas in his Grotto, the hall was filled with stalls selling crafts, Christmas gifts and other goodies. There was free face painting available along with games and entertainment for children, provided by the Ultimate Party People. They also enjoyed making crafts with the Forest Rangers, and meeting the Community Police Officers. Free refreshments were provided to all, including delicious hot chocolate.

This year, the Whiston Winter Wonderland event will be held on Saturday 29th November 2025. Don't forget to put it on your calendar!



What's On in Whiston?

For further details on Clubs and Activities, please contact the Town Council Office Staff on 0151 430 7200

Whiston Town Hall, Old Colliery Road

Facilities: Main Hall, Council Chamber, Boxing Club and Multi-Use Games Area, Weekend function room.

Name of Club / User Group	Days
Whiston Indoor Bowling Club	Mon, Thurs a.m.
Whiston Over 55's Bingo	Monday afternoon
Breast Mates Dance Class	Monday evening
NHS Pulmonary Exercise Group	Tuesday
JK STARS Morris Dancing	Tuesday evening
Whiston Village Guild	Tuesday (meet monthly)
NHS Wellbeing Group	Wednesday morning
Alzheimers Support Group	Wednesday p.m. (Fortnightly)
Slimming World	Wednesday evening
WICH Group	Wednesday (meet monthly)
Whiston Town Council Meetings	Wednesday (meet monthly)
Victoria Dog Club	Thursday evening
NHS Cardiac Nurses Group	Friday
Kokutai Karate Group	Friday evening
HIGHERSIDE BOXING CLUB	WEEKDAY EVENINGS

The George Howard Centre, Lickers Lane

Facilities: Main Hall, Activity Room, Office Space

Name of Club / User Group	Days
Early Years Groups	Weekdays
Hospital to Home Service	Weekdays
Whiston Luncheon Club	Monday
1st Whiston Scout Group, Cubs Beavers & OXO	Tuesday evening
WIKED Dance Group	Wednesday
Diddi dance	Thursday a.m.
Slimming World	Thursday
Knowsley Labour Council Surgeries	1st Thursday of month
Family Worship	Saturday

The Robert Foulkes Centre, Brook Street

Facilities: Main Hall

Name of Club / User Group	Days
Facing Life and Pain	Monday & Thursday
Brook Street Luncheon Club	Friday
Breast Mates	Tuesday
The Stroke Association	Wednesday (alternate)
Whiston Central Ladies Group	Thursday (Monthly)

Annual Town Meeting

WEDNESDAY 28TH MAY 2025

**Whiston Town Hall
(Old Colliery Road)
Commencing 7.00pm**

All electors who live in Whiston can attend the meeting and speak on any matters concerning the Township of Whiston.

**Updates will also be given on subjects raised at previous
Town Council Public Meetings.**

**Whiston Town Council
Whiston Town Hall
Old Colliery Road
Whiston
Merseyside L35 3QX
Telephone 0151 430 7200
Email town.clerk@whiston-tc.gov.uk
Website www.whiston-tc.gov.uk**