

# ST ANNE'S ON THE SEA TOWN COUNCIL

Annual Report  
2014-15

St Anne's on the Sea Town Council

West Lodge  
5 St Georges Road  
St Annes  
FY8 2AE

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## Chairman's Report



The Mayoral year has been exceptionally busy with a hectic mix of engagements in support of the community of St. Anne's on the Sea. Ably supported by the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Gail Goodman and my Consort, Barbara, we attended a great variety of events, welcomed new clergy, supported the Carnival Queen, judged competitions, awarded prizes, opened new shops and restaurants, presented Awards to Lancashire Authors and attended two fashion shows to name just a few.

2014 was a special year as we commemorated the centenary of the start of WW1. There were many events I was honoured to attend; I was particularly touched to open the war graves trail at the Parish Church and lay flowers on the grave of Burton (Plum) Critchley, son of the first Mayor of St Anne's who gave his life in the war.

Other such events included a candle lit vigil at our War memorial in Ashton Gardens in August, the unveiling of a plaque in Lytham to commemorate the Territorial Volunteers of Lytham St Anne's, of course Remembrance Sunday (with a very large turnout) and Armistice Day along with a host of children from our local primary schools.

2014 also saw the return of the ever increasing Music and Arts and Kite Festival which attracted visitors from far and wide. The town centre buzzed and our beach was a blaze of colour with dozens of kites of every shape and colour. Preceding this was our annual Carnival in July which was proudly joined by visitors from our Twin Town of Werne. They had a most enjoyable visit (even celebrating Germany's football victory during their stay!) and I signed the Charter on behalf of our town to commemorate 30 years of Twinning.

The lead up to Christmas was a busy time, many events were taking place - some of which were on the same day! On the day of the Christmas Light Switch On I was at no less than 4 events culminating in the switching on of our newly extended Christmas Lights. The event was run by the Town Council for the first time and what a triumph it was! The Mayoral Carol concert took place the following week and another great success as we raised a record amount for the Mayoral Charity, Veterans 4 Fylde - £521!

Recently we were delighted to reopen the Victoria Hotel after a major refurbishment. It was particularly satisfying after fighting a successful campaign against its potential demolition. I urge all to go and support 'The Vic' in its new family-friendly venture.

This Mayoral year has been both exhausting and exhilarating with lots of happy memories and has given me a particular pride and honour to have served my home town as Mayor.  
**Councillor Ed Nash, Chairman 2014 - 2015**

*"Veterans4 Fylde is a local charity that supports all who have served in the Armed Forces to overcome disadvantage including disability by military service"*

## Councillor Details

Name	Ward	Address	Phone Number
Tony Ford	Ashton	6 Dover Road, FY8 3HN	713885
Gail Goodman	Ashton	Flat 4, 11 St Annes Road East, FY8 1TA	07966 506461
Barbara Mackenzie	Central	46-48 Orchard Road, FY8 1PJ	711584
Ed Nash	Central	45 Orchard Road, FY8 1PG	713839
Cheryl Little	Fairhaven	32 The Boulevard, FY8 1EH	711722
Vince Settle	Heyhouses	11 Admiral Close, FY8 2TH	712586
Viv Willder	Heyhouses	20 Pilling Avenue, FY8 1QG	732590
Christine Akeroyd	Kilnhouse	23 Coniston Avenue, FY8 3DG	720870
Karen Henshaw	Kilnhouse	58 Headroomgate Road, FY8 3BG	713204
Dawn Prestwich	Park	294 Church Road, FY8 3NR	283304
Angela Jacques	St Leonard's	46 All Saints Rd, FY8 1PL	724381
Carol Lanyon	St Leonard's	79 St Leonards Rd East, FY8 2HD	712090



**Staff Details:**

**Town Clerk:** Sally Taylor  
**Phone:** 01253 788560  
**Email:** townclerk@stannesonthesea-tc.gov.uk

**Community Development Manager:** Sarah Dunn  
**Phone:** 01253 788579  
**Email:** cdo@stannesonthesea-tc.gov.uk

**Promotion and Event Officer:** Heather Kennedy  
**Phone:** 01253 788581  
**Email:** peo@stanneonthesea-tc.gov.uk

**Opening Hours  
(Drop in times)  
MON-FRI  
10am—2pm  
CLOSED WED**

The staff are usually available between 9am-4.30pm Mon-Fri to help with any enquires.

**Committees:**

**Policy & Resources**—This committee meets 6 times a year to discuss matters outside of the remit of other committees and makes recommendations to full Council.

**Leisure & Community**—This committee meets 6 times a year to plan, organise and discuss community events.

**Planning & Environment**—This committee meets once a month to discuss new planning applications within the parish.

**2015-2016 Town Council Yearly Budget** (Council Tax frozen for '15-'16)

Staffing	£ 95,194
Premises	£ 13,972
Administration	£ 3,320
Democracy	£ 4,500
Civic	£ 1,305
Community	£ 45,500
Publicity	£ 9,235
Environment	£ 1,780
<b>Total</b>	<b>£174,806</b>

**IN BLOOM**



St. Anne's on the Sea gained **GOLD** in the best Large Coastal Resort category in the North West In Bloom Awards. This award is a great credit to the volunteers of St. Anne's In Bloom, Fylde Borough Parks staff and other organisations who have all contributed to this fantastic achievement.

Six active community organisations in the town also picked up 'Its Your Neighbourhood' awards and a 'Clean Sweep Award' was also added to St. Anne's tally at the presentation in Southport in October 2014. This award was for tidiness and lack of litter, graffiti etc. and is quite an achievement when you consider that the judges arrived only a few hours after thousands of people had attended the town's carnival weekend.

The Town Council initiated a revamp of the previous St. Anne's In Bloom organisation. The new In Bloom group have been well supported both financially and 'in kind' by the Town Council and these awards show that empowering local people does pay off.

The overall Neighbourhood Group results for St. Anne's In Bloom are:

Blundell Road Allotments	OUTSTANDING
Shepherd Road Allotments	OUTSTANDING
St. Anne's Beach Care	OUTSTANDING
Hope Street Park	THRIVING
Supporters of Ashton Gardens (SOAG)	THRIVING
The Chimes Retirement Home	IMPROVING

**PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY**

In 2014-15 the Town Council has been very active in improving the bridleway and footpath network located to the rear of Heyhouses Ward. Completed projects include clearance of 1000m on two footpaths and the laying of hard-core. Six additional signs have been installed across the network, with early spring wild flower planting also being undertaken.

The Town Council is passionate about protecting the public rights of Way within St. Anne's and has also included the provision of the footpaths in the draft Neighbourhood Plan.



**ALLOTMENTS**

*Shepherd Road* – these are the larger allotment gardens owned by the Town Council, a total of 140 plots. The budget is ring fenced for Shepherd Road, this means that every penny in rent is invested back into the improvement and development of the site; for example improvements this year include fencing and drainage.

It's managed by members of the community and the Allotment Association, all of whom are volunteers who work closely with the Town Council. They are a highly active group, having held a successful 'Open Day' in August and a Halloween/Bonfire Night Event in November.

In 2014 Shepherd Road was entered under the 'It's Your Neighbourhood' award and won OUTSTANDING, a fantastic achievement first time around!

*Blundell Road* – these are the smaller allotment gardens that the Town Council has developed from an overgrown section of land. The site comprises of 28 small plots, which are available to encourage Community groups and residents to take up growing fruit, flowers and vegetables on a small scale. It is also managed by members of the Community, holds regular social events and it supported financially by the Town Council.

In 2014 Blundell Road was awarded OUTSTANDING for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year running in the 'It's Your Neighbourhood' category. This award could not have been achieved without the enthusiasm and hard work by the plot-holders and volunteers.

If you are interested in having your own allotment plot please contact Heather Kennedy on 01253 788581 to discuss the options available.



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**CHRISTMAS 2014**

This was the first year that St Anne's Town Council sponsored and delivered the Switch On Event and we decided to change how the event was delivered. From 3.30pm in the car park opposite the O2 shop, the town was alive with the sound of music! Heyhouses Community Choir, the Ormerod's Bright Souls Choir and Cantabimus all sang their hearts out to Christmas Carol's, along with Lowther Pavilion's pantomime stars from Polka Dot Productions entertaining with extracts from their production. A professional Elvis impersonator came along as Master of Ceremonies and he treated us to some of the King's classics; another huge success!

Local community groups held stalls during the lead up and also a lantern parade with Brownie and Cub groups (almost 200 children!) preceded the switch on. A vast array of lanterns with materials being sponsored from O2 were seen down the main stretch of the square with Santa and his sleigh leading the way.

Everyone at the Town Council worked exceptionally hard to deliver an afternoon of Christmas Entertainment which culminated in almost 2000 people in the Square to see the lights being turned on!



**EASTER 2014**

The Town Council has held an Egg Rolling Competition on Easter Monday for a number of years. However in 2014 we broke with tradition and delivered our first ever Easter Egg Treasure Hunt around Ashton Gardens. The event took place on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2014, we had fantastic weather and a vast number of children and their families successfully completed the Treasure Hunt.

The event ran from 12pm-1.30pm and included the annual Best Decorated Egg Competition with the Town Mayor, Viv Willder presenting the prizes, donated by Aldi and the Town Council.

The day was a huge success and included the Funky Monkey team face painting, an Easter Bunny and 40 children competing in the Best Decorated Egg Competition. Special thanks must be given to the CDM and the PEO, who worked tirelessly to ensure the event was a success; and it was!

**KITE FESTIVAL**

On the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> July 2014, the Kite Festival was held on St. Anne's beach for the third successive year. The kite flying attracts thousands of people into the town, with this year being busier than ever.

The Town Council gives £1500 to support this Festival and has a nominated Councillor who sits on the St. Anne's Kite Festival Committee that runs the event.

**RNLI CONCERT**

The Town Council ran the Lifeboat Concert as a standalone event in 2014. The aim of the event was to raise money for the RNLI with a free concert performed by the Fylde Concert Orchestra. The Town Council organised the event, which was held on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2014. It was hugely successful, with £225.76 for the RNLI raised from donations on the day.

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### STREET REPS

The Street Representatives scheme has also been revamped, a partnership run by the Town Council with Fylde Council. The scheme is now being extended to include the reporting of Anti Social Behaviour, including dog fouling, with the Police now part of this working partnership. Because the reps are working at a 'grass root level' they can identify quickly when problems arise. Due to one of the 'Street Reps' noticing that an additional litter bin was required on St. Andrews Road South, one was requested by the Town Council and provided by Fylde Borough Council. The Street Representatives are people who go out in all weathers and work very hard to make life more pleasant for the rest of us.



### YOUTH COUNCIL

St. Anne's Youth Council have been very active within the last 12 months, they now have a standing dedicated agenda item at Town Council meetings where they can report on what they have achieved.

In April the members agreed to support the Fylde Food Bank and now bring contributions to each of their meetings. The first handover of the donations took place in June and is an ongoing process. The group have also raised £62.77 for St. Anne's RNLI, which was presented to this organisation in January 2015.

Other activities include a visit to Blackpool Magistrates Court, involvement in St. Anne's Neighbourhood Plan, additional support at the Carnival and Mayor's Carol Service and the setting up of their own Instagram account. As you can see they are a very busy and enthusiastic bunch and we are proud at the Town Council to support them.



### ST ANNES ENTERPRISE

#### PARTNERSHIP

The Town Team has recently been revamped and is now a partnership between the Town Council, Fylde Borough Council and local traders.

The aim is to promote St Anne's as the charming seaside town it is. Local businesses are keen to bring more events into the local economy so there is always something going on in the town. Some suggestions were to make use of the grand assets we have such as Ashton Gardens and to utilise this further.

St Anne's has an abundance of different eateries and Restaurateurs are keen to work together to provide something for residents and tourists alike to be able to sample all of the different delicacies available.

The partnership is still in its building blocks stage but if you have any suggestions or would like to get involved yourself please contact Tony Ford on 01253 713885 or Ed Nash on 01253 713839.

### NEWSLETTERS

The Town Council reviewed the Newsletter process in 2013-2014. The outcome was that the Newsletter design was revamped, costs were reduced and the delivery process was changed.

The Town Council Newsletter now goes from strength to strength. The total production costs are down by around a quarter, with feedback received getting better and better for each issue. However, the best part is that more people are reading about what the Town Council is achieving.

We are very keen for local people to be involved in providing articles for the Newsletter. If you have an article of local interest, please contact Sarah on 01253 788579.

### CARNIVAL 2014

On the 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> July 2014, St. Anne's Carnival took place. The weather was wonderful with huge support from people coming to see this highly popular annual event. The overall purpose of the Carnival is to raise money for charitable causes, with the Carnival Queen raising £8000 for Home-Start Fylde and the Blue Skies Baby Unit.

The Town Council gave £1500 to the Carnival in 2014, helping to support an excellent event that brings thousands of visitors to the town.



### PUBLIC OFFICES

The public offices remain for sale; the Town Council undertook a full review to establish if it was able to support a bid to purchase the listed building.

Various options were researched that included the redevelopment of the site, an Arts Centre, partnership bid and the purchase by the Town Council. The Public Offices Working Group also requested a full structural survey of the property which was undertaken. Initial costings included;

- Potential purchase of the building £290,000
- Potential building improvement costs £250,000
- Loan interest payments of approximately £40,000 per year
- Ongoing maintenance costs of £20,000

Due to the financial implications, it was reluctantly agreed that the Town Council not pursue the purchase of the Public Offices at this time.



### NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Town Council are still busy, actively producing a Neighbourhood Plan for St Anne's.

The Neighbourhood Plan sets out policies that (if approved by Referendum following an independent examination) will help shape the future of St Anne's over the ten year period of 2015 to 2025. Alongside the Neighbourhood Plan, there is a Design Guide. The Design Guide will enable us to influence future developments for St Anne's, so any future planning application will need to meet the criteria set out in the guide.

We have already held a consultation period which meant we could get out and talk to you, the people of St Anne's, to find out how you wanted the Town shaping for future generations. We were able to collate all this information and evidence and have completed a draft copy of the Neighbourhood Plan. To ensure we are going along the right lines, we are going out for consultation once more. This will be happening in May/June 2015; the details of where we'll be and when, will be published on our website when confirmed.

After we have completed the second stage of consultation we will amend anything in the Plan that has emerged from talking with you. The Plan will then be agreed and will be sent to Fylde Borough Council and an external examiner. Once this process is completed, the Neighbourhood Plan for St Anne's can be adopted in 2015.

Above all, we need your help. We cannot

make a plan for St Anne's without views from residents and businesses alike, after all it will be your plan for your town. To get involved or for more information please visit our website: [www.stannesonthesea-tc.gov.uk](http://www.stannesonthesea-tc.gov.uk) or email us on: [npinfo@stannesonthesea-tc.gov.uk](mailto:npinfo@stannesonthesea-tc.gov.uk)



### GRANTS— The following community organisations were supported by SATC:

LSA Twinning Association	£ 250
Victoria Hotel Community Assoc.	£ 450
North West Blood Bikes	£ 1000
Tarka Explorer Scouts	£ 1000
Fylde Veterans	£ 450
AFC Fylde	£ 1000
Fylde Food bank	£ 500
Heyhouses Community Choir	£ 750
St Anne's Parish Church	£ 1000
Girlguiding Kilgrimol Centre	£ 500
St Anne's Carnival Assoc.	£ 1500
St Anne's in Bloom	£ 1500
St Anne's Kite Festival	£ 1500
Christmas Crib	£ 50
Christmas Light Support	£10,000
Christmas Switch On Event	£ 1500
St Anne's Music & Arts Festival	£ 1000
St Thomas' Parish Community Cnt	£ 1000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£24,950</b>







**CHRISTMAS LIGHT INFRASTRUCTURE**

The Town Council took over the management and ownership (from Fylde Council) of the existing Christmas Lights within the Town Centre from 2014. We also extended the lights into Park Road, Orchard Road and Wood Street for the first time with funding received from the Fylde High Street Innovation Fund, match funded by the Town Council. This was the largest monetary project that the Town Council has ever undertaken.

Improvements included fairy lights installed on all lighting columns in Wood Street (9 in total), 3 in Park Road and 3 in Orchard Road; larger trees in Wood Street were also lit up, with several sets of white fairy lights fitted. The existing design in the square was updated, with six new lighting pole mounting features and a festoon of lights across lighting columns to add a bit of sparkle.

People welcomed the scheme extension, including the use of an existing pine tree as our Christmas Tree, planted in the squares gardens as opposed to using a cut tree.



**STREET SIGNS**

In February 2015 five new street signs were installed in Wood Street, Orchard Road and Park Road. This is another Town Council project, match funded from the Fylde High Street Innovation Fund. The aim of the signs is to promote businesses off the square, notifying pedestrians that there is a plethora of unique shops within this area.

These highly attractive signs are double-sided so each shop name appears on one side of the signs. The project cost over £14,000 and was the result of a successful working partnership between the Town Council, Fylde Council and Lancashire County Council.

There are hopes to confer with other businesses in other streets to extend signage further around the town.

**LAMPOST BANNERS**

During the summer of 2014 there were 8 lamppost banners installed in the square. These depicted images of flags including the town flag and people enjoyed the additional colour brought to the town centre. Funding was received from the Fylde High Street Innovation Fund, match funded by the Town Council. Challenges were overcome regarding how long the banners could be in situ for. Discussions were held with Lancashire County Council and the end result was that we could keep the banners up for 12 months.



The lamppost banners were installed again in March 2015 and will remain in place for the summer months, adding colour and interest to the Square.



