



Gawsworth Gazette

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MP praises Gawsworth Hub

Celebrating the important role of community stores and local volunteers was at the top of the agenda when Macclesfield MP David Rutley recently visited Gawsworth Hub.

During the visit, David met with members of the Board including the Chairman, Neil Phillips and other local volunteers.

The visit was prompted following the launch of the Association of Convenience Stores Rural Shop Report 2024. This report outlines the difference that rural shops make as both local employers and champions of their communities.

Speaking after the visit David said, "Community stores play a vital role in village life. Gawsworth Hub goes a step further with a wide array of initiatives on offer.

I am grateful to all the many volunteers who make this possible and I hope local residents continue to actively use their services and support upcoming events."



New Conservation Area Appraisal approved

The revised Gawsworth Conservation Area has been approved by Cheshire East Council.

The Conservation Area was first designated in 1969, making it one of the earliest in the country following the Civic Amenities Act 1967. The Parish Council commissioned a review, residents were consulted and the outcome essentially confirms recommendations from 2007 for boundary changes that were accepted by the planning authority but never formalised.

The new assessment cements, in planning terms, the importance of the conservation area, complementing the Cheshire East Strategic Plan and our Neighbourhood Plan from May 2021.

The changes have been to include:

- the length of Church Lane running north from Gawsworth New Hall to the crossroads with Maggoty Lane, and the tree/hedgerow corridor either side of it;
- part of a field to the north of Oak Cottage;
- two small parcels of land north-east and north-west of New Hall Barn.

The Conservation Area Appraisal is an interesting read and includes a concise history of Gawsworth, information on our listed buildings and some rather nice photographs. You can find it in the Conservation Area part of the Cheshire East Council website.



Parish Council Report

Gawsworth Parish Council meets on the second Tuesday each month in the Village Hall. Here's a round up of the March meeting.

During public speaking time at our March meeting, a resident highlighted the need for clearer "no dog" signage for the park – two new signs are now on order. Dogs are welcome in Nancy's Wood, but not in Gawsworth Park and we request all users respect this.

One of the main items discussed at the meeting was funding an initial survey of land to support a potential extension of the churchyard. The council agreed to fund this survey. We also agreed we will work with the PCC to develop an options paper to help both the council and PCC make decisions on whether the churchyard should be extended.

The council also agreed a number of actions in relation to Gawsworth Park (see a full write

up on the next page) and agreed some repairs to Nancy's Wood paths which should take place soon. We'll be replacing the stepping stones, reinstating path edges and rebuilding the steps down to the stream which have eroded away.

The council reviewed its corporate risk register – this is something we must do annually to ensure we are effectively managing risks to the council's effective governance and finance and its reviewed by our internal auditor each year.

Finally, the council discussed the issue of the land slippage on Church Lane by the pools. Cheshire East Council will be repairing the kerbs at some point in the future, and we have written to owner of the pools requesting they repair the fencing.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 9th April at 7:30pm.



Church Congleton and there will be a talk/demonstration about fashions of the 1920's. The Spring Lunch will be at the Plough at Eaton on 22 May.

There are several trips planned for the next year. The first being to take part in Cray Golf at The Beeches at Ollerton followed by a BBQ afterwards.

In September a trip to Rudyard Lake for a boat ride and afternoon Tea and in November it is hoped there will be a trip to the Chatsworth Christmas Market.

We meet the first Tuesday of the month in the Village Hall at 7pm.

Mobile Library

The mobile library will be on Church Lane from 3:45 to 4:10 on Thursday 4th and 25th April.

Gawsworth Diary

Here's the run down of what's going on in Gawsworth in April.

Tuesday 2nd 7:30pm
Gawsworth WI @ the Village Hall

Every Thursday (exc. 18th)
Methodist Church Coffee Mornings, 10am

Saturday 6th 2pm-4pm
Repair Cafe @ Gawsworth Hub

Wednesday 10th 2pm-4pm
Knit & Knatter @ Gawsworth Hub

Wednesday 11th & 17th 2pm-4pm
Watercolour painting workshop @ Gawsworth Hub*

Monday 15th / 22nd / 29th
Gawsworth Beavers 6pm
Gawsworth Cubs 7pm

Tuesday 16th / 23rd / 30th 6pm
Girls Brigade @ Methodist Hall

Thursday 18th / 25th 7pm
Gawsworth Scouts

Saturday 20th 9:30am
Gardening Club visit to RHS Mayfield.

Thursday 18st 10am-3pm
WI Craft Group. Craft/Coffee/Chat @ St James Meeting Room

Saturday 27th 1:30pm-4:30pm
Silk painting @ Gawsworth Hub*

Saturday 27th 7pm
Village Supper and Quiz

* See Diane @ Gawsworth Hub to book.

Gawsworth WI Report

Last month's speaker was Peter Aston from the Old Sawmill project at Congleton.

Karen Peter gave an interesting and informative talk about how he came to set up the Old Sawmill and how it went on to become as popular as it is today and how it helps the local community. In March we also had a walk around the village on 19th March and the craft group met on 21st March.

The Cloud Group Spring meeting is on the 1st May at the New Life

Parish Council Report

Plans to deliver improvements to Gawsworth Park and renovate the play area were discussed at the March council meeting.

The play area was installed in 2005 and is now of an age where much of it needs replacement, the council is extremely conscious that the zip-wire is out of action and the play area is not looking its best.

This will be a major project and the first stage is identifying the available budget. An initial quote we've had for what we hope to achieve is £135k. The council has £37k set aside and some grant opportunities have been identified, but it is likely we'll have to make some decisions on what is a priority to work within the

available budget. We'll consult on options once we have them to share with the community.

Our initial aims are to replace the multi-play units, install a new zipwire and replace the roundabout and some swing seats. We would also like to add a trampoline, rope climbing unit and some imaginative play panels.

In the interim, some 'quick wins' will also be progressed. One plan is to reopen the Church Lane entrance to the park so people can directly access the community orchard - if you have any views on this please email clerk@gawsworthpc.org.uk. We will also be installing two benches in this section so visitors can enjoy the space, and we'll be looking to add some soft fruit bushes too.

On the football pitch, we plan to

Latest Planning Applications

You can view details of planning applications at: planning.cheshireeast.gov.uk

24/0940M - Maggoty Wood Cottage, Maggoty Lane
Proposed timber garage

re-align the goal posts which are (for some reason) askew. We are also looking at starting to line the pitch again, and undertaking some general pitch maintenance.

Other plans for the future include relocating the picnic tables closer to the play area, installing some gym equipment and resurfacing the path and revamping the basketball area. We'll also explore options for a shelter and creating a nature trail - these ideas will all be developed once the play area project is complete.

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News from the Hub

Throughout the school Easter Holidays, we are running a Village Trail Quiz around Gawsworth.

This is a fun activity for everyone to get some fresh air and exercise the mind and body, as you follow the trail around the village answering the quiz questions. Enjoy the sights of the village including Maggoty and Nancy's woods, Gawsworth Hall, St James Church and the Harrington Arms. Maps and quiz papers are available at the Hub for just £1. Hand your quiz paper back in at Gawsworth Hub for a sweet treat and the chance to win a prize in the draw of the completed and correct quiz sheets.

Have you ever fancied trying your hand at or improving your skills with Watercolour painting? We are lucky to have Marianne Hodgkinson of Creative Roots sharing her knowledge and helping us to create art to be proud of. We have already held a few of these classes very successfully and there are a few spaces that have come available so please book on if you're interested. It's relaxing, friendly and fun and as usual there are refreshments and delicious

homemade cakes to enjoy whilst we paint. Different topics are covered each week from floral and botanic art to landscapes, butterflies and more. The cost is £18 per session if you don't have your own materials or £16 if you do (£3 of this goes to the Hub). The next 4 sessions of Watercolour painting are on Thursday 11th April, Wednesday 17th April, Wednesday 1st May and Wednesday 15th May. Please email accounts@gawsworthhub.co.uk or alternatively pop in to the Hub and leave your details for the attention of Diane Lynch who will make contact with you.

Alternatively, why not try Silk Painting with Hazel Browne on the last Tuesday of the month from 1.30 pm till 4.30 pm. Choose from the many different designs that Hazel brings along to class. No materials or art experience are needed and each time the finished piece looks wonderful! Again, a very fun, friendly and relaxing afternoon with the added bonus of a cuppa and cake to enjoy at the same time. Next sessions are Tuesday 30th April and Tuesday 28th May, please make contact as with the Watercolour.

Hub Opening Hours

Monday	08:00 - 13:30
Tuesday	08:00 - 13:30
Wednesday	08:00 - 13:30
Thursday	08:00 - 16:00
Friday	08:00 - 16:00
Saturday	08:00 - 16:00
Sunday	08:00 - 10:30

The next Village Night out is a quiz and supper night on Saturday 27th April. Pam Rotherham is treating us to a Chilli Pasta Dish with sticky Toffee pudding or lemon Cheese cake for dessert. Tickets are now selling at the Hub for £12.50 per person. Don't miss out on getting your tickets. There will be a licenced Bar and raffle so remember to bring some cash along too. All funds raised go towards the Hub.

We have been donated equipment to set up our own Bridge club and so far, have had a few enquiries for Beginners Bridge. Please contact accounts@gawsworthhub.co.uk if you are interested, we would like to start the club in the near future.

If you have any activities that you would like to see held in the Hub or even if there is an activity or event that you would like to host in the Hub then please get in touch.

Find the Happy Place

Is the weight of the world getting you down? Well in June you can get to the Happy Place here in Gawsworth thanks to Cheshire Rural Touring Arts.

In a near dystopian future, corporations have commodified happiness into virtual reality booths called Happy Places, costing just the price of a coffee for limitless experiences.

Full of comedy, puppetry, physical theatre, and live music, follow four strangers on an extraordinary journey as they find themselves locked inside their own Happy Place. *"Profound and laugh-out-loud funny"*

The performance takes place on Sunday 9th June at 7:30pm in Gawsworth Village Hall. Adults and children 12+

Book your tickets online at: www.ticketsource.co.uk/booking/init/FDIJIIG

