

SALESBURY PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2025



Did You Know?

Salesbury Parish Council covers 489 hectares, 1200 acres or 1.8 sq. miles from the Royal Lancashire Show showground in the north to the tip of Hazel Moor in the south.

We share boundaries with 6 other parishes:

Dutton and Aughton, Bailey & Chaigley to the north, Dinckley, Wilpshire and Billington & Langho to the east and Clayton-le-Dale to the south and west.

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

Welcome to the 2025 Parish Newsletter which is aimed at giving you an insight into what your Parish Council has been doing during the past 12 months as well as containing other items of local interest.

At the annual meeting in May 2025, Mike Wood announced his decision to step down from his role as Chair. Mike has worked tirelessly in this role since 2019, and we all thank him for his time, commitment and strong leadership. He will certainly be a hard act to follow. I was honoured to be elected as the new Chair and delighted that Mike accepted the nomination and subsequent election as Vice Chair. At the beginning of November, Councillor Tim Westwell tendered his resignation. We thank him for his time and contribution to Salesbury Parish Council.

Tim's resignation means that formal notices will soon be published advertising the vacancy. If you are interested in joining us, please look out for details of how to get involved on our noticeboards and website, or contact our Clerk, Lesley.

Over the past twelve months, we have successfully completed several projects, details of which are included in this newsletter. In addition, the Parish Council has:

- renewed our policies, standing orders and financial regulations.
- delivered a free Defibrillator Training event.
- conducted a new Residents' Annual Survey in summer 2025.
- listened to residents' concerns and taken action where appropriate.
- attended the Lancashire County Council (LCC) conferences for Parish Councils, Ribble Valley Borough Council's (RVBC) Parish Council Liaison meetings and Lancashire Association of Local Council's (LALC) Area Committee meetings.
- continued to use our Lengthsman Phil to remove fallen trees, trim, help with projects and keep our culverts clear to prevent floods.
- organised our Remembrance Day Tommys and Christmas Tree displays.
- published and distributed a spring information flyer.

I was honoured to be elected to the LALC Executive earlier this year to represent the Ribble Valley Area Committee. I continue to be an active member of both the Women Councillors' Network and Micro Councils' Network. These are part of the National Association of Local Councils (NALC), who lobby Government on behalf of town and parish councils, and are a great way of keeping up to date with the sector.

Parish Councillors serve voluntarily and without compensation. As a micro council, most projects and events are organised and run by the Councillors themselves. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my fellow Councillors who give their time freely organising events, arranging Tommys and poppies and keeping Christmas Trees upright in storms! Huge thanks also to Lesley Lund; Lesley is highly qualified and excels as our Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer, ensuring the smooth, efficient, effective and legal operation of the Parish Council throughout the year.

We remain committed to equality and transparency and are here to serve all members of the community to the best of our ability. For more information about the Parish Council or our activities, please visit our website at www.salesburypc.org.uk or contact any member of the council (contact details are towards the back of the newsletter).

Maggy Howells

CCTV at Salesbury School

You may remember that we told you about our plans to fund CCTV on the car park by Salesbury School. This was needed due to anti-social behaviour taking place on the car park particularly during the evening and overnight periods. School staff and volunteer litter pickers in the village had reported drug related and other unsavoury litter for several years – not what you want in any village and especially not on a car park used by so many children. Salesbury Parish Council was very concerned about this and decided to fund two new CCTV cameras to overlook the public car park to the side of the school. After much research and discussion with experts, school and the Police, we funded the purchase and installation of a PTZ (Pan, Tilt & Zoom) and an ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition) camera. We also funded the software and costs needed to dovetail the new equipment into the school's existing security system.

The ownership and management of the equipment have now passed to Salesbury School who will also retain control of the data generated by it.



Adam Connell, School Business Manager for Salesbury Church of England Primary School wrote:

Following the installation of two new cameras, one PTZ and one ANPR, we have been able to work closely with Lancashire Police by providing them with CCTV footage and car registration plates for further investigation.

The Police have now dealt with and taken action against several individuals. The system provided by Salesbury Parish Council has made the school and surrounding area a lot safer and we are pleased to report that we are no longer having evening visitors arriving on the car park.



Thanks again to David Booth who kindly joined Maggy Howells and me on the CCTV Working Group as an advisor: his knowledge, advice and time were invaluable and very much appreciated.

Mike Wood

Annual Resident Survey Results

Salesbury Parish Council regularly seek to obtain the views of residents by holding surgeries; in Public Participation at Council meetings; and by conducting a survey. This year Janet & Maggy worked on the draft questions. After approval, the survey was designed & printed, then hand delivered to all homes in the parish.

Just 20 were returned.

Given the low response rate, quoting percentages is meaningless and data cannot be extrapolated to all 196 households, so this is just a general impression.

Everyone was happy with our communication. The website, noticeboard, leaflets and newsletters and attending meetings were all mentioned. Some people used them all. There was not a lot of support for continuing with the drop-in surgeries, and though we had a good attendance at September's council meeting most respondents said they were not inclined to attend our quarterly full Council meetings. We asked about using direct email drops as a new method of communication and more than half the respondents said, "yes please" and gave their email addresses. However, we have some work to do on GDPR before we can go ahead with this.

There was a lot of interest in protecting the common land from vehicle damage, with overwhelming support for the use of large boulders such as near the cricket club. Many respondents were keen to supporting the biodiversity within the parish, but only a couple of people offered to help with projects e.g. maintaining our new bird boxes. The commons were appreciated as a place for children to play, and as a site for our new Book Nook.

Everyone thought that the speed indicators were a really worthwhile idea as a deterrent to motorists, though a couple did say that without enforcement, they weren't especially useful. When asked for ideas for new projects, conservation, traffic, and road safety were all mentioned, including extending the footpath on Lovely Hall Lane. These ideas will be discussed at future council meetings.

Our local powers are limited, with most responsibilities lying with Ribble Valley Borough Council (RVBC) or Lancashire County Council (LCC). Usually if someone has a complaint, they are quick to make their feelings known. So, does the low response rate mean that we are doing a good enough job of spending your money?

Approximately £1.18 per person per month is the Precept which we receive from RVBC when you pay your Council Tax. Everyone thought we were doing a really good job giving excellent value for money apart from one person who said the potholes were getting bigger... but roads and bridlepaths are not in our remit. Neither is the traffic situation at Oaks Bar traffic lights, where the road to Ribchester crosses the A59. However, we can lobby LCC on your behalf. One response also mentioned that we had removed stones from the edges of the common at Copster Green. We assure you no stones have been removed by us since at least 2019!

Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete and return our survey. Your responses help shape our future actions.

I'll end by quoting one resident who said.

"Thanks for great work, the Defib, litter picks, Book Nook, boulders near the cricket club, CCTV at the school, Christmas trees, Tommy's. All great and obviously time consuming, thanks."

Chris Booth

Managing Brambles within the Parish

Managing brambles can be tricky - they're vigorous, fast-growing, and spread easily.

Whilst brambles are a great food source for many insects and animals, including humans, they do pose problems when unmanaged. Brambles spread by dropped seed (often carried far and wide by birds and small mammals) and vegetative rooting.

Careful management of bramble patches encourages a mosaic of habitats which supports more species overall whilst too much bramble cover or unmanaged brambles reduce habitat variety.

Brambles are perennial plants with biennial stems (canes). The first-year canes grow long and arching, often rooting when they touch soil. The second-year canes sprout from the initial canes and carry flowers and fruit, before dying back. If these canes are not removed after fruiting, they create dense thatches of dead vegetation.



*Dense
thickets of
brambles*



Dense bramble thickets can shade out wildflowers, grasses, and tree seedlings, leading to monocultures. Cutting back or thinning brambles lets light in, allowing a wider range of ground flora, meadow plants, and shrubs to establish, with the added benefit of producing more fruit. Brambles can smother young tree saplings, preventing natural regeneration of oak, ash, and other species. Sympathetic, planned management ensures that new woodland can establish and thrive, supporting long-term habitat resilience. Unchecked brambles make paths, and glades impassable for people and large animals, whilst cutting and controlling brambles keeps landscapes usable for walking, conservation work, and grazing. Dense bramble patches can also harbour or restrict access to invasive species such as Himalayan Balsam and Japanese Knotweed, making the control of these non-native pests even harder.

Conservation and environmental management organisations, including countryside officers at RVBC and LCC recommend that the best outcomes are achieved by rotational management over a 3–4-year cycle (cutting some patches while leaving others intact) and creating a dynamic landscape with both bramble-rich and bramble-free areas. By cutting brambles back to ground level during winter (to avoid disruption to nesting birds) the roots will create first year canes again in the next growing season.

Maggy Howells

Speed Indicator Devices (SPIDs) in Action

Many of you have raised concerns about speeding on Lovely Hall Lane and the A59. To help us get a clear picture of what's happening, the Parish Council has arranged for two SPIDs (speed indicator devices) to be used. These clever little devices record both the speed and the number of vehicles passing by.

Back in 2024, before the SPIDs could first be installed, Janet, Lesley and I worked together to get permission from Lancashire County Council's Highways team and agree on safe locations. We also made sure the lighting columns being used were inspected to ensure they were strong enough to hold the equipment.



A59 - The last lighting column in the 40mph zone prior to the national speed limit speed gate aimed at traffic heading towards Clitheroe.

The approximate locations of the lighting columns

Lovely Hall Lane - The lighting column on the Common Land in front of Homeacre/Whitecroft, aimed at traffic heading towards the A59.

Buying SPIDs outright is very costly, so we, like most local Parish Councils in this area, hire them from Altham Parish Council. They not only put the devices up and take them down again, but also collect and pass on the data for us. Each deployment currently costs £343.30 for both devices. Following your comments on the 2025 annual survey, we've agreed to have them in place twice a year during 2026 and to keep their use under review.

The SPIDs are usually left in place for around two weeks at a time, so a good amount of raw data is generated.

All the information gathered is shared with both the Police and Lancashire County Council. Please remember, the authorities will only act on speeding issues if there's robust evidence to show there's a real problem. That's why this data is so important.

To give you an idea of the traffic and speeds, the following information was captured:

Lovely Hall Lane - 30mph speed limit.

	11/09/24- 24/09/24	13/06/25-30/06/25
Total Vehicles	6918	7124
AM Peak	08:30	08:30
PM Peak	15:30	15:30
Max Speed Recorded	55mph (15/09/24 at 20:37)	65mph (18/06/25 at 12:21)
Average Speed	28.71 mph	28.57 mph

A59 - 40mph speed limit.

	11/09/24- 24/09/24	13/06/25-30/06/25
Total Vehicles	73539	68644
AM Peak	08:00	08:00
PM Peak	16:45	16:45
Max Speed Recorded	60mph (10/09/24 at 13:30)	65mph (15/06/25 at 09:00)
Average Speed	33.10 mph	32.34 mph

The data obtained from the SPIDs is very comprehensive, if you would like to explore it in greater detail, please visit our website.

Mike Wood



Save our Poppies!!!

Thanks to Maggy and local children we have had a lovely display of red and purple poppies enhancing our "Tommys" for several years now.

However, the storms last year really took their toll on the netting, so we are now looking for another band of helpers. We want to remove the poppies from the camouflage netting, repaint them if necessary, and then secure them to new netting.

You've all heard of "Knit and Natter", well anyone interested in a "Net and Natter" please contact me at cllrchrisbooth@gmail.com.

We can make it a social occasion one evening to combat the winter gloom. Thanks in advance!

Chris Booth

Editors' note – Thanks to you and your team Chris for putting our displays up again!

Wildflowers on our Common Land



Birdsfoot Trefoil

We are often asked to plant more wildflower seeds on the common land. It is important to note that currently Ribble Valley Borough Council (RVBC) are legally responsible for the management of the common land, not us. We will, however, look to work with RVBC and ecology experts to help improve diversity.

Historically, grass and wildflowers in meadows were allowed to grow, then cut in late June/July. The flower rich grass was then turned regularly over a few days whilst drying in the sun. This allowed the seeds from annual species to drop before the hay was baled and collected. These seeds then rested in the soil over winter, before growing again the following season. Modern farming techniques tend to cut and collect the grass in a single process, reducing the chances that annuals can form and drop seed. Perennials are more likely to survive either process as their roots remain untouched.



Ribwort Plantain

In order for a new wildflower meadow to become established, it is not as simple as scattering a few packets of seeds. Wildflowers must compete for nutrients and space with grasses and other species, and sadly, they often lose. Many things need to be considered and carried out to improve the odds of success.



Clay soil

Soil type – the soil in this area tends to be heavy clay based.

The name Clayton-le-Dale actually means 'Clay on The Dale'.

This means that it is not suitable for many species of wildflower, certainly not the prettier ones that you tend to see in the media.

To thrive in heavy clay, species must have deep roots, be able to cope in wet and waterlogged conditions, but also be drought resistant to survive dry summers when the clay can dry and crack.

Species - Most specialist seed suppliers recommend species such as betony, white campion, birdsfoot trefoil, yarrow, ribwort plantain, kidney vetch (woundwort), wild carrot, sorrel and red clover. Some also include poppies and ox-eye daisies for colour in the first few years. The

inclusion of yellow rattle also helps increase the odds of success as this species actively outcompetes grass.



Kidney Vetch

Preparation –to promote the successful germination of wildflower seeds, the ground needs careful preparation. This usually includes the removal of the top layer of turf and grass roots. Depending on the depth of soil remaining, it may be necessary to replace this with more topsoil. The whole area should then be raked before sowing the seeds into the bare, prepared soil.



Sorrel

Initial Management – the bare soil must be watered regularly and carefully hand weeded until the wildflowers are well established (between 1-3 years). This is when the seeds and young plants are most at risk of being eaten by birds, mice, voles and shrews. Weeding is necessary to remove competing species, particularly, nettle, dock, bramble, buttercups, dandelions, Himalayan Balsam and, in the case of our commons, tansy ragwort which is highly toxic to horses and other mammals.



*The competition...
Clockwise from top left
Himalayan Balsam
Tansy Ragwort
Common Dock
Common Stinging Nettle*

Maintenance – Whilst 'rewilding' is a commonly used phrase, this doesn't mean leaving an area to its own fate. Successful wildflower meadows are managed carefully. This normally includes planned grazing or mowing and may even call for collection, preparation and storage of seeds for resowing the following year.

Our commons are no longer grazed but mown to mimic the effects of grazing. Wildflower meadows should be mown after the seeds have formed, matured and scattered. Most wildflowers seed in early summer or autumn.



Mowing grass

Growing conditions – most wildflowers like poor soil that is not too rich in nutrients. This means that after mowing, the cut vegetation should be collected and removed from the area to prevent it from enriching the soil. Currently RVBC do not collect the grass after mowing.



Wild Yarrow

Patience –suppliers of seed mixes for clay soils warn that even successful germination will result in few or no flowers in year 1, perhaps just poppies if included, with a few more in year 2 and most flowering in year 3 onwards.

Maggy Howells

Our New Look Noticeboards



Our noticeboards (at Copster Green and in the grounds of St. Peter's) were originally installed in 2000 and were definitely looking worse for wear. We allocated some funds left over from the Book Nook project to refurbish the Copster Green noticeboard with a new custom fit pinboard estimated at a cost of around £120. To save public money, Phil & I took 'Reduce/Reuse/Recycle' to heart and managed to obtain a large pinboard that was no longer needed and have made inserts for both our noticeboards for just £5! New lettering has now been added to the Copster Green board and both boards have been treated to some new sustainable wooden pins in place of the old plastic ones.

We are hoping to collaborate with Clayton le Dale PC to replace the noticeboard at St. Peter's with a larger one, as the current one is just too small for our Minutes and legal notices. We have earmarked a grant from RVBC to cover most of this cost.

Maggy Howells

Did You Know?

There are only 196 homes within our parish of which 192 are currently inhabited (RVBC 2024/25 figures)

83% of homes are located to the north of Salesbury School with just 17% lying to the south
2.5% of homes are situated in the very northern tip near Dinckley and the River Ribble

The parish is bisected by the A59 – just 19% of homes lie north of A59 with 81% to the south

Most properties lie between the A59 and Lovely Hall – the area around Copster Green, including Albany Drive and Brown Leaves Grove accounts for 73% of all properties in the parish

2.5% of properties are 'Halls'
Lovely Hall, Bolton Hall, Higher Bolton Hall, Copster Hall and Salesbury Hall

Check the map on the front cover to see our boundaries

Welcome To The Book Nook!

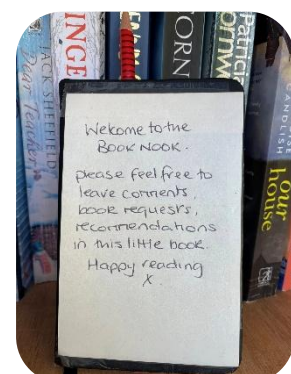
Back in the mists of time, there was a red phone box at the top of Lovely Hall Lane. When these phone boxes were made redundant, several villages repurposed them, to house a De-fib device, or a book swap for example, but unfortunately that opportunity was lost here in Salisbury.

Since lockdown, Sue Atkinson from Copster Green has hosted a well-loved book swap outside her home. Sue and the whole Parish Council have worked together to make a permanent arrangement in a more accessible position.

In my travels I photographed book swaps all over the country - some were large and magnificent, and others simply a plastic box in a bus shelter. I spoke to one woman who had a small wooden structure outside her house, and she gave me the plans, and name of the person who had fabricated it. Unfortunately, he was snowed under with work and could not help. I trawled second hand sites for a suitable cupboard with no luck.... then thought of asking locally for a handyperson to make us one.

That is how former Parish Councillor Graham Henderson became involved in the project. Thank you so much Graham for sourcing the materials and building such a sturdy waterproof cabinet. The village network found two Copster Greeners - Jeremy Wood, who made and felted the roof and Sam Keyte, an artist (samjaynedeign.co.uk) who decorated it. The paving flags needed for access were kindly donated. We are so grateful. Sue said she would continue to oversee the rotation of books - thanks Sue.

A name was chosen - the Book Nook, and a site at the bottom of Lovely Hall Lane agreed. The cabinet is now behind the Parish Council Noticeboard. This location is visible to a wider audience and might encourage more people to read our noticeboard. Phil our lengthsman, and Maggy, our Chair, gave two days of Herculean efforts levelling the ground, laying new paving stones and installing the Book Nook.



Since installation, we have noticed the Book Nook fulfilling a wider role as a community hub for help yourself produce including seeds and apples. For communications, there is now a book for requests and comments.

A very pleasing outcome for the whole community. Thanks everyone,

Chris Booth

Did you know?

Although we are a micro council, with a tiny budget, we must still operate legally, transparently and publish lots of documents. We also undergo an annual audit, just like RVBC, LCC and councils serving thousands of residents and controlling millions of pounds of public money!

The Future Management of Common Land

Currently, Ribble Valley Borough Council (RVBC) is legally responsible for the management of Salesbury and Copster Green Commons. As you will be aware, it is likely that RVBC will cease to exist when Devolution/Local Government Reorganisation takes place in Lancashire as planned.

We want to make sure that proper management plans are put in place to continue taking care of all the common land, from Hazel Moor, a Biological Heritage Site, to the areas alongside Lovely Hall Lane which are rich in ferns and saplings.

We know that future costs of managing this land will not be cheap due to the need for managed mowing and maintenance of trees and invasive species.

We will do our best to ensure this important topic is raised with higher levels of Local Government and keep you informed of the outcomes.

Maggy Howells

Salesbury Church of England Nursery and Primary School

Giving every child a chance to shine in beautiful surroundings!
Quality education for children aged 3-11
An exciting, engaging, challenging curriculum for all our children
On site wraparound care 7.45-5.45pm & holiday care for children aged three to eleven!
Exciting extra-curricular offer including sports, music, arts, outdoors and leadership!



Come and see us in action

Tuesday 21st October 2025 9:15am - 11:00am
Thursday 20th November 2025 10:00am - 11:30am
Wednesday 3rd December 2025 10:00am - 11:30am

Serving children in the Ribble Valley & Blackburn with Darwen local areas

Lights, Camera, Action!

If you were on the green on Thursday 16th October, you might have wondered about the very localised snowfall!

Our home was chosen to film part of the Christmas TV ad for the mobile phone network, EE. The house was transformed during the day, and filming took place in the evening 🌲🎉

A massive thanks for everyone's interest and support on Thursday. So many friends and neighbours came out to watch and, of course, share some food and drinks! Hopefully, you all enjoyed it as much as we did. Who would have thought that an ad lasting a minute would take so much time and take so many people! 50 crew and 20 representatives from EE observed the proceedings from a very plush gazebo in our back garden.



Seeing our home change before our eyes was incredible. I think you would all agree that the interaction with the team, their care of our green, their professionalism and friendliness couldn't be faulted. They all commented on the beautiful area that we live in and the fantastic atmosphere of friends and neighbours who watched on the night.

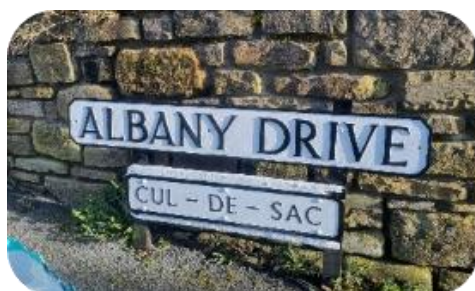
Thanks again for your support and friendship.

Keep your eyes peeled and you will spot Copster Green on TV this Christmas!

Sue Atkinson & Mike Wood

You asked...

Can you smarten up our street sign for residents & visitors?



So, we did....
One of our councillors stripped the sign back and repainted it – at no cost to residents or the council!

Boosting Biodiversity and Bird Life

In 2024 we applied for a grant to help boost biodiversity within the parish. When we were successful, we decided to use the money to create and install some birdboxes along some of the most well used footpaths in the parish along Lovely Hall Lane and by Bolton Hall and Higher Bolton Hall.

We took advice and guidance from the RSPB, the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) and Margaret Boyd, a highly experienced ornithologist who has appeared on BBC's Country File and is an ex-pupil of Salesbury School. Thanks Margaret!

After studying plans for boxes to attract varied species and where to place them, our lengthsman Phil sourced all the materials then we set to and made 40 birdboxes and 3 bat hotels over a couple of wet days. Chris and Mike then volunteered to join me, and we installed them all under Phil's supervision. Thanks to you all!



In time, we hope these will attract blackbirds, robins, wrens, blue tits, coal tits, great tits, sparrows and dunnocks. The bat hotels are designed to provide shelter for all 18 species of UK bats, particularly common pipistrelles which are often seen in the area.



Whilst we weren't expecting many, if any, to be used this season (birds can take time to get used to new boxes) we were thrilled that some birds did manage to successfully raise their chicks in our new boxes.

To avoid diseases, bird boxes need to be cleaned out each year. A big thank you to those people who responded via our survey offering to help us carry out this important task – we'll be in touch soon. If anyone else would like to join us, please contact me at cllrhowells@gmail.com

Maggy Howells

Deer on our Roads

Despite our repeated requests, Lancashire County Council are still refusing to erect Deer Warning Signs on Lovely Hall Lane and A59. They say they rely on data from the British Deer Society (BDS) to inform them of the risks. However, the BDS say "Most deer-vehicle collisions (DVC) go unreported, and this means we do not have a complete picture. More data will help us understand not only the scale of the problem, but the factors involved and also highlights hotspots where improvements could be made."



The BDS issues advice to drivers at

<https://bds.org.uk/information-advice/issues-with-deer/advice-for-drivers/#tips>

this includes being alert at peak danger times – sunset to midnight and around sunrise; driving with caution in areas like Salesbury Parish where deer are common; dimming your headlights if you spot an animal to reduce the likelihood of it 'freezing'; and being aware that deer often travel in groups, so there may be more than one crossing the road.

There are two ways you can report a DVC to the British Deer Society:

- Via email at info@bds.org.uk and include the following information: Location, Date/Time, Species and number of deer plus any other comments.
- Via the Deer Aware website form. <https://www.deeraware.com/report-incident/>

If you see a collision, or a deer by the side of the road, please do report it.

Maggy Howells

Community Clean Up

We held our second Litter Pick on 26th April 2025. Once again, I arranged for RVBC to lend us all the equipment we needed. We publicised it in School, on our noticeboards, on our website and via our Spring Flyer... but the only people who turned up to help were Parish Councillors...and our relatives! Fortunately, there was very little litter this year!



I would like to say that the lack of litter was due to people (especially those passing through in cars) getting the message and taking their litter home. But this is not the case. For the lack of litter, we have a small number of local people to thank for taking pride in clearing up their neighbourhood. They will tell you that most of the litter is food and drink related, especially from

takeaways, which is thrown out of car windows. A huge THANK YOU to all these dedicated litter pickers - you know who you are!

If anyone else would like to do their bit, the Parish Council has hi-vis jackets, and long handled pickers which can be borrowed by contacting any of us.

Chris Booth

BLUEBELLS AT RISK

I'm sure that I am not the only one to appreciate what a beautiful area we live in. We have an interesting landscape with well signposted walks and gorgeous flora and fauna to look at. There are also three very well-used paths going through the woodland on either side of Lovely Hall Lane. These were created by the Parish Council around 25 years ago, as opposed to them being historical rights of way.

Our lengthsmen keeps the drains and paths clear, and birdboxes have been attached to trees. We noticed in the spring, that people were straying from the paths, with some young people even removing plants, damaging young trees and digging holes and jumps to make a bike track on the land near Ashes Farm. Concerned that this would damage the emerging wildflowers - especially our native English Bluebells, we put up these notices: -

You may not notice us yet, but with protection, if you



KEEP TO THE PATH, by May we could look like this.



Sadly, someone thought it a good idea to remove the notices... but we persisted and replaced them. The Bluebells survived, but they were fewer in number and less widespread. Please bear in mind the damage which can be done by trampling vegetation. The same applies to Hazel Moor, up near the Church.

Come April next year, if anyone wants to see a fabulous display of English Bluebells which are not on a public path, email me, and I will show you where they are.

cllrchrisbooth@gmail.com

Chris Booth

Native Bluebell	Hybrid Bluebell	Spanish Bluebell
Leaf width 7 - 10 mm	10 - 30 mm	20 - 35 mm
Stem Droops to one side	Slightly curved	Upright
Flowers Scented	Slight Scent	No scent
Deep violet blue	Dark blue/pink/white	Dark blue/pink/white
Pollen Pale cream	Pale blue	Dark blue

Can you spot the differences between native English, Spanish and hybrid bluebells?

Defibrillator Training

When we installed our first Automated External Defibrillator (AED) back in 2020 we organised and funded free training sessions to enable residents to learn how to use these vital devices in an emergency.

Following the deployment of the Memorial Hall's Defibrillator in December 2024, several residents asked us to put on some more training. We held two AED training sessions at Salesbury Memorial Hall in May that were free to attend.



We are incredibly grateful to Chris and Carolyn Goodwin for running this training for us. Both spent many years working as paramedics and Chris now provides training to emergency responders, health professionals, businesses and the public.

Over 25 people, from teenagers to seniors took part and had a great night. Everyone went home with new skills and feeling more confident that they would know how to respond in an emergency.

We are more than happy to repeat this training if there is demand – if you think you would benefit and like to take part, please contact our Clerk, Lesley. Children are welcome to learn with us as long as an adult accompanies them.

If you haven't had chance to do a training, please don't worry. As Chris says, in an emergency relax, take a deep breath and listen... the device tells you what to do and won't do the casualty any harm.

Maggy Howells

Did you know?

Salesbury Parish has a population of approximately 403 (2021)
with an average age of just under 45 years old.

20% of us are under 18 whilst 33% are over 60yrs.

15% of the population are students in full time education and
83% are registered electors.

98% of households own at least one vehicle.

Councillors make up just 1% of the population!

(Statistics from 2021 census www.nomisweb.co.uk)

What's On at The Memorial Hall

Salesbury Memorial on Ribchester Road has a full programme of events for all ages.

Regular events include:

KT Fitness
Helen Carter Pilates
Wreath making and floral art classes with Sarah Kilbride
Yoga with Judith Tomlinson
Ladies & Mixed badminton
Harmony Singing Group
St. Peter's Mothers' Union
Ribble Creative Stitchers
Ballroom Dancing (weekly and monthly)
Train Time East Lancashire (November & December)
Weekly Post Office
Parish Council Meetings

From January 2026 new activities will also include:

Wilpshire Lunch Club
Can Do Kids



Thanks to the SAFE campaign, the Memorial Hall now has improved access and car parking. It also boasts a fabulous main hall, supported by a well-equipped, modern kitchen that can be hired for parties, activities and functions. There are also two smaller committee rooms upstairs that are perfect for meetings.

For more information and bookings go to
<https://www.salesburymemorialhall.com>
(photos courtesy of Salesbury Memorial Hall Website)

**Salesbury Parish Council will hold its next meetings at
the Memorial Hall on**

Monday 24th November 2025 at 7pm

Monday 23rd February 2026 at 7pm

We hope to see you there!

Helpful Links

Andys Man Club

Andy's man Club is a men's suicide prevention charity, offering free to attend peer-to-peer support groups across the United Kingdom and online. Their aim is to end the stigma surrounding men's mental health and help men through the power of conversation. All groups are free of charge, completely confidential and free of any judgement – you can simply turn up and talk as much or as little as you want with no pressure. The nearest club to Salesbury is held at Blackburn Rovers FC on Mondays at 7pm, but there is an online option if you can't make that.

<https://andysmanclub.co.uk> **#ITSOKAYTALK**

Carers Link Lancashire

Carers Link Lancashire is an independent registered charity whose aim is to support unpaid carers across the boroughs of East Lancashire. They support both adult and young carers who care for friends and loved ones with a wide range of illnesses and conditions. Carers Link can help you access support, training, benefits, respite care and care assessments. They also help you look after yourself as well as those you care for by providing you with breaks and social activities with others in similar situations.

<https://carerslinklancashire.co.uk> or call 01254 387444

Homewise

Providing practical help & advice throughout the Ribble valley, Hyndburn & Rossendale to enable people to remain in their own homes independently. Services include home improvements, repairs, handyperson services for small jobs, home safety, falls prevention and affordable warmth for over 65yr olds.

<https://homewiseonline.org> or call 01254 232249

Citizens Advice

Citizens' Advice hold an outreach service for the Ribble Valley in Clitheroe on the 2nd and 4th Friday of the month. Check if you need to book an appointment if you wish to visit in person.

Address – Trinity, Wesleyan Row, Clitheroe BB7 2JY

How to get support - Call on 08082787975 or

Visit the website - www.cael.org.uk

Lancashire Skills & Employment Hub

Offering skills training, apprenticeships, job advice and opportunities to adults, school leavers and graduates throughout the county.

<https://www.lancashireskillshub.co.uk/>

Lancashire Volunteer Partnership

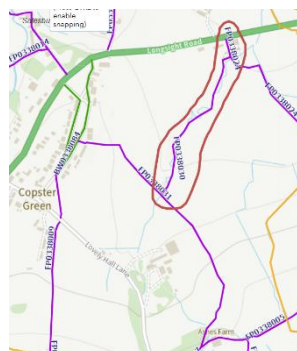
For people who would like to offer their time and skills to help others. Also useful for those looking for help or befriending services.

<https://lancsvp.org.uk/>

Re-opening of FP30 from Bridge south of Lovely Hall to Sykes Farm

Since Covid, we have surveyed all 31 Public Rights of Way (PROWs) within the parish to make sure they are well signed and accessible. We have also replaced marker signs and trimmed overgrown vegetation. We discovered that FP30 from Sykes Farm to the footbridge between Ashes Farm and Copster Green was found to be impassable due to movement of the brook and the stile being buried deep within a holly tree.

Before



FP0338030

After



Many regular walkers in the area could not remember when this path was last usable. Maggy took on the task of getting this route reopened. Despite many setbacks over many, many months, she eventually succeeded in facilitating the PROW officers at LCC and the landowner, The Huntroyde Estate to work together to finally get the PROW reopened. Two stiles have now been replaced and new duckboards built across particularly muddy areas. We would like to thank all involved, and especially David & Helen, the tenant farmers for their help in restoring this public route.



Mike Wood

ESSENTIAL CONTACTS

Salesbury Parish Council

The current Councillors are:

Chris Booth	email: cllrchrisbooth@gmail.com
Maggy Howells (Chair)	email: cllrhowells@gmail.com
Janet Westwell	email: cllrjanetwestwell@gmail.com
Mike Wood (Vice Chair)	email: cllrwood@gmail.com

We now have one Vacant Seat. This will be advertised on the noticeboards and website soon. Please contact Lesley (below) for further details.

Parish Clerk:

Lesley Lund email: clerk@salesburypc.org.uk

Website: <http://www.salesburypc.org.uk/>

Meetings are held in public at Salesbury Memorial Hall

Ribble Valley Borough Council

For services including bin collections, licensing, planning, environmental health, fly tipping, local countryside, mowing, sport and tourism. The website also has details of local support groups.

Address: Council Offices, Church Walk, Clitheroe. BB7 2RA

Tel: 01200 425111

Website: <https://www.ribblevalley.gov.uk/>

Borough Councillor: Louise Edge (cllr.louise.edge@ribblevalley.gov.uk)

Here's a link to RVBC Autumn/Winter Newsletter 2025

<https://www.ribblevalley.gov.uk/downloads/file/4752/autumn-winter-2025>

Lancashire County Council

For services including footpaths, roads & highways, gritting, education, social services, libraries, travel passes and household recycling centres.

Address: County Hall, Fishergate, Preston. PR1 8XJ

Tel: 0300 123 6701

Website: <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/>

County Councillor: Steve Atkinson (stephen.atkinson@lancashire.gov.uk)

Member of Parliament

Maya Ellis MP, Labour MP for Ribble Valley

Address: Houses of Parliament, Westminster, London SW1A 0AA, UK

Email: maya.ellis.casework@parliament.uk

Tel: 01254 964055

Website: <https://www.mayaellis.co.uk/>

Look who moved in!!!

A very friendly, juvenile kestrel and its parents took up residence near the Copster Green commons in late spring and summer!

After a few tiffs with the local magpies, they took to watching the children playing - especially when a good game of football was on the go!



Photo credit to Harry Bridge - thanks for sharing these fabulous shots!



Editors' Notes

Thank you for reading our newsletter – we hope you enjoyed it.

Thanks also to those councillors and residents who have taken the time to draft articles and provide photographs, it is hugely appreciated.

Finally, thanks to staff at RVBC for printing our newsletter.

We have tried our best to ensure that all information is correct at time of publication.

If you would like to submit an article for inclusion in next year's newsletter, especially if you are a member of a local group or club then we'd love to hear from you!

Lesley Lund & Maggy Howells