

EUXTON PARISH COUNCIL

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT A PARISH COUNCIL

A Parish Council is a body of eligible volunteer Councillors with a Chairman and Vice Chairman. The number of Councillors is reviewed by The Boundary Committee for England which is a committee of The Electoral Commission for England - Euxton has 18 Councillors.

The Parish of Euxton is divided into 3 wards - North East, North West and South, served by a total of 18 parish councillors.

The population of Euxton, taken from the 2011 census was 9,993, but this has grown and now may be up to 14,000 people.

The electorate for the village is 10,335 as at May'21 – these are residents of 18 years and over who are registered on the voters role here.

Euxton covers an acreage of 2,915, which is 1,177 hectares.

There were, at the last count, 6,108 (May'21) occupied properties in Euxton, so a full total would be higher and is constantly rising due to the building and completing of new homes in the village.

The village is split by wards, as below.

Euxton North West (Runshaw Lane both sides, Greenside estate, Firbank and Brookside north of Chapel Brook, Cedar and surrounding Avenues, all Wigan Road from Packsaddle Bridge to Chapel Brook, School Lane, Euxton Lane to the crossroads with Pear Tree Lane, Cherryfields and the Canonswood estate). Euxton North West has 8 Parish Councillors.

Euxton North East (Whinney and Pear Tree Lanes, Buckshaw Village to the roundabout at Main Street, Euxton Lane from the crossroads with Pear Tree Lane to Badgers Walk and Brook House Grove). Euxton North East has 2 Parish Councillors.

Euxton South (Dawbers Lane, all properties off Wigan Road which are south of Chapel Brook, Balshaw Lane and the two estates each side, Church Walk and Casterton). Euxton South has 8 Parish Councillors.

The whole Council is subject to an election every 4 years approx., the last being in May 2018, the next will be 2022 whereupon the parish representation will change following a Chorley electoral boundary review which was finalised in March 2019. The warding arrangements for the village will change from 3 wards called North, North East and South to **Buckshaw Village, North & East** and **South** having respectively 5, 11 & 2 Councillors – still amounting to 18 Councillors.

The Parish Council obtains its funding from the local element of residents' council tax which is listed separately on residents bills.

The Council is a body and is distinct from its members (either as individuals or collectively) and its' acts, assets and liabilities are its own and not those of its members.

Councillors are volunteers and as such receive no payment. They give their time freely to attend meetings. There are programmed full council meetings which are held one each month, on the third Thursday beginning at 7.15 pm (except August and December).

The Parish Council depends on its members being able to make time to attend the meetings and there is a clause within the Standing Orders which sets a limit to the number of consecutive meetings you may miss before being replaced. *(Standing Orders are the rules a Parish Council adhere to besides The National Code of Local Government Conduct)*

Besides the full Council meetings there may be other meetings such as Extra Ordinary or Committee meetings.

The business of the Council is managed by the Clerk (an employee of the Council). The Clerk is not a Councillor and does not make decisions for the Council but does advise of developments, law, requirements etc. The Clerk manages the Council business such as financial matters, employee supervision, minutes, meeting arrangements, paperwork, agendas, notice boards, continuous projects, council assets, emergency repairs, equipment, supplies, land etc.

The Parish Council is responsible for the amenities it provides such as its own seats, notice boards, open space, play areas etc. Responsibility for other items such as public footpaths, street lighting, litter bins etc lie with the Borough or County Councils.

The Parish Council has input into matters which effect the village such as planning applications, these are controlled by the planning authority, which is Chorley Borough Council. The Parish is informed of planning applications and decisions and asked for its comments or recommendation.

The Parish Council is not party political. It is solely involved in issues, items and developments for the benefit of the village and its residents.

All decisions are decided by vote. Each Councillor has one vote with the Chairman of the Council having one vote, but also one casting vote, if needed.