

# Heaton-with-Oxcliffe Parish Council Newsletter

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## 'Good things come to those who wait!'

**WELCOME** to the sixth issue of the Heaton-with-Oxcliffe Parish Council Newsletter!



Residents in the Grosvenor Park area of the Parish will be aware that the play area is now over a quarter of a century old, and it is starting to show its age! In the last year or so residents have, understandably, brought to the Council's attention a number of issues regarding the poor state of the site generally and the four pieces of play equipment in particular.

The Council has recognised that the Play Area is in need of replacement and have been working closely with Lancaster City Council to obtain tenders for a design and build contract to provide a safe play area suitable for a range of ages. The planned project seeks to include installation of modern fixed equipment, safety surfacing, picnic tables, benches, pathways, and landscaping.



The Council were very pleased to receive three different but good quality designs—such as the one shown above. Members are keen that residents, including local children, have a say in how your Play Area is developed and you are **invited to a special meeting of the Council to be held on Wednesday 11th January 2017** where all the proposed plans and associated documents will be available. Council Members and the Parish Clerk will be on hand to hear your views together with a Public Realm Officer from the City Council. After this meeting and having considered residents comments, Members will make a decision on our preferred tender and will take steps to secure available funding and complete the project during 2017.





## Connecting People

National Grid and North West Connections are currently consulting on a major project to link the planned Moorside nuclear power station in Cumbria into the electricity network. The connection will be 102 miles long, running from Harker Substation near Carlisle to the new nuclear power at Moorside, Egmont, onwards to Barrow-in-Furness and then under Morecambe Bay to culminate at a new substation at Middleton! The whole project is

expected to cost around £2.8 billion!

A number of consultation events have already taken place at various venues along the 102 mile stretch, including two at Heysham Library. The consultation period opened for a ten week period from **28th October 2016 to 6th January 2017**. The Council has received detailed plans, maps and supporting documents that are available to view on request to the Clerk. Information can also be picked up from various points across the district, such as Customer Service Centres at both Lancaster and Morecambe Town Halls or at the North West Connections website: <http://www.northwestcoastconnections.com/bgo/meetingreports.asp>



This consultation is your opportunity to have your say. Comments can be submitted online at the above website or by completing a feedback form from one of the information points and sending to FREEPOST NG NWCC. The Council is also being consulted and will be happy to listen to your comments.

After the consultation closes on 6th January 2017, all the feedback received will be reviewed and used to shape the proposals before a final application for development consent is made to the Planning Inspectorate. This is anticipated to be some time in 2017 with, subject to approval, the construction on the new connection starting in 2019 so that it is finished and ready to export electricity generated from the Moorside Power Station by 2024.

## The Bay Gateway

Another major project that will not have escaped your attention was the recent completion of the Heysham to M6 Link Road, or the Bay Gateway as it is now known, which was officially opened on 31st October. At the time it was the largest road construction project in England at a cost of £126M and now provides a much needed direct connection to the Heysham and Morecambe peninsula to a reconfigured Junction 34 of the M6.

You will be already experiencing the positive impact that the Bay Gateway is having on traffic flow in our local area as well as improving access to Heysham Port and the surrounding area. Lancashire County Council are currently developing measures that are intended to ensure that the benefits of the new link road are felt across the wider Lancaster area. A key priority in relation to this is a HGV Strategy that will introduce proposals to make Traffic Regulation Orders prohibiting HGVs from roads forming part of the A6 in central Lancaster and along A589 Morecambe - within our local area. The Council will be keeping a keen eye on progress and will take every opportunity to provide feedback on the proposals. Details of the draft strategy can be found at: <http://council.lancashire.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=8962>. Please contact the Clerk if you wish to comment on anything contained within this issue of our Newsletter or any other matters that you wish to share with the Council. Alternatively, why not attend one of the council's monthly meetings held every second Wednesday from 7pm at Grosvenor Park School. We would love to hear from you!

