

The Melling Leaflet

AUTUMN 2026



Please take a free copy



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Melling Residents Community Association
69 Waddicar Lane, Melling L31 1DQ
0151 546 3876

Activities include:

Pensioners Tuesday Club

Thursday Bingo Night

Tai Chi (Beginners & Advanced)

Saturday Morning.

Social Events as Advertised

All Sky & BT Sports televised on Big Screens



Editors Notes

Dear Readers,

I'd like to start by saying thank you for all your support within our community. I cannot believe we are half way through the year already, where has it gone?

We have had some really good sunny days and it's been nice to see you all enjoying the sun and walking your lovely dogs around our community. We do, however, continue to experience problems relating to dog mess and litter generally within our village. We are looking for ways to address these issues and would welcome your views. We would also like to give our warm thanks to residents volunteering their time to keep Melling clean and tidy and also to the Melling Knitters and Melling in Bloom volunteers for everything they do to improve our village.

Finally, if there is any content you would like us to consider adding to the leaflet such as poems, recipes or local stories and information please get in touch at the following email address leaflet@mellingparishcouncil.uk and we will be happy to include this if we can, so until next time please take care.

Kind regards, Linda Ashburner - Chairman of Melling Parish Council

Holy Rosary Services

Since the retirement of Fr. Des, services that were held at St. Mary's Aughton, will now be held at Holy Rosary Church, Altway, Old Roan, Aintree. L10 2LG, by Msgr. Philip Inch.

Service Times

Saturday 6pm

Sunday 10.30am



POETRY

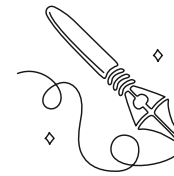
Our Village (original)

Where fields are green and waterways flow,
Friendship helps our village grow.
Through every season, come what may,
Neighbours brighten every day.
With open hearts and time to share,
We show each other that we care.
For home is more than where we start;
It's people who make Melling's heart.

QUIZ

1. What year did the Titanic sink?
2. Which country has the most islands in the world?
3. Who was the first president of the United States?
4. What is the longest river in the world?
5. Who discovered penicillin?
6. What gas do plants absorb from the atmosphere?
7. What is the tallest type of grass?
8. What part of the brain controls memory?
9. What is the process by which plants make their food?
10. What is the highest grossing movie of all time?
11. What is the name of Harry Potter's pet owl?
12. What is the best selling book of all time?
13. In which sport would you perform a slam dunk?
14. Which chess piece can only move diagonally?
15. Who holds the record for the most goals scored in international football?

Answers on page 11.



POETRY

Leisure

by William Henry Davies

What is this life if, full of care,
We have no time to stand and stare.
No time to stand beneath the boughs
And stare as long as sheep or cows.
No time to see, when woods we pass,
Where squirrels hide their nuts in grass.
No time to see, in broad daylight,
Streams full of stars, like skies at night.
No time to turn at Beauty's glance,
And watch her feet, how they can dance.
No time to wait till her mouth can
Enrich that smile her eyes began.
A poor life this if, full of care,
We have no time to stand and stare.



Reading: Is it Losing Popularity?

I began reading books as a child, I have memories of my mother taking me and my brother and sister to the village library. We were always excited about how many books we could borrow with our library ticket.

I was brought up in a small village in the Yorkshire dales, in winter it was very bleak and evenings were spent by the coal fire reading or playing board games. Until we got a small black and white tv and then we had more choice of recreation.

My first memories of reading were books like *Black Beauty*, *The Secret Seven*, *The Famous Five* and lots of other Enid Blyton books. I have a lifelong hobby of reading books.

Research tells us that reading isn't dying but changing, apparently half of adults don't read regularly. It is suggested that social media and digital burn out may have caused an overall drop in casual reading.

Audio books and eBooks are surging in popularity as people adapt to a faster paced lifestyle. BookTok is a large sub community on TikTok where avid readers, influencers and authors share books, recommendations and reviews and promote themselves. Writers and readers put on reviews.

Classic literature has made a comeback, captivating a new generation of readers enjoying novels like *Wuthering Heights* and *The Picture of Dorian Grey*.

Past reading habits seem to have changed from quiet consumption of a good book to more screen-based reading. Due to digital distractions people may multi-task rather than engage in concentrated long form reading. Audiobooks, podcasts and digital reading have become popular.

Because of changes in society and the wide range of ways people can access information, reading a good book doesn't always fit with different lifestyles.

Although, there is nothing more relaxing than reading a good book and escaping from the world

Sue Ledgerton



What's On

Afternoon Teas at the Tithebarn

Every Thursday, 12 til 2pm.

Tea, coffee, sandwiches and cakes.

All welcome.

No charge but donations welcome.

Melling Youth Club (MYC)

Melling Youth Club is held on *Wednesdays 18:30 to 20:30* in Caunce Hall (Scout Hall), Waddicar Lane, Melling. Youths in Year 7, and those aged up to 17 years are welcome to come and join us to make use of the facilities MYC have.

Scouts Groups at Melling Scout Hall

Squirrels	Age 4-6	Tuesday 5.45 – 6.30
Beavers	Age 6-8	Tuesday 6.45 – 7.45
Cubs	Age 8-10	Friday 6.30 – 8.00
Scouts	Age 10-14	Friday 8.15 – 10.00
Explorers	Age 14-17	Friday 8.15 – 10.00

Pensioners Club

Every Tuesday afternoon
at the Ratepayers (MRCA)

MELLING PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF
MELLING PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON 9th JUNE 2026 AT MELLING PRIMARY SCHOOL, WHEELER DRIVE, MELLING

Present: Cllrs: Rogers (in the chair), Baker, Devine, Harrison, Luckett and Todd.

- 3471:** **Apologies for absence.**
Cllrs Ashburner and Ledgerton.
RESOLVED that Cllr Ashburner and Cllr Ledgerton's absences at this meeting are authorised and approved pursuant to section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972.
- 3472:** **Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 12th May 2026.**
RESOLVED that the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 12th May 2026 be approved as a correct record.
- 3473:** **Declarations of interest** - Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Melling Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.
None.
- 3474:** **Public participation.**
None.
- 3475:** **Casual vacancies.**
RESOLVED that the casual vacancies be noted.
- 3476:** **Melling leaflet update.**
Members received an update from the clerk about the next edition of the leaflet which is due for publication in August.
- 3477:** **Litter picking.**
Cllr Harrison has been litter picking on Waddicar Lane and noted the extent of the litter in that area.
Maghull TC and Aintree PC had both advised that they are not in a position to provide litter picking services in Melling.
There had been a positive response from the Sefton street lighting team to placing keep Britain tidy campaign material on lamp posts subject to confirmation of the size of the posters.
Cllrs agreed to look into the campaigns available and select any they wished to propose were taken forward.
Litter picking to be a standing agenda item.

- 3478:** **Grant applications.**
RESOLVED that the grant application received from Melling in Bloom for the sum of £600 for the maintenance of the village green be approved
- 3479:** **Reports of meetings.**
Cllrs Baker and Todd reported on attendance at the Aintree Village Parish Council's meeting to discuss the 345 bus service with a representative from Liverpool City Region at which it was noted that LCR are taking control over bus services generally but this is being rolled out in St Helens first and then moving to Sefton around July 2027.
- 3480:** **Correspondence.**
Cllr Rogers confirmed that the Ratepayers has been booked for the community event on 18th October 2026.
- 3481:** **Planning Applications.**
RESOLVED that the applications in the schedule circulated be noted.
- 3482:** **Chain of office.**
RESOLVED that a budget of up to £1,250 excluding vat be approved for repairs, cleaning and engraving to the chain and repairs to the storage case.
- 3483:** **Banking services.**
This item was deferred to the next meeting.
- 3484:** **Accounts paid and for payment.**
RESOLVED that the amounts listed on the schedule be paid.

J Farrar – Clerk to the Council.

Melling Parish Council currently has vacancies for new Parish Councillors. If you are interested in doing something positive for your community and would like to apply for one of these positions please register your interest with the clerk by email to: clerk@mellingparishcouncil.gov.uk

MELLING PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF
MELLING PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON 14th JULY 2026 AT MELLING PRIMARY SCHOOL, WHEELER DRIVE, MELLING

Present: Cllrs: Ashburner (in the chair), Baker, Devine, Ledgerton, Lockett, Rogers and Todd.

3485: Apologies for absence.

Cllr Harrison.

RESOLVED that Cllr Harrison's absences at this meeting are authorised and approved pursuant to section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972.

3486: Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 7th June 2026.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 7th June 2026 be approved as a correct record.

3487: Declarations of interest - Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Melling Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.
None.

3488: Public participation.

None.

3489: Casual vacancies.

RESOLVED that the casual vacancies be noted.

3490: Melling leaflet update.

Members received an update from the clerk about the next edition of the leaflet which is due for publication in September.

3491: Litter picking.

Cllr Devine reported on a meeting with a local wombles group and advised that they would be happy to come along to a meeting to share details of their work.
Dog fouling was noted to be an ongoing issue and costings for dog poo bag dispensers and the purchase of an information campaign from Keep Britain Tidy will be costed for the next meeting.

3492: Bench in Rainbow Park.

The clerk reported on correspondence with Sefton Ward Cllr Sam Hinde regarding the previous unsuccessful request from the Parish Council to place a bench in Rainbow Park to see if this can now be actioned. The Parish Council's offer to pay for the bench was repeated and Cllr Hinde has responded to say that enquiries are still being made.

3493: Overgrown hedges.

It was confirmed that the overgrown state of the hedges along Waddicar Lane has been reported to Sefton.

3494: Community event.

RESOLVED that:

1. The date and time of the event were confirmed as 1-4pm on Sunday 18th October 2026 at the Ratepayers with Cllr Rogers confirming that the venue was booked;
2. Each Cllr will choose a member of the community to receive an award of recognition and provide an overview of the reasons for their selection;
3. Each Cllr will select one former parish councillor to receive an invitation to the event;
4. Cllr Lockett has confirmed that the ukulele group will provide entertainment at the event and a donation to the group of £50 was approved;
5. Cllr Lockett will make available a pa system to enable the award presentations to be made; and
6. Costs will be obtained from Melling Fish Bar for the provision of a hot buffet for the event.

3495: Reports of meetings.

None.

3496: Correspondence.

Cllr Todd reported on blocked drains on Prescott Road and will take photos if this happens again and report it to Sefton.

Cllr Baker has contacted Sefton regarding the road surface on Wheeler Drive which is being broken up by buses.

The clerk reported on a couple of queries from residents regarding the upkeep of the churchyard who have been signposted to the church warden.

3497: Planning Applications.

RESOLVED that the applications in the schedule circulated be noted.

3498: Banking services.

RESOLVED that the current banking services were suitable and should be continued.

3499: Accounts paid and for payment.

RESOLVED that the amounts listed on the schedule be paid.

J Farrar – Clerk to the Council.

★ Local Information

Melling In Bloom rely on volunteers, they give away their spare time to make our village a nicer place but sometimes there's not enough people power on the ground to do even the watering tasks! Never mind the hard work!!

Could you give a little of your time to help keep Melling Blooming? Perhaps to water a flower planter near you or to get the kids involved with the planting when it is time? If time is thin and you'd still like to support, you can show your thanks and make contributions here:

Melling In Bloom
Sort Code: 20-10-84
Acc Number 03831701

We really are grateful for all their efforts!

The old building of St Kentigans on Waddicar Lane is now **Melling Community Church** aka **The Hub**. They have various activities on through the week including Sunday service. All are welcome.

- **Monday** – Melling Community Gospel Choir practice at 7.30pm
- **Tuesday** – Hobby Hut at 10am
- **1st Tuesday in the month** – Communion and Prayer Meeting at 7.30pm
- **Wednesday** – Toast Wednesday 10am (collection for the food bank). Mini Makers at 6.30pm
- **3rd Thursday of every month** is 'Shoot' photography club at 7.15pm
- **Sunday worship** – quiet reflective service at 9.30am. Informal service with coffee, chat, music and thought for the day at 10.30am

To find out more information please go to their website at www.mbch.co.uk

The local **Tithebarn** is available to hire for parties and events. All enquiries to the Tithebarn Committee at mellingtithebarn@outlook.com

There are weekly classes at the Tithebarn. **Dance** is on Wednesdays at 7pm to 8pm and **Jilly's Yoga** is on Thursdays from 6.45pm to 8.15pm.

Melling Ratepayers is available to hire for private functions. All Sky and BT sports televised on big screens. Social events as advertised.

To find out more contact them on 0151 5463676

They also have a weekly **bingo** on Thursday nights at 8pm and **Tai Chi** every Saturday 11.30am – 12.30pm.

Melling Tithebarn

Melling Tithebarn Committee are looking for new members to join them. If you would like to make a difference to the community, are interested in volunteering at events and have some good ideas for events, to find out when the next meeting is, please contact them on: mellingtithebarn@outlook.com

If you would like to advertise or contribute to the content in the **Melling Leaflet**, then please email us at: leaflet@mellingparishcouncil.uk



Simple recipes taken from a leaflet created by the people of Melling.

Carrot & Orange Soup

1 medium onion (chopped)
2 ozs butter
1lb diced carrots
1 ¾ pints chicken stock
Juice of 1 ½ oranges
4 fl ozs single cream
Grated rind of 1 orange
Salt & pepper

Melt butter in large pan and gently fry the onion until softened
add the diced carrots and chicken stock and bring to the boil.

Simmer for 20 minutes until vegetables are tender.

Remove from heat and puree in blender or processor.

Return to pan add orange juice and rind and single cream.

Season to taste.

Heat WITHOUT boiling.

Alternatively swirl the cream on when serving

Broccoli & Carrot Quiche

Line a 7" or 8" flan case with short crust pastry.

Filling: pre-cooked broccoli spears and fingers of pre-cooked carrots.

Arrange in alternative colours to fill flan.

Beat 3 med size eggs in jug add salt & pepper to taste and make
up to ¾ pint (15 fluid oz) with milk.

Pour over flan – not too full- leave room for rising during cooking.

Cook in moderate oven 180 degree Celsius for 35 mins or until
golden on top and firm to touch.

Delicious served hot as main course or cold with salad – nice in
a picnic hamper as well. You could use any left over veg and add
slices of tomato or mushroom for variation.

Lunch/Afternoon Tea at the Tithebarn in Melling

The Tithebarn is a hub of activity every Thursday between
12pm and 2pm. Lunch, consisting of a hot meal, sandwiches
and home-made cakes are served by like-minded volunteers.

This was created by Sandra Luckett and the Tithebarn
Committee who four years ago, opened up the Tithebarn
for people to socialise and have a cup of tea and a biscuit.

Since then, it has gone from strength to strength, serving
hot food and cakes for people who enjoy socialising.

All are welcome.

The team ask for donations to assist in
purchasing the food required.

The volunteers give their time to ensure all the people
have an enjoyable lunch. They ensure that Melling
remains the village atmosphere we all enjoy.

It is amazing what this group of individuals give their time
and effort to do for those who enjoy the weekly lunch, which
gives people a break and an opportunity to meet new friends.

QUIZ ANSWERS

- | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| 1. 1912 | 6. Carbon dioxide | 12. The Bible |
| 2. Sweden | 7. Bamboo | 13. Basketball |
| 3. George Washington | 8. The hippocampus | 14. Bishop |
| 4. The Nile river | 9. Photosynthesis | 15. Christiano Ronaldo |
| 5. Alexander Fleming | 10. Avatar (2009) | |
| | 11. Hedwig | |



KIDS CORNER



1. What are the four countries that make up the United Kingdom?
2. What colour are double-decker buses in London?
3. Which flower is the national emblem of England?
4. What is the official currency used in the UK?
5. What is the name of the big clock tower next to the Houses of Parliament in London?
6. Which animal is the national symbol of Scotland?
7. What is the capital city of Northern Ireland?
8. Which famous wizard with a lightning bolt scar goes to Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry?
9. What is the highest mountain in the UK?
10. Which vegetable is the national flower of Wales?
(Hint: It's not a standard flower!)



Animal Jokes

- What do you call a bear with no teeth?
A gummy bear!
- What do you call a sleeping bull?
A bulldozer!
- Why do bees have sticky hair?
Because they use honeycombs!
- What do you call a dinosaur with bad eyesight?
Do-you-think-he-saw-us!

ANSWERS 1. England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland 2. Red 3. The rose
4. The Pound Sterling (GBP) 5. Elizabeth Tower (commonly called Big Ben) 6. The unicorn
7. Belfast 8. Harry Potter 9. Ben Nevis 10. The daffodil (the leek is also a Welsh symbol!)

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Melling Parish Council **Community Event**

Melling Parish Council is holding a Community Event

between 1pm and 4pm

on Sunday 18th October 2026

at Melling Ratepayers Club,
Coronation Hall, Waddicar Lane,
Melling, L31 1DG.

If you are a community group or resident
and would like to attend this event
please get in touch with us by email to:
clerk@mellingparishcouncil.gov.uk

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