PRESS RELEASE

19 July 2018

Wish for the return of St Laurence's Church clock face

CHORLEY Council is hoping to make contact with the people who donated a stone clock face to Astley Hall in 1983, which originally belonged to St Laurence's Church.

Astley Hall Museum and Art Gallery has recently been approached by St Laurence's Church with a request to return the stone clock dial which once formed part of the tower there.

If it is returned, it could form part of a permanent display in the grounds of the church and assist in telling the history of one of Chorley's important buildings.

Councillor Peter Wilson, Deputy Leader of Chorley Council said: "The clock face is a very historic artefact and would make a positive addition to the collection at St Laurence's.

"St Laurence's Church has the oldest foundations in Chorley and many people would like to see the clock face displayed in the location it was originally intended for.

"It is important that every effort is made to contact the donor of the clock face so we can run the plans by them, and anybody with any information should get in contact with us."

It is understood that the clock face was stored at a previous Church Warden's home. When the house was sold, the decision was made to donate the object to Astley Hall in 1983.

In order for Chorley Council to return the object to St Laurence's Church, they are required to formally remove the object from Astley Hall's collection.

We would like to hear from the donor by Monday 20 August 2018 so that they can be involved in the process.

Please call 01257 515151 or email <u>astley.hall@chorley.gov.uk</u> for further information.