



One Voice

Latest News from Kirkburton Parish Council

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Winter 2011

Council's 60th Civic Service in Lepton



On Sunday 18th September the Council celebrated its 60th Civic Service, which was held at Lepton Parish Church and attended by present and past Councillors, guests from other Parish Councils, the staff and local residents. The West Yorkshire Fire Service Band led a procession from the Lepton village square up to the Parish Church, where the service was led by Rev Anita Raggett. Cllr Sharon Dunford, the Chairman, would like to thank everyone who took part in this event. The collection was divided between the Church and Parkinson's UK, which is this year's Chairman's Charity. *Photo above: Everyone assembled in preparation for the procession. Mr Earnshaw is pictured wearing his past Chairman's medal to the right of the Chairman.*

Changes to the Grant Rules

The Council continues to provide a significant number of grants to community groups across the Parish, and because of this some of the rules covering the supporting documentation have had to be changed. Full details of the new rules are contained within the forms, available from the website, or on request from the office.

Mr Geoffrey Earnshaw

Members of the Parish Council were saddened to hear of the recent death of former Parish Council Chairman, Geoffrey Earnshaw. As well as being a long-serving member of the Parish Council and the Urban District Council, Mr Earnshaw also played a very active role in the community being a founder member both of the Shepley Conservative Association and the Shepley Evergreens. He was also an active member of the British Legion.

Mr Earnshaw was Parish Council Chairman twice in 1977 and 1987. We will all miss him and send our sincere condolences to Mr Earnshaw's family.

Staff Changes

Over the summer we were sad to see the retirement of Sandra Harling, who has been with the Council for 7½ years. Her enthusiasm for the work and her expertise in the areas of both HR and archaeology will be missed, but we hope that she will keep in contact with us and that the links which have been forged between the Council and the Huddersfield Archaeology Society will continue. Cllrs had a collection and presented her with an evening bag & shawl and Thornton's chocolate.

At the same time, we have been pleased to welcome Rachel Perry, who has taken up a new role in the Council. She is very experienced and previously worked at Huddersfield University in the International Office. As well as fulfilling the usual administrative tasks, Rachel runs many of the Council projects. When she is qualified she will take over from the Clerk on the Environment Committee.



Drainage Improvements at Grange Moor Allotments

The Council runs two sets of allotments, one at Shepley and one at Grange Moor. The Grange Moor allotments are adjacent to the main Wakefield Road and have been suffering from serious flooding problems during the winter months. The Council has engaged contractors to eliminate this problem, by creating ditches to allow the water to drain away. The work has recently been completed



and hopefully the allotment holders have not been inconvenienced too much and will have flourishing vegetable plots next season. We would like to thank the tenants for their patience and the contractor for all his work. The Council is keenly interested in the local environment and considers thriving allotments as part of its long term plans.

Action to reduce Dog Fouling: A new Working Party has been set up with the aim of reducing the amount of dog fouling, which is a nuisance and health hazard affecting all areas of the Parish. We hope to work with Kirklees to provide waste bag dispensers in the worst affected areas and will also be running a publicity campaign to draw attention to the issue. If you have any ideas where you think a dispenser would be useful or have any other suggestions of how we could improve the situation, please let Rachel know. All ideas will be considered.



Meetings: Council: 5th January, 2nd February and 1st March at 7.30 pm.

Council (Planning/GP): 19th January, 16th February and 15th March at 7.30 pm.

Environment Committee: 19th January and 15th March at 8.00 pm.

All the meetings will be at Highburton Village Hall. Agendas can be emailed to individuals on request.

A full meeting schedule can be downloaded from the website.

All meetings have a public participation session & the full meeting is open to the public.

Christmas trees

As in previous years, the Parish Council has provided 9 Christmas trees across the Parish with a 10th being funded by Kirklees. Hopefully these are adding to the Christmas spirit and in many villages they form the focus of Christmas celebrations. We are hoping to consult the villagers of Lascelles Hall about providing a living Christmas tree for their community next year. We see this as a more sustainable option, which will hopefully give a year on year benefit to the community. If you are a Lascelles Hall resident, please let us know what you think.



Kirkheaton Churchyard

As many of the residents of Kirkheaton will know, the Parish Council looks after the majority of the churchyard at St. John's Parish Church. Over the past few years we have been running a maintenance programme to address outstanding issues with walls, paths and trees. We have recently completed the repair of a section of the boundary wall in the older section of the churchyard and also repaired/re-laid the small wall and adjacent path within the churchyard (*pictured left*). In the Spring we hope to repair the base of the Colne Bridge Memorial, erected in the memory of the 17 children, who died in the Atkinson's factory fire at Colne Bridge in 1818.



We would like to thank everyone involved, including the congregation for their co-operation when the work was being carried out, and particular thanks go to the contractor for such outstanding work. We hope the people who visit the churchyard are as pleased with work as we are. We have already received thanks and compliments from the Rector on behalf of the Church.

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@KirkburtonPC

Hashtag: #kirkparish

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CONTACT DETAILS**

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2 Vacancies

Kirkheaton

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Pamela Brook Tel: 07502169413

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Keiron Dunn Tel: 317718

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Robert Barraclough Tel: 664826

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Andrew Cooper Tel: 667519 or
07721 3448619

Email: andrew.cooper@kirklees.gov.uk

Grants News

The next Grants Committee Meeting is in February. Community Project & Start-Up grant applications with full supporting documentation need to be with the Council by 3rd February to be considered.

Small Grants Approved: A total of £11,918 has been conditionally approved. The list is available in the committee minutes on the website and applicants will be notified individually of their award in January. *Members of Shepley Badminton Club are pictured below, just one of the 60 applicants.*



Community Project Grants Awarded:

- Lepton Highlanders: £3,400 towards drainage solutions.
- Kirkheaton Parish Centre Committee: £5,240 towards improvements to the building.
- Thurstonland Cricket Club: £1,500 towards a new cricket pitch.
- Kirkheaton Scouts & Guides: £2,500 towards replacement windows at the HQ.

Would you like to stand for the Council?

There are currently 3 vacancies on the Council: 2 in Kirkburton and 1 in Shepley. We were sorry to have to accept resignations from Roger Beaumont, Amanda Shaw and Vanda White, but we wish them all well in the future. If you are interested in standing in one of the seats, please contact either Kirklees Electoral Services in Holmfirth Tel: 222400 or the Clerk, for further information. Requests for an election must be received by the Returning Officer by 23rd December 2011.