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Flockton Green Working Men's Club calls time on clock bought to commemorate lads returning from fighting in World War One

Barrie Beaumont has his



Clock restored at Flockton Green Working Mens Club on Barnsley Road in Flockton - Barrie Beaumont (right) who wound the previous clock for many years with Cllr. Maureen Pitts, Kirkburton Parish Council Chairman Steve Beresford, Club Secretary Harry Marsden and member Jimmy Pezlar.

A man who has wound up a village clock for more than 40 years is finally calling time.

Barrie Beaumont, 73, said the Flockton Green Working Men's Club clock was originally purchased to commemorate the lads coming home from the end of World War One.

And with the centenary of the outbreak of the Great War looming it seemed appropriate to repair the clock which was installed by public subscription in honour of those lads from Flockton who fought and died.

Earlier this year Kirkburton Parish Council agreed to give £3,675 towards the cost of repairs which were carried out by Smith of Derby – bespoke clock makers for more than 150 years.

Barrie, who has been a member of the club's committee since 1961, said: "It was discovered that the clock needed a little bit of tender care and the clock maintenance people said it needed major repairs.

"There were two options, the least expensive was to simply repair it but the more sophisticated option was to modernise it so it didn't need winding any more and that was the one they went for.

"There were two parts to winding it – the striking part of the clock needed to be wound twice a week while the clock movements would last for a fortnight."

He admitted it did feel a "little strange" when he wound it up for the last time.

Club secretary Harry Marsden said: "Over the years we have had many compliments about the clock from people driving through the village and praising its excellent time-keeping.

"The clock worked very well for years and years but inevitably time has finally taken its toll on the many parts inside so we have had to replace almost everything internally and there are bigger hands.

"We have had to keep calling out the repairers for maintenance and thankfully it is on contract otherwise it would have cost us a fortune.

"Sadly though we have lost the chimes so I have written to Smith about that. It has all been modernised and if the electricity goes off it restarts itself as well."

And he praised Barrie's contributions saying they "don't make them like him any more."

Cllr Steve Beresford, chairman of the council, which handed out more than £10,000 in grants to community groups in March, said: "It's great to be able to give a hand to so many of the many voluntary organisations in the parish."

