



KIRKBURTON PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT 2010 – 2011



KIRKBURTON PARISH COUNCIL

Contact Details:

Burton Village Hall
Northfield Lane
Highburton
Huddersfield HD8 0QT

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Angela Royle
Clerk to the Council



Sandra Harling
Administrative Assistant

Meetings:

Parish Council meetings are normally held on the first Thursday of each month, except for May. Council meetings dealing with planning and general purpose issues are normally held on the third Thursday of each month (except for May, August and sometimes December). Committee meetings are called as and when required. A meeting timetable is posted on the website and noticeboards, space permitting. It can also be obtained from the Clerk on request. Agendas are also available – there is an electronic mailing list, and they can also be viewed on all the noticeboards, at the libraries, at Shelley & Burton Village Halls and at Flockton & Grange Moor post offices. Minutes are at the libraries and posted on the website. All documents can be requested from the Clerk.

Meetings are usually held at Burton Village Hall at 7.30 pm, with a public participation session early in the meeting when members of the public are invited to address the Council on any issue over which it has a power, and in the case of committees, is within its remit.

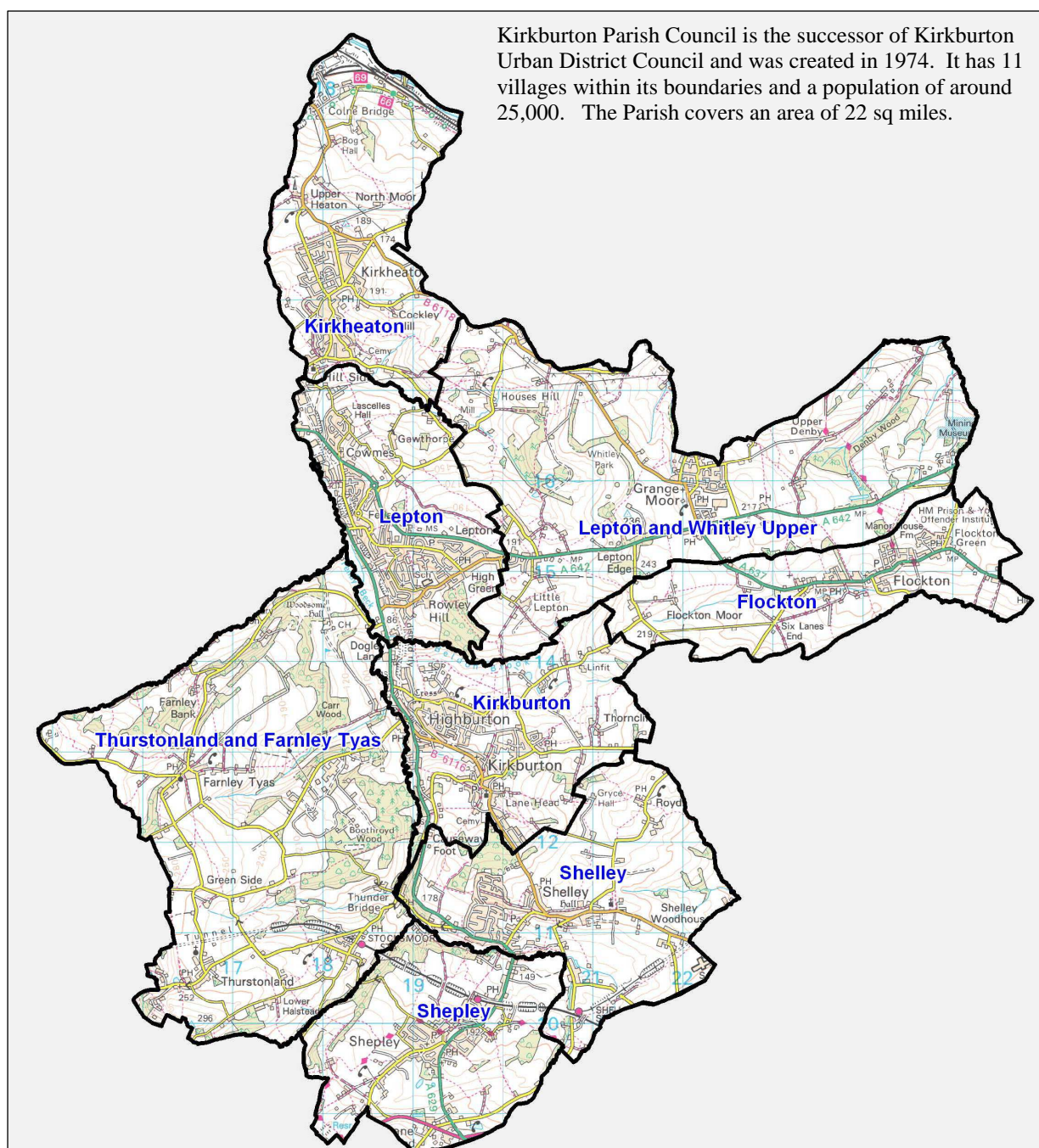
Members of the public are welcome to attend all of the Council and Committee meetings, except where it is notified that a particular item of business is exempt under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

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Chairman's Overview of the Year



For me, this year has been a year of consolidation and the final coming together of a number of major projects that have taken some time to complete.

- We are at last in the process of completing the sale of Shelley Village Hall on a leasehold basis to the Shelley Community Association. After many months of negotiation, I am delighted to report that I am confident that we should be able to complete the transaction quite soon.
- The much needed extra work on Kirkheaton Churchyard is well in hand, with necessary tree surgery already completed in the Spring. The maintenance of the footpath and further works to the boundary wall are just awaiting a Faculty agreement from the Diocese, so we hope to see the work completed over the summer.
- The Council undertook two sets of improvement work at Grange Moor allotments with extra plots having been made available and all taken up; plus additional work to improve the drainage and top soil is ongoing. I must mention the hard work and many hours of their own time put in by Councillors Paxton, Barraclough and Whittingham on this project.
- The final touches to our new website are just being finalised and a Beta version should be live quite soon. I must give our sincere thanks and gratitude to Mr Adrian Royle (the Clerk's Husband) who not only built the current one, but has also hosted and maintained it at his own expense since 2004. We are in his debt.
- We have been pleased to add reciprocal links to and from various community and other not-for-profit organisations on the existing website. This helps to improve the flow of communication and information. If your group is not already represented and you would like to be included, please contact the Clerk, who will be most happy to oblige.

Also this year, we have seen the whole Council continue to work together as one team and not as groups of political parties just scoring points, as in previous Councils. I must praise my predecessors for all the hard work they put in to make this happen. I just hope the new Council continues this trend, as a lot more good work for the community can be done more efficiently and enjoyably for all.

We reduced the precept by £5,000 over the previous year, whilst increasing our support for the parish community, at a time when local funding is needed even more. Our Community Project Grants are at their highest level ever.

We had a most successful and enjoyable day at the Honley Show last summer, where we shared a stand with our colleagues from Holme Valley Parish Council. It was a fabulously sunny day and I was able to meet and talk about the Council and what we do with many members of our community who came to visit us, as well as comparing notes with our colleagues from the Holme Valley.





We had a second very successful Environment Fayre in September. It was a pleasure to welcome the Mayor of Kirklees, Cllr Andrew Palfreeman, who graciously agreed to open the event and who visited all the stalls. Another welcome visitor was our new MP, Simon Reeve. My thanks to Cllr Michelle Atkinson, Chairman of the Environment Committee, and her team, who put it all together.



I was also delighted to be able to hold my Civic Service at the beautiful St John's Church in Lepton. The day was wonderful. We were blessed with fine weather, honoured again with the presence of the Mayor of Kirklees and the Mayors and Chairmen of all our fellow Town and Parish Councils and their consorts. We were entertained royally by the Emley Brass Band, both before and after the service and the whole event was managed brilliantly by our new vicar, the lovely Rev'd Anita Raggett, to whom I will be forever grateful. I must also make a special and sincere thank you to the Lepton Music Group who led the singing during the service and for the beautiful piece they performed during the service.

I would like to welcome the residents from the section of Thurstonland, which was brought back into the fold, following the boundary changes last May. I hope that now the whole village is in the same Parish Council, things will run a lot more smoothly and simply for them.

At the conclusion of this 4-year Parish Council term, I must pay tribute and give my thanks to the other Councillors, who have worked so tirelessly and hard over the term, with particular thanks to those who are standing down this time. I would also like to thank them all for electing me as their Chairman for this final year. It has been both an honour and a humbling experience.

One special mention must be to Cllr Richard Burton, who has worked so hard behind the scenes as Line Manager during this Council. The role has taken up a great deal of his personal time in the day to day management of the staff on our behalf. His work has resulted in a rising of the Council's standards regarding employment issues.

A sincere vote of thanks must also be given to Cllr Lin Holroyd, who throughout the Council has produced and edited the Council's quarterly newsletter, One Voice. An onerous task, which she has executed with her usual good humour and efficiency.

And, I could not possibly finish this report, without saying a big public thank you to the Parish Council's Administrative Assistant, Sandra Harling, who is retiring at the end of June. Sandra has been with the Council for 7½ years and will be missed. However, I am sure we will see her on the odd occasion in the public gallery, making sure the next Council behaves. Thank you, on behalf of everyone for all your hard work and dedication.

Cllr John Hirst
Chairman 2010-11



Summary of the Council's Activities and Decisions

Finance

Summary of Accounts 2010-11	£
Precept (Parish Council portion of Council tax)	122,000
Allotment Rents	316
Refund of VAT	3,723
Shelley Village Hall Rent	4,500
Other	6,163
Total Income	
General Running Costs:	37,956
Administration including authorised travel costs, employment, insurance, office equipment, postage, stationery, telephone/internet.	
Rent and VAT (to be reclaimed in full)	6,685
Civic Governance:	6,655
Audit, conferences, chains of office, civic functions*, elections, legal/professional advice and fees, meetings, Quality status, subscriptions, training. *Includes donations made by public collection.	
Public Information:	1,359
Advertisements, annual report, newsletter, noticeboards, Honley Show	
Grants:	73,105
Annual small grants to 55 non-profit organisations within the Parish; community projects, environment, emergency and special grants.	
Village Projects:	20,733
Allotments	3,939
Christmas trees, hanging baskets (for 2 years) and poppy wreaths.	12,120
Environment Projects inc environment fayre, public seats, sunflower competition, etc	1,659
Kirkheaton Churchyard	1,957
Shelley Village Hall	1,073
Total Expenditure:	146,493
Funds for agreed projects currently in progress:	68,722
General Reserve:	25,760

The general reserve figure is at the lower end of the range legally required to be maintained by Parish Councils under the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2007. The full accounts can be viewed on the website.

Community Projects	£
Farnley Tyas Bowling Club - Towards roof repairs	6,000
Shepley Cricket Club - Portion paid out of this year's funds towards the refurbishment.	422
Shepley Bowling Club - Towards costs of new electrical cables	2,800
Grange Moor Pre-School - Help with costs for essential new equipment.	7,000
Rowley Lane Pre-School - Towards costs of new canopy and equipment	7,000
Stocksmoor Village Hall Management Committee - Contribution towards improvements	2,000
National Coal Mining Museum - Towards the "Making Sense of Mining" Project	1,000
Denby Dale Centre - Assistance with the purchase price of The Hub in Kirkburton	3,250
Yetton Together - To cover printing costs connected with the village plan.	1,572
Thurstonsland Cricket Club – Towards costs of improving disabled access.	3,000
Lascelles Hall Cricket Club - Contribution towards the rebuilding costs following the recent fire.	*5,000
Kirklees Children & Young People's Service - To pay for an extra evening at Lepton Youth Club	*5,773
Lepton Community Link - Contribution to the new commemorative bench.	1,250
* These grants are included in the Council's Allocated Reserves, as they were paid out after the year-end.	
Total:	£46,067

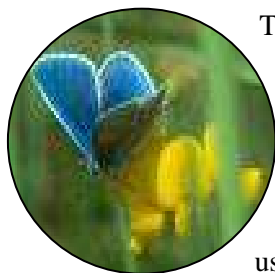
Small & Emergency Grants Awarded 2010-11

Flockton	£			£
Flockton Cricket Club	475		Shelley Bridge Club	100
Flockton Football Club	480		Shelley Junior Football	250
Flockton Green WMC	200		Shelley Over 60's Club	250
Flockton Youth Group	250		Shelley PCC	200
Grange Moor			Shelley Scout Group	250
Grange Moor Brass Band	745		Shepley	
Kirkburton			Shepley Badminton Club	250
All Hallows Church	200		Shepley Band	200
Burton Out of School Club	250		Shepley Bird & Wildlife Group	250
Denby Dale Centre	750		Shepley Bowling Club	200
Highburton Playgroup	250		Shepley Bowling Club	750
Kirkburton Business Association	200		Shepley Croquet Club	250
Kirkburton Football Club	599		Shepley Football Club	250
Kirkburton Pre-School	250		Shepley Good Companions	200
Kirkburton Senior Citizens Support Group	250		Shepley & District Naturalists Society	200
Kirkheaton			Shepley Spring Festival	250
44th Huddersfield (Kirkheaton) Cubs	250		Shepley Tennis Club	250
119th Huddersfield (Kirkheaton) Guides	250		Shepley Village Association	250
119th Huddersfield (Kirkheaton) Brownies	250		Shepley Women's Institute	250
119th Huddersfield (Kirkheaton) Rainbows	250		Thurstonland/Farnley Tyas	
Kirkheaton PCC	200		Farnley Tyas Community Group	250
Kirkheaton Senior Citizens Club	200		Farnley Tyas Community Group	750
Lepton			Farnley Tyas PCC	200
Lepton Highlanders Junior Football Club	150		Stocksmoor Toddler Group	250
Lepton PCC	200		Stocksmoor Village Hall	250
Lepton Pilots	250		Stocksmoor Women's Institute	250
Lepton Luncheon Club	250		Thurstonland Rainbows	200
Shelley			Thurstonland & Stocksmoor Out of School	250
Far Bank Playgroup	250		Thurstonland Cricket Club	750
Friends of Shelley Music Centre	296		Thurstonland PCC	200
Pierrot Players Amateur Dramatic Society	250		Thurstonland Village Association	350
10th Pennine East Rainbows	100			
Scissett Youth Band	247			
			TOTAL	16,592

In total, £16,592 was awarded in annual small grants & emergency grants. The individual payments are listed above, which were used to finance a whole range of different activities across the whole spectrum of ages and interests. Community organisations are invited to apply for small grants in the autumn each year and are entitled to £250 every year. It can be taken in larger amounts so long as the total awarded over any three consecutive years does not exceed £750. Forms become available in September and must be returned with the financial information by the last Friday in October. Churches are awarded £200 to contribute towards the maintenance of the church clock subject to receipt of a completed form by the October deadline. Each community organisation is also entitled to apply for up to £750 in emergency grant funding. Full details of how to apply are available on request and from the website.

The various photographs throughout this report show the range of projects which have been funded, and serve to inform groups of the kinds of things the Parish Council supports.

The Environment



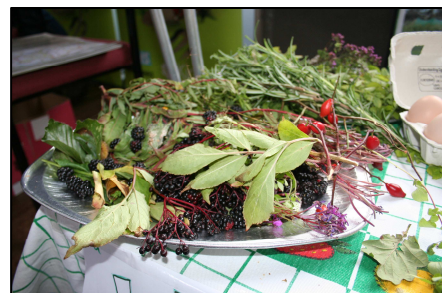
The Environment Committee continued to develop the Environment Plan and build on the work carried out over the previous 3 years of this term of office. As well as awarding environment grants to community organisations with a range of interesting and worthwhile projects, it also involved a continuation of the kind of work so well established during this term of office. Members worked with Kirklees officers in the Countryside and Environment Units – Mr Neil Windett, the Countryside Unit Manager is a valued co-opted member of the Committee. He attends most meetings and provides members with lots of useful information on all kinds of related subjects. His colleague, Mr Andy Wickham, attended one meeting and gave a most interesting presentation on the work of the Countryside Unit and his role within the Unit. Details on environment projects taking place in the Parish were highlighted. Other co-optees include Kate Woolley, a local interested resident and Tim Scott, who represents both Kirkburton & Highburton Community Association and the Kirkburton & District Civic Society.

The Committee decided to repeat the school sunflower competition and the Environment Fayre, with equally pleasing results. Thanks are due to Cllr Paxton and Cllr Holroyd who along with Sandra Harling, were responsible for sorting out all the equipment needed by each school, and sharing the delivery of the items with Cllr Atkinson. Where it fitted in with the school, Cllr Atkinson gave presentations to school children highlighting to them the importance of sunflowers and the all-important seeds as well as talking in more general terms of the environment and the children's role in safeguarding it for the future.

We are most grateful to Jonathan Walker, owner of the Colne Valley Garden Centre, who donated some of the equipment and sold the rest at a reduced price. He also gave up his time on a busy Saturday to act as judge, carefully measuring each entry as the children arrived, eagerly clutching their sunflowers and desperately hoping theirs was the winning entry.



The Environment Fayre took place alongside the competition judging. The Hub was a hive of activity as various community groups, the local Police, Kirklees officers, the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, White Rose Forest, Walkers Are Welcome, the Energy Saving Trust, to name but a few, all turned up with stands and all manner of items and information to populate the Hub, alongside the Council's own information and photographs, which had been prepared by Angela Royle and Cllr Michelle Atkinson. There were also details on allotments and growing vegetables together with samples of the real thing! Caro Ward provided children's craft activities on the theme, and refreshments were kindly provided by volunteers from the Denby Dale Centre, who owns the Hub. The building



itself had been suitably decorated by Cllr Atkinson and others with wildflowers, leaves, herbs, wild fruits having the effect of really bringing nature into the Hub that morning.



The day was run by the Councillors, who enjoyed meeting their residents, young and old alike. We were most grateful to Cllr Palfreeman, Mayor of Kirklees, for opening the event and to our MP, Simon Reeve, for also turning out and contributing to the success of the day. Thanks are also due to Ian Lumb, who provided lots of wonderful photos of the event and also to CV Graphics for the printing.



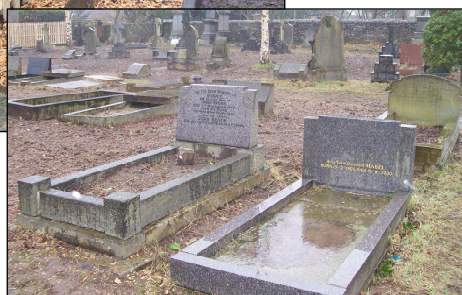
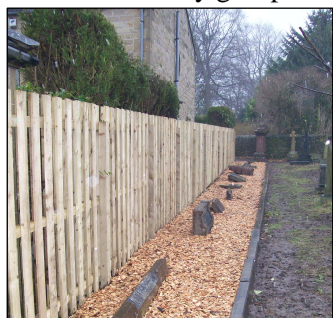
The level of grant funding awarded to groups increased, partly due to people becoming more aware of the possibilities of applying for them, as the individual Councillors further developed their relations with groups within their areas.

How Was the Environment Budget Spent?	£
• Farnley Tyas Community Group - Trees for the recreation ground	250
• Shelley First School - Contribution to willow tepee in the school garden	50
• Highburton Playgroup - Water butt for the sensory garden at Burton Village Hall	50
• Shepley Methodist Church – Co-funding the refurbishment of the graveyard	844
• Farnley Tyas Community Group - new picnic tables & seating for recreation ground.	240
• Shelley College to create a community pond dipping facility	2,340
• KHCA (Burton Environment Group) Towards the costs of new walkways and information boards at Burton Dean Community Field Trailways.	3,100
• KHCA (Burton Environment Group) Towards the costs of producing & installing a plaque to go over the Christmas tree socket at Highburton Cross, to enable the resiting of the litter bin to a less conspicuous location. This grant is subject to various conditions and has not yet been paid out, so it is not included on the summary of accounts on Page 6.	620
• KHCA (Burton Environment Group) To cover the insurance premium to enable the volunteers to carry out the outdoor tasks.	297
• Thurstonland Village Association: Grant for picnic furniture	1,803
• Sunflower Competition / Environment Fayre	770
• Subscriptions to CPRE, Milestone Society, Rural Action Yorkshire and some additional hanging baskets for next year.	691
Total Spent:	£11,055

Working Together

The Council has continued its tradition of working alongside other organisations and its partners, including the other 4 Parish/Town Councils in Kirklees, various different departments and officers at Kirklees Council, Metro, EPIP (Leader Programme). The Council is grateful to officers and members of all these organisations, for the help and support it has received during this term of office. We also value associations with all of the community groups in the Parish such as Lepton Link, Kirkheaton PCC, Shelley Community Association and

many other community groups throughout the whole of the Parish, most of whom are in regular contact with the Council & the local Councillors, which has led to benefits to the villages and their residents. Thank you to all of you who have contributed in some way to the well being of the Parish and its villages. Projects such as those which were organised by the community groups at Thurstonland and Farnley Tyas and supported with community grants (included in the list) also involved Kirklees officers working alongside the group representatives and local Parish Councillors, proving that teamwork definitely is the best way forward.



Also at Shepley, the Council contributed towards the costs of a restoration project at the Methodist Church, for which EPIP was the major funder. The graveyard was overgrown with paths undulating with potholes and debris. A number of tree stumps were removed and a significant amount of broken stone was also taken away, fencing at one end of the graveyard was replaced. A seating area will be provided and new planting has taken place. The Reverend Ben Chambers, who was involved in the founding of both Everton and Liverpool Football Clubs, is buried here.



Work on the Parish Walks project also continues by Cllrs on the Kirkburton Walkers Are Welcome Sub-Committee working with EPIP's officers to develop this very complex project on 10 walks, including benches, milestones & finger posts. Full details can be seen on the website www.kirkburtonparishwalks.co.uk



Digitization of the Council's records was another project which benefitted from 100% funding from EPIP. Although the Parish Council only goes back to 1974, some of the records in the office are much older, eg there are the old auction papers dated around 1919 covering the sale of the land at Shepley, some of which is now the Council's allotments. We also have photographs and various other documents relating to charity foundations, as well as the minutes from the Parish Council and other Council documents. These are now all on a hard drive. It may be possible to put them up on a website in the future so they will be more easily accessible by the public, if funding can be found for the project. Documents which are lodged at the Wakefield Public Records Office are due to be assessed in terms of interest to the public. It is hoped to have at least some of those digitised during the course of the coming year. If you have any interest in any particular type of document, it would be helpful if you could let us know, and we will bear your comments in mind.

Letter received from Lepton Highlanders Junior Football Club

Dear Mrs Royle

Thank you for your kind donation. The money will be used to provide teams with new equipment such as balls and kit for the next season.

Lepton Highlanders Girls have had a very successful season with trophies being won by the Under 10's, Under 12's – Leopards and Under 17's girl's teams and we hope to enjoy another successful season next year. For the Highlanders Girls it is not just about winning matches but also about making new friends and strengthening the girl's characters through cohesive teamwork.

We also support our girls in their progression through football and are hoping to be able to use some of your funding to assist one of our girls in completing a referee course. This will be a wonderful opportunity for both this individual and the club community as a whole to see young talented players take their football onto the next level.

Without your support none of this would be possible so please accept our gratitude for your continued support and we hope that you agree that we are an excellent representative for the Kirkburton Parish Council Community.

Yours sincerely

Michaela Prince
Girls Section Secretary



The Council continues to assess most planning applications in the area in terms of impact on our area, and submits comments to Planning Services where appropriate. If there are any of particular interest to you, with which you would like the Council's assistance – either to support or oppose, please do get in touch with us, and we will help if we can. Plan lists are sent to the 4 libraries in the Parish and are available for viewing on the Kirklees' website: www.kirklees.gov.uk They are also put up at Burton Village Hall.

Equally, the Council is conscious of its role in being the voice of its residents and makes representation to Kirklees and other agencies on a number of issues, such as transport, highways, parking, and on any other subject, which may arise from time to time. Again, please let us know if we can help in any way.

What Do You Think?

Our work is focussed in the main on the Aims & Objectives – a copy is available for download from the website, or could be sent out to you on request. But we are working for you – what do you want us to do? Is there any area which you feel the Council is missing and needs to be addressed? Do let us know. We are now a new Council and will shortly be looking to put together plans for the future. Make sure we know what you want from *your* Parish Council before we take decisions. Equally, the budget for next year will be set in the autumn, so if you have any views on our spending plans, areas where you think we should and should not be spending money, let us know. We may not be able to do exactly as you ask for a number of reasons, but we will consider all views received.

Parish Councillors' Contact Details 2010-11

Flockton

Lin Holroyd , Jimmy Paxton, 7 Park Side, Flockton, Wakefield. WF4 4AD Tel: 01924 848445

Kirkburton

Michelle Atkinson	7 Dob Royd, Shepley, Huddersfield HD8 8AU smichelleatkinson@hotmail.com	01484 609588
Derek Hardcastle	The Manse, 95 Penistone Road, Fenay Bridge, Huddersfield. HD8 0LF derek.hardcastle@kirklees.gov.uk	07779 628147
John Heward, Geof Hickey and Brian Moreton		

Kirkheaton

Keiron Dunn	31 The Paddock, Kirkheaton, Huddersfield. HD5 0ER ron.leith@ntlworld.com	317718
Alison Munro	27 Penistone Road, Fenay Bridge, Huddersfield HD8 0QP alisonquarmby@netcsape.net	323045
Eric Hutchinson and Peter Rock		

Lepton

Richard Burton	12 Woodland Avenue, Lepton, HD8 0HZ richardajburton@googlemail.com	316492
Peter Cunningham	67a Highgate Avenue, Lepton HD8 0EE p.s.cunnington@gmail.com	602499
Sharon Dunford	106 Rowley Lane, Lepton, Huddersfield. HD8 0EH sharon.dunford@yahoo.com	07792 930758
John Hirst	5 Sycamore Close, Lepton, Huddersfield. HD8 0EP Jhirst8@hotmail.com	324065

Lepton and Whitley Upper

Adrian Cruden

Cassandra Whittingham	32 Bedford Avenue, Grange Moor, Wakefield. WF4 4EL casswhittingham@googlemail.com	07813 184469
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Shelley

Helen Barraclough	35 Park Avenue, Shelley, Huddersfield. HD8 8JY hebclough@googlemail.com	07979 646092
Malcolm MacDonald		

Shepley

Adrian Murphy

Mark Sykes	50 Marsh Lane, Shepley, Huddersfield. HD8 8AP masykes@btinternet.com	602212
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Thurstonland/Farnley Tyas

Robert Barraclough	17 The Village, Farnley Tyas, Huddersfield. HD4 6UG r.barraclough@btinternet.com	664826 07778315577
Andrew Cooper	76 Brockholes Lane, Brockholes, Holmfirth. HD9 7EB andrew.cooper@kirklees.gov.uk	667519 07721 348619

The Councillors listed above are those who were in office during the year under review (2010-11) and the contact details are included for those who are still on the Council. For contact details of the newly-elected Councillors, please see the website and the June newsletter. The noticeboards are also currently being updated with these details.

Below the photos are (from left to right): Stockmoor Women's Institute visit to the Hornsea Rescue Service, Farnley Tyas Community Group's Christmas event & Lepton Highlanders JFC Under 7's team.



Selection of Projects and Groups, which have benefitted from Parish Council Grants



Here are photos of just a few of the Groups who have been supported by the Council. Clockwise from the top: Easter Lunch for Time Out in Highburton, Kirkburton Annual Tea, party time for the Thurstonland & Stocksmoor Toddlers at Stocksmoor Village Hall, Opening of the MUGA at Rowley Lane School in Lepton, the Lepton Leopards – winners of the West Riding Shield, and members of the Stocksmoor Twinning Association enjoying a farewell meal with their Italian guests.