



One Voice

Latest News from Kirkburton Parish Council

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June 2011

New Year and New Start for the Council

May saw the Annual Meeting marking the start of this new 4-year term of office. Cllr Sharon Dunford and Cllr Richard Burton were elected as Chairman and Vice Chairman (*Photo shows Cllr Dunford presenting Cllr Burton with his Vice Chairman's medallion*). Cllr Dunford was first elected to Council in 2007 and was proud to be the first Chairman this term. "I'm so pleased that all the Councillors who stood for re-election were returned by the electorate. This speaks volumes about how the communities have seen our achievements over the last four years and is the best accolade that we could have had. I'm sure that we all look forward to serving our communities in the best possible way over the next four years." She encouraged the public to be in contact if they had any ideas for particular projects in the future and was sure that the new Councillors would join in supporting the communities.



Thank You to all the Councillors who retired at the last elections. This included 3 past Chairmen and several members who had served the Council for 8 years or more. Those still in office offered their gratitude to all of them for their contributions over many years. Cllr Dunford said, "We all hope that we will be able to build on their achievements during the course of the next term of office, so the Parish Council really will make a difference to its communities and residents." She added, "I would like to thank all of those who stood down at the election for their efforts, but particularly Cllr Lin Holroyd, for all the time and effort she put into producing the newsletter over the last 4 years. She also worked particularly hard on the issues at Kirkheaton Churchyard, and we are most grateful to her."

Apology: *The kitchen equipment photographed in the last edition was at Kirkheaton Scouts & Guides HQ and not Kirkheaton Luncheon Club, as stated. Apologies for any embarrassment caused.*



Adopt a Telephone Box!

There is an opportunity for community groups (if they are registered charities) to take ownership of unwanted red telephone kiosks, after the telephony has been removed. Please contact British Telecom for further information.

Summary of Annual Report (covering the period 01.04.10 – 31.03.11)

The full report is on the website, also available from public sites around the Parish & on request from the Clerk.

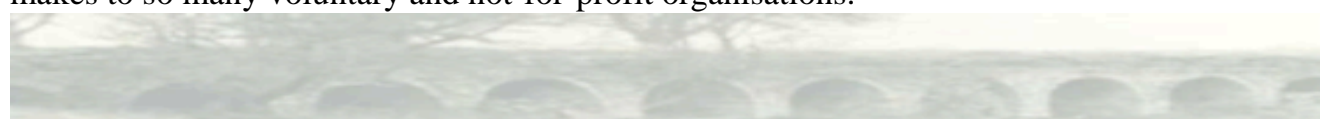
Summary of Accounts 2010-11		£
Precept (Parish Council portion of Council tax)		122,000
Allotment Rents		316
Refund of VAT		3,723
Shelley Village Hall Rent		4,500
Other items		6,163
Total Income		136,702
General Running Costs:		37,956
Administration including authorised travel costs, employment, insurance, 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 from 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 (incs costs 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 bottom 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.



Grants: The total amount awarded this year is the most the Council has ever awarded, representing 60% of the precept. Even with a decrease in the precept the Council found ways and means of supporting the community groups, which needed funding to continue with their valuable work when grants from other bodies were becoming more difficult

to access. The full breakdown of awards can be found in the main report along with photographs of sponsored projects, a selection of which has been included here. We are most grateful to all the groups and clubs for the many cards/letters of thanks & photographs we have received throughout the year, showing how well the money has been spent and what a valuable contribution the Parish Council makes to so many voluntary and not-for-profit organisations.



Meetings: Council: 16th June, 4th August, 8th September, 6th October.

Council (Planning/GP): 21st July, 15th September, 20th October.

Environment Committee: On 21st July, 15th September, 17th November.

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

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

It has been another busy year with the focus on bringing matters to a conclusion and consolidating in readiness for the new Council term. Projects receiving attention included Grange Moor allotments, where 2 large sections and a smaller section have been cleared. This has increased the number of plots available, drastically reducing the waiting list. Further work is planned to address the drainage problem .

We are pleased to welcome to Kirkburton Parish the people, who live in Thurstonland and were previously within the Holme Valley PC area. This small boundary change has brought the whole village into one municipal area, which we hope will make things simpler for you all. We have inherited a seat there, which was previously owned by Holme Valley PC, who have kindly handed it over to Kirkburton. The Council continues to care for its public seats – some in Flockton & Lepton were repaired and new seats are currently on order for Grange Moor, Farnley Tyas and Flockton.



Maintenance & repair work is continuing at Kirkheaton Churchyard. The grass was cut regularly over the summer and a significant amount of tree felling and pruning took place in the early Spring. This has kept the area neat and tidy for visitors, who come for a variety of reasons, including to enjoy the

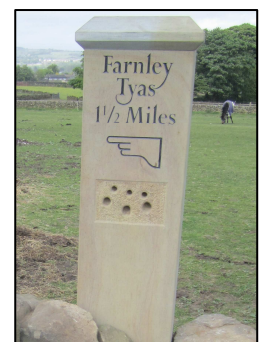
quiet tranquility of nature, even though it is situated so close to the hustle & bustle of village life. Rev Steel, the Rector, sent his compliments and thanks to the Council for the work. Repairs to walls & paths are due to take place in the summer.



Last September saw the second Environment Fayre and judging of the Sunflower Competition at the Hub in Kirkburton, which was again a big success. A winner from each competing school was presented with a £20 WH Smith gift voucher. Many local community groups took part and exhibited their work on environment projects in this area, proving of interest to all ages.



Council has been working with EPIP & Walkers are Welcome to develop a series of walks across the Parish, which will include benches, finger posts & milestones. It is a complex project, which is gradually coming together. The first milestone (*right*) was recently installed.



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The Council shared a stand with Holme Valley PC at Honley Show when Councillors enthusiastically took up the opportunity to talk with the public and find out what your priorities are.

Last Christmas saw the renewal of the lights over the shops in Lepton Square. The timescale was tight, but we managed to ensure they were up and lit in November, in time for the village's Christmas Fayre adding a festive touch to the celebrations. Christmas trees were put in most villages. The Council is looking for sites to plant some real ones this year, and will be consulting you soon – if you have a view or a suggestion where one could go, we'd like to hear from you.

Negotiations about the sale of Shelley Village Hall continue, and hopefully will be soon concluded for the benefit of everyone.

