

One Voice

Latest News from Kirkburton Parish Council

October 2010



Guests assembled outside St John's Parish Church in Lepton a few weeks' ago for Cllr Hirst's Civic Sunday. As the church clock finished striking 6pm, Emley Band struck up and provided delightful background music as the guests assembled – these included the Mayor of Kirklees, Civic Dignitaries from all the neighbouring Parish/Town Councils as well as former chairmen and members of the present Council. The band also played afterwards by the community room, as everyone enjoyed the refreshments provided by the Parish Council.

The service was led by the Rev Anita Raggett, whose service was perfectly tailored to the occasion and had particular relevance to the Councillors present. To add to the occasion, the Church's Music Group provided the music within the service.

Cllr Hirst thanked everyone for coming, making the event so memorable and for their generosity – the collection was donated to St John's church funds.



Left to right: Mayor of Kirklees, Mrs Vivien Hirst, Cllr John Hirst, Vic Watson (Master of Ceremonies) and Cllr Rhona Bratt, Chairman of Holme Valley Parish Council, with Rory the trainee guide dog.

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Environment Fayre / Sunflower Competition



The event went well this year. It was so nice to see you all, especially the children with their beautiful sunflowers. And useful for the Councillors to meet with the public and find out your views and what's important to you.

Consultation was carried out on possible locations for our new seats. Further details was made available on the Parish Walks project, and as always

at these events, the suggestion box was there to receive all your ideas and suggestions.

Thanks to all the groups who came and put up their displays, these included Shepley Naturalists Society, Burton Environment Group, White Rose Forest, Biomass, Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, Energy Savings Trust & the Police. It was amazing to see the amount and wide range of work being carried out on a regular basis in the Parish, largely on a voluntary basis.

Thanks are due to Jon Walker of the Colne Valley Garden Centre for acting as Judge and also providing the sunflower equipment either free of charge or heavily discounted; CV Graphics for discounted colour printing; volunteers of the Denby Dale Centre for the refreshments



and also to the Mayor & Mayoress of Kirklees for opening the event.

Community Project Grants: The latest recipients are Grange Moor Pre-School and Lepton Pre-School, who have been awarded £7,000 each for new projects. Both were just about to receive significant grants from Kirklees, when the rules changed and the funding was lost, so the Parish Council stepped in and lessened the blow. £2,000 has also been awarded to Stocksmoor Village Hall to go towards repairing the roof.

Environment Grants: £844 has been awarded to Shepley Methodist Church to contribute towards the improvements being carried out to the graveyard, and £50 to Highburton Playgroup to purchase a water butt to be installed in the sensory garden at Burton Village Hall.

New Life at Grange Moor Allotments!

It's good to see the allotments in Grange Moor in full use again. Not only have the old allotments been brought back into use, but the revamp has resulted in an increase in the number of plots available, and a significant reduction in the waiting list.

The new tenants are now surging ahead and hopefully enjoying a good harvest.

We are continuing to look for additional land elsewhere in the Parish to address the long waiting list at Shepley and meet the demand for allotments in other villages, but despite much effort in this direction, we have not yet been successful. If you know of any land, which may be suitable (particularly Kirklees' land) give us a call and we'll find out if it is viable.





Budget Time

As we head towards autumn, the Council will shortly be starting to focus on future spending and next year's budget. We have to do it so early in order to ensure that we meet the deadline for requesting the precept* from Kirklees as the rating authority. If you have any views on what you would like the Council to spend money on, or any projects you would like to be considered for support next year, please contact us. We will consider all suggestions put forward.

*Precept is the portion of the Council tax, which is levied by the Parish Council. Households in band D in the Kirkburton PC area are paying £13.62 each this year.

Meetings: Council: 7 October, 4 November, 2 December, 2011: 6 January, 3 February. Council (Planning/GP): 21 October, 18 November, 2011: 20 January, 17 February. Council meetings start at 7.30 pm.

Environment Committee: 18 November. 2011: 20 January, 17 March – all start at 8pm or after the prior Council meeting, unless indicated otherwise on the agenda.

Meetings are normally held at Highburton Village Hall and include a public participation session early in the agenda when members of the public are able to address the Council or Committee on any issue over which the Council has a power and, which come within the committee's remit. Other committee meetings are called as and when required – the most recent schedule is on the website.

PARISH COUNCILLORS' CONTACT DETAILS

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Proposed Closure of the Courts

The Council took part in a recent consultation on proposed closures of various courts in Yorkshire, the nearest being in Dewsbury. As always we have supported our local residents and raised objections to these changes as not only would they adversely impact on many people, but the closures would particularly affect the more vulnerable members of Society and the less affluent. If the changes were to be put into practice, it would result in people who use public transport having much longer and more awkward journeys, which would also be more costly and stressful.

Hurry! Grant Forms Deadline: 29th October

The closing date for the annual small grants is on 29th October, so if you've not already done so, you need to put your form in soon to meet the deadline. Applicants will



be notified of their grants in January, cheques to be issued in April.

Vegetable Growing Course



The Council is to run another short course on vegetable growing in the Spring aimed at beginners and covering all the things you need to know to get a good harvest. It is expected

the course will take place on Saturday mornings, but the full details are still to be confirmed. It is open to everyone who lives within the Parish area, so if you are interested in taking part, please let the Clerk know & she will put you on the list. Full details of the course will be published on the website when they have been finalised.

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Office Opening Hours: Monday and Thursday from 9.30 am to 1.30 pm Clerk to the Council: Angela Royle Administrative Assistant: Sandra Harling