



One Voice

Latest News from Kirkburton Parish Council

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Winter 2012



Quality Status for Kirkburton Parish Council

We are very proud to announce that Quality Status has been conferred on the Council. This accreditation shows that the Council is working to a high standard of conduct, it is committed to partnership working with Kirklees and other Town/Parish Councils and most importantly, that it is working closely with the residents and community groups within the Parish.



Council Precept Frozen for the 3rd Year

Despite increases in many other areas, Kirkburton Parish Council is very pleased to be able to announce that it is freezing the precept* for a third consecutive year, making it 5 years since any increase was imposed. But the residents of the Parish will not suffer, as the existing level of support will be maintained: the community project grant budget is £19,500; the environment budget remains at £15,000 and the policy of honouring all eligible small annual grant applications continues. The Parish Council will also be bringing the boundary wall at Shelley Village Hall up to standard as agreed as part of the sale agreement. To fund this without increasing the precept, it has been agreed to spread the fruit tree planting project over a longer period. The full budget is published on the website.

*Portion of the Council tax which funds the Parish Council. A resident in a band D property will pay an annual charge of £12.21, which is a slight reduction on last year due to a change in the way the funds are collected.

Sale of Shelley Village Hall

In December the sale of Shelley Village Hall was concluded. Pictured left is the Chairman, Cllr Richard Burton, signing the contract with (left to right) Anthony Clifton, Ann Priestman (both of Shelley Community Association), and Cllr Steve Beresford, PC Vice Chairman.

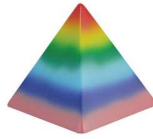
Shelley Community Association has long wanted to own its own building, so it is with great pleasure that the Parish Council passes on this valuable community asset to the village of Shelley on a 125-year lease at a cost of £10,000. We wish all members of the Community Association well with this new venture.



Council Welcomes Two New Councillors

As you will be aware, there were 2 vacancies for the Parish Council in the Shepley ward. As an election was not requested by the public, they were filled by co-option at the Parish Council meeting on 4th October 2012. The Council was pleased to welcome David Bradbury and Robert Edmunds to the Council.

Shelley School Pyramid



At the end of last year parents in this area will recall that Shelley College put forward a proposal to start admitting children from age 11 from September 2014. If this had gone ahead it would have represented a serious threat to the Middle School system, which is held in very high regard. Understandably parents were very concerned about this threat to their children's education and turned to the Parish Council for help. The Parish Council invited all parties to attend a specially convened meeting and allowed representatives from Kirkburton & Scissett Middle Schools, Shelley College and the campaign group "Keep the Shelley Pyramid" to make presentations. Mr John McNally, Head Teacher of Shelley College was asked if the Parish Council were to organise a referendum on the issue, would he recommend the Governors of the College to abide by the outcome. He gave an undertaking to make that recommendation and within days the proposal was dropped to the great relief of all the parents in this area.

Living Christmas Trees

All our villages got into the festive spirit by having a cut Christmas tree situated in the middle of their village paid for by the Parish Council, with the exception of one tree, which is paid for by Kirklees. We are pleased to announce that after a public consultation Lascelles Hall and Thurstonland each now have a living Christmas tree planted in a central point. In Thurstonland the local residents also turned out to help Cllr Barraclough and Cllr Wightman to plant it.



Left: Cllrs Ben Wightman and Robert Barraclough with the tree at Lascelles Hall Right: Thurstonland residents admiring their tree

Mr David Rangeley

We would like to pay tribute to Mr David Rangeley, who passed away suddenly at the beginning of December. Mr Rangeley has worked for the Parish Council on and off for more than 20 years, mainly tending Kirkheaton Churchyard and keeping it maintained to a very high standard. He also worked for us at the two allotment sites and was always willing to help us out on any gardening or outdoor job. He went about his duties quietly and diligently, always performing of his best. He will be greatly missed. We would like to pass on our condolences to his family.



Latest Grants News

A total of £15,093 has recently been awarded to the following groups: Kirkburton & Highburton Community Association to complete the Trailway Extension and circuit back to North Road at Burton Dean Community Fields Trailway Extension; Farnley Tyas Community Group to install a seat on the recreation ground; Huddersfield & District Archaeology Society to purchase specialist equipment; Just for Fun Pre-School and Out of School Club at Lepton to purchase new storage equipment and seating; Shepley Cricket Club to contribute towards major roof repairs at the clubhouse and the Church Hall at St Paul's Church Shepley to replace the toilet facilities and also provide disabled and baby changing facilities. We are also pleased to announce that we have awarded £11,948 in small annual grants to 46 local groups and organisations. The cheques will be issued in April. The money awarded just lends a hand to keep small groups functioning and provides a valuable service to their villages.

New Youth Shelter for Shelley Rec – What do you think?



Councillors and staff have been working with the local schools to encourage the young people to become more involved with what's going on in their area and to show them that they can influence what happens in their villages.

Representatives from each of the School Councils have been working together on their new project, which is to design and organise the installation of a new youth shelter. The consensus for the location is Shelley Recreation Ground. If you are a local resident – what are your feelings? Consultation will be taking place with the residents to ensure

that it meets the young people's needs without causing problems for residents. The Local Area Committee and Kirkburton Parish Council have each contributed £1,000 to the venture.

Fruit Tree Project Update

The Council is progressing its fruit tree project and before Christmas planted trees in Kirkheaton, Thurstonland and Shepley. They again proved to be popular community days, bringing people together. The planting in Shepley involved pupils of Shepley First School, hopefully encouraging a healthy lifestyle amongst our younger people. Further sites have been identified in Farnley Tyas, Lepton and Shelley, which we hope to plant up this autumn / winter. For planting to get the go-ahead village groups must be prepared to be involved with the planting and subsequent maintenance.



Above: Kirkheaton residents planting the fruit trees with the help of Julian Faulkener of KMC Leisure Services

Poppy Wreaths

As in previous years, the Parish Council supplied 10 poppy wreaths to honour the many people of this area, who have sacrificed their lives in the 2 World Wars and many other conflicts since. Parish Councillors attended the Remembrance Day services and laid the wreaths on the war memorials on behalf of the Parish Council.

Meetings: Council: 7th March, 4th April. **Environment Committee:** 21st March. **Annual Meetings:** 16th May.

Additional Committee meetings to be timetabled as required.

- All the meetings at Highburton Village Hall
- A full meeting schedule available for download from the website.
- The full meeting is open to the public.
- All meetings have a public participation session at the start.

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Other news ...

We held an allotment competition for the best kept allotment both at Grange Moor and Shepley which was judged by Mr Martin Bowley, owner of Horticulture at Overton. We are pleased to announce that Mrs Carol Scott and Mrs Jane Greetham were the winners at Grange Moor Allotments and Mr and Mrs Vic Parsley were the winners at Shepley allotments. Congratulations to all winners.



Britain's Biggest Climate Change Campaign

Thousands of events and activities are being planned by organisations from every part of society for Climate Week. Showcasing real, practical ways to combat climate change, the week aims to renew the ambition to create a more sustainable, low-carbon future. We are pleased to add our support to the campaign. If you would like to take part in an event or even hold your own, find out more from: www.climateweek.com, Email info@climateweek.com or Telephone 020 3397 2601.

As 2012 draws to a close it has been a memorable year for a number of historic reasons. The Council was very keen to mark Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee in a fitting manner, and has engraved the Parish Walk guidestops. This will provide a lasting and timely reminder of a very memorable year.



If you are a voluntary community/sports group in the Parish and would like a link to our website, please let us know. We also offer free advertising of community events in our Community News section, but we cannot accept adverts of a commercial or political nature. Please send details to the Clerk.

Kirklees Ward Meeting in Flockton – 11 February

The Parish Council is concerned to hear of the increasing number of accidents happening to pedestrians in Flockton. The Parish Council is working with Highways, the Police and the local MP's to jointly explore possible solutions. The subject will be the main theme of the Ward Meeting on 11 February at 7pm at Flockton Working Men's Club.

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