



# ILKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

*Elected to represent the residents of Ilkley and Ben Rhydding*



**NEWSLETTER No. 34**

**AUTUMN 2013**

Contact: Parish Clerk Tel: 01943 436212 • Town Hall, Station Road, Ilkley LS29 8HB  
e-mail: [ilkleypc@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:ilkleypc@bradford.gov.uk) • <http://parishcouncil.ilkley.org>

Parish Council Office opening hours 10.00am - 1.00pm Monday to Friday.

## **Chairman's Report**

Last year was a most interesting and exciting one, both in Ilkley and across the Bradford District. I was honoured to represent the District as Deputy Lord Mayor and am equally honoured to now represent Ilkley once again as Chairman of the Parish Council. Ilkley and its people remain my main focus and the year is already proving to be one of contrasts. Once again, we have things to be thoughtful and concerned about, the new Tesco plans, increased housing development and the shortage of school places.

Although volunteers, your elected parish councillors are committed to work on behalf of all Ilkley's residents to ensure this special town is kept so, and that residents' views and needs are always foremost in the town's future development.

As one of your three district councillors, I feel my dual involvement in both Parish and Bradford Councils offers me an opportunity to fight Ilkley's corner wherever possible. Along with your team of dedicated parish councillors, I shall continue to promote and further the interests of the town and its residents.

We congratulate Her Majesty The Queen on the 60th anniversary of her coronation, and the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge on the birth of their son, Prince George.

We hopefully look forward to the rest of the year with lots going on in the town. Ilkley is a wonderful place to both live and be part of, and I should like to thank all those who help to sustain, improve and develop the town, and who also help others with all that they do. I hope you have all had a good summer!

*Cllr Mike Gibbons  
Chairman of Ilkley Parish Council*

## **Concert on The Grove**

Widely regarded as one of the premier events in Ilkley's social calendar, the Concert on The Grove has been held every August since 2003 as a contribution of Ilkley Parish Council to the Summer Festival.

Drawing on the success of the street party arranged by the Parish Council to celebrate the Queen's Golden Jubilee in 2002, the then Chairman of the Council, Councillor Mike Gibbons, successfully obtained permission from Bradford Council to close The Grove for an open-air concert. The Parish Council then tied the concert in with the newly-launched Summer Festival as a finale.

Since its inception, the Concert has been organised by Councillor Gibbons, drawing on a variety of acts and performers including Fox Corner (who are appearing again this year), David Owen-Lewis (formerly of Opera North) and violinist Jonathan Tan. The Marsden Silver Prize Band has performed every year since 2003, bringing each concert to a close with Last Night of the Proms-style items.

Tickets for the concert are always hotly sought after and for many years, a queue formed outside the Tourist Information Office from very early in the morning on the day they went on sale. Despite suffering bad weather in recent years, the enthusiasm of local people to buy tickets remains undimmed. Each time Cllr Gibbons asks the audience if they want the concert to be repeated the following year, the answer has always been a resounding 'Yes'.

## **Awards and Projects**

Each year, Ilkley Parish Council sets aside a proportion of its budget to provide grants for local groups and organisations wishing to undertake specific projects for the good of the local community. Over the past ten years, the Council has supported a diverse range of organisations across the parish from Scout troops, sports clubs and playgroups, to the many voluntary groups in the town.

The ethos of the awards and projects has always been that community groups and organisations are best placed to decide on their own needs and how they can improve the quality of life of residents. The Council uses a range of statutory powers to make awards, with most being under sections of the Local Government

Act 1972. Meetings of the Awards and Projects Committee are held in public bi-monthly and all applicants are asked to attend and state their case. Councillors too may apply for specific grants for projects, such as the Jubilee Steps in the Riverside Gardens, although they have to make a case the same as any other applicant.

By far the largest contribution from the Parish Council precept has been to the Ilkley Summer Festival, granting nearly £50,000 over the past ten years. These awards have helped enable the Festival to be sustained and to price events reasonably.

The management of the committee has changed this year, with Councillor Mike Ridgway taking over as Chairman, with Councillor Heathcliffe Bowen becoming Vice-Chairman. For more information on recent awards, please see the awards and projects page of the Parish Council website:

<http://parishcouncil.ilkley.org/awardsgrants.html>

## **Le Tour de France**

Since the announcement was made that Le Tour de France will pass through Ilkley on 5th July 2014, forming part of Le Grand Depart, the Parish Council has facilitated meetings to discuss the opportunities this extra-ordinary event presents to the town.

Representatives of organisations, businesses and residents have been exchanging ideas on how to celebrate Le Tour. The hope is that Ilkley residents can be provided with opportunities to enjoy a variety of activities and experiences, not only over the weekend of Le Grand Depart, but also before and afterwards. This presents businesses with an opportunity to take advantage of an increase in visitors and to provide a warm, friendly welcome.

Work is developing in several priority areas. From now until the weekend of Le Tour, areas for safer cycling are being developed in the town. Also Welcome to Yorkshire is arranging a 100 day cultural festival in the run-up to Le Tour and Ilkley will hopefully benefit by working closely with the Literature Festival and other groups to stage events and activities. On the weekend itself, visitors and residents can take part in the events being organised.

It is hoped that the efforts being made will leave Ilkley with a safer environment in which to cycle and leave visitors with a positive impression of our wonderful town. Hopefully, some of the events staged during Le Tour might be repeated and developed in future years.

The Parish Council is supporting this once-in-a-lifetime event by making Le Tour de France an official project and has provided funding for three large TV screens for the weekend of 5th and 6th July 2014. I would welcome any comments, ideas and suggestions and can be contacted on

bryanwebsdale@hotmail.com or via the Parish Council office

*Cllr Bryan Websdale  
Project Manager, Le Tour de France 2014*

## **Darwin Gardens Trust**

As many readers will know, the prestigious Green Flag was awarded once again to the Darwin Gardens in July this year. This is a significant accolade not only for the Trust, but also for the town, as the Darwin Gardens is among 1447 parks and green spaces to receive a Green Flag Award this year.

Ilkley Parish Council manages the Darwin Gardens as corporate trustees, with assistance from a contractor and Bradford Council's Area Parks and Landscape Service. Earlier this year, the trustees welcomed Philip Judd of Green Heart Gardening as their new contractor. The ethos of the Trust is to maintain the Gardens as an open green space for the benefit of all visitors.

Recently, funding was obtained from the Parish Council to replace the steps from the central car park down to the stream and to renovate the original Victorian railings at the College Drive end of the site. Work on this project will be completed by the autumn.

In the coming months, the trustees and the new contractor will be undertaking a number of new initiatives and projects. These will include renovation of the notice boards, the development of habitats around the Gardens and encouraging links with local primary schools and other voluntary groups.

Sadly part of the boardwalk alongside the stream has had to be closed off due to subsidence, however, an alternative pathway will be cleared in the autumn to enable visitors to enjoy the streamside environment. Also, it is not possible to accept requests for memorial trees to be planted in the Gardens, due to limitations on space. However, there is still room for benches to be installed for anyone wishing to commemorate a deceased friend or relative.

The trustees and contractor welcome any opportunity to work with local people in developing the Gardens. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please contact the Clerk to the Trust, Mrs Fiona Birdsall, 01943 436212.

*Cllr Heathcliffe Bowen  
Project Manager, Darwin Gardens Trust*

## **Council Reserves**

Like any prudent householder, the Parish Council maintains adequate uncommitted reserves to cover unforeseen expenses, such as legal costs, and to augment any section of the budget where additional funds are required.

The Council also maintains reserves for committed items such as election expenses (to cover the

significant costs of a by-election) and the parish allotments.

On advice from the Yorkshire Local Councils Association, the Council keeps its reserves at approximately 45% of the annual precept.

The Council regularly reviews its policy on reserves and will seek to use them wherever necessary for the betterment of the town.

### **Christmas Lights Switch On**

One of the most significant dates in the town's calendar is the annual switch on of the Christmas Lights in November, organised by Ilkley Parish Council. It is always very well attended by residents and visitors alike, and the Council works closely with local businesses and schools to make the switch on a memorable event.

Funding for the Lights is raised through the parish precept, with £14,000 being allocated this year to refurbishing and purchasing new features, and installing the Lights in the weeks leading up to the switch on.

The Parish Council team headed by Councillor Rory Marshall are well advanced in their preparations for this year's display, which promises to be as spectacular as last year's, when the Christmas Lights decorated the centre of the town on top of the newly-installed Jubilee Lights.

### **Ilkley Good Neighbours Over 90s Party**

For more than 20 years a party has been organised by Ilkley Good Neighbours for people, aged 90 and over, who live in Addingham, Burley-in-Wharfedale, Ilkley and Menston. Many of the oldest members of our community do not get out very much, so the party helps to reduce their feelings of isolation and gives them the opportunity to renew old acquaintances.

The party is free, people can be accompanied by a younger escort, and free transport can be arranged. It will be held on Saturday 28th September from 2 pm to 4 pm at the Clarke Foley Centre, Cunliffe Road, Ilkley.

Ilkley Good Neighbours is keen to increase the attendance from people who live in their own homes and encourages all those wishing to attend to contact the Good Neighbours for an application form:

Telephone: 01943 603348

Email: [info@goodneighbours.ilkley.org](mailto:info@goodneighbours.ilkley.org)

Riddings Hall

Riddings Road

Ilkley, LS29 9LU

### **Diary Dates 2013**

- Sunday 6th October, 4.00, Civic Service, St John's Church, Ben Rhydding (all are welcome to attend)

- Sunday 10th November, 3.00, Remembrance Day Parade, Memorial Gardens
- Saturday 23rd November, 4.30, Christmas Lights Switch On, Christchurch, The Grove

### **Forthcoming Meetings for the Council Year 2013-2014**

*All meetings are on Monday evenings at 7.30pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, except for the Annual Parish meeting and unless indicated otherwise.*

*The Town Hall Council Chamber is accessible by lift and accessible toilet facilities are provided.*

*Agendas are posted on the Parish Council's notice board outside the Town Hall and on the web site at <http://parishcouncil.ilkley.org> at least three clear days prior to the meeting.*

### **Full Council**

There is a meeting of Full Council every month.

7th October 2013

4th November 2013

2nd December 2013

6th January 2014

3rd February 2014

3rd March 2014

7th April 2014

12th May 2014

The Annual Council Meeting which is the first meeting of the new Council year will be held on 19th May 2014.

### **Plans Committee**

23rd September 2013

14th October 2013

5th November 2013

25th November 2013

16th December 2013

14th January 2014

4th February 2014

24th February 2014

17th March 2014

8th April 2014

28th April 2014

### **Awards and Projects Committee**

The Committee meets bi-monthly and at other times as and when required.

9th September 2013

11th November 2013

13th January 2014

10th March 2014

### **Public Participation**

Members of the public and press are entitled by law to attend all meetings of the Council BUT may not participate in the meeting.

However, early in the Agenda there is a "Public Participation" slot at which point the meeting is adjourned for any member of the public to raise an issue. Individual contributions from members of the public should not exceed two/three minutes.

# Ilkley Parish Councillors 2011 - 2015

## 2013-2014

**CHAIRMAN: Cllr Mike Gibbons**

**VICE CHAIRMAN: Cllr Andrew Walbank**

### Ilkley North

Cllr Brian Mann	602262	19 Oowler Park Road LS29 OBG
Cllr Lexa Robinson	608418	113 Leeds Road LS29 8JS
Cllr Joanne Sugden	607013	Myddleton Cottage, Langbar Road LS29 0ED

### Ilkley West

Cllr Heathcliffe Bowen	600762	8 Woodlands Rise LS29 9BU
Cllr Stephen Butler	608234	46 King's Road LS29 9AT
Cllr Mike Ridgway	601117	19 Ghyll Wood LS29 9NR
Cllr Jennifer Souter	602485	2 Curlew Close LS29 9DG

### Ben Rhydding

Cllr Mike Gibbons	605313	Apt3, 19 Low Beck LS29 8UN
Cllr Adam Bowles	07445 542207	2 Nordale Close LS29 8EY
Cllr Paul Kitching	604683	71 Wyvil Crescent LS29 8ND
Cllr Gordon Perry	817596	Ivy Bank House, 60 Wheatley Lane LS29 8PW

### Ilkley South

Cllr Rory Marshall	rorymarshall@hotmail.co.uk	The Lodge, 20 Rupert Road LS29 0AQ
Cllr Bryan Websdale	07786 443710	20 Middleton Road LS29 9EX
Cllr Andrew Walbank	608079	9 Kimberley Street LS29 8JU

*All Parish Councillors serve in a voluntary capacity.  
They are not paid and do not receive any allowances for attending meetings.*

## REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

All Saints' PS Governor	Cllr Walbank
Bandstand Management Committee	Cllr Robinson
Churches Together in Ilkley (CTI)	Cllr Kitching, Cllr Mann
Coronation Hospital	Cllr Gibbons, Cllr Sugden
Coutances Twinning Committee	Cllr Bowen, Cllr Gibbons
Darwin Gardens Trust	Cllr Bowen
Friends of Ilkley Lido (FOIL)	Cllr Bowen
Friends of Ilkley Moor	Cllr Kitching
Friends of the King's Hall	Cllr Gibbons, Cllr Souter
Ilkley and District Good Neighbours	Cllr Kitching
Ilkley and District Road Safety	Cllr Kitching
Ilkley Business Forum	Cllr Ridgway
Ilkley Fairtrade Group	Cllr Mann
Ilkley Flower Show	Cllr Souter
Ilkley in Bloom	Cllr Ridgway
Ilkley Senior Citizens	Cllr Butler
Ilkley Youth & Community Association	Cllr Bowles
Keighley and Ilkley Voluntary Community Action	Cllr Bowen
Parish Liaison Meetings	Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Clerk
Police and Community Together (PACT)	Cllr Sugden
Tourism Partnership	Cllr Butler
Transport – Metro	Cllr Kitching
Wharfedale Festival of Performing Arts	Cllr Gibbons
Wharfedale On Line Trust	Cllr Butler
Wharfedale Rail Users Group (WRUG)	Cllr Kitching
Wharfedale Activity Group (WAG)	Cllr Kitching
Yorkshire Local Councils Associations (YLCA)	Cllr Bowen, Cllr Sugden

## PROJECT MANAGERS

Allotments	Cllr Walbank (Deputy - Cllr Websdale)
Benches	Cllr Mann (Deputy - Cllr Perry)
Cemetery and Riverside Pathways	Cllr Robinson (Deputy - Cllr Bowles)
Christmas Lights	Cllr Marshall (Deputy - Cllr Souter)
Concert on The Grove	Cllr Gibbons
Traffic / Car Parking	Cllr Ridgway (Deputy - Cllr Butler)
Christmas Carols	Cllr Mann (Deputy - Cllr Perry)
Tour de France 2014	Cllr Websdale

## COUNCILLORS WITH SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Finance	Cllr Ridgway, Cllr Sugden
---------	---------------------------