



ILKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Elected to represent the residents of Ilkley and Ben Rhydding



NEWSLETTER No. 29

NOVEMBER 2011

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

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

Chairman's Message

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to the November issue of the Parish Newsletter. I hope you enjoyed your summer breaks and the wonderful weather we had earlier in the autumn.

In June, the Council was saddened to receive the resignation of Gerald Goldsbrough due to ill health. Gerald was a much respected member of the community and always enjoyed his connections and contributions to the Council. Sadly Gerald was unable to enjoy his most recent term of office and his death at the beginning of October was a great loss to the town.

July saw the retirement of the Clerk to the Parish Council, Dr Jean Yule. During her time with the Council, Jean always carried out her duties with enthusiasm and diligence, ensuring that Council followed due legal processes. Jean also began the induction of our Deputy Clerk, Mrs Fiona Birdsall, introducing her to the work of the Plans Committee, Darwin Gardens Trust and the Allotments. Following Jean's retirement, Fiona has maintained the efficient running of the Parish Office and ably supported the work of Council. Following the July Council meeting, members thanked Jean for all her hard work with a leaving gift and flowers, and were pleased to receive Jean's warm thanks in return. The process of recruiting a new Clerk has begun and hopefully a successful candidate will be appointed soon.

As Chairman of Council, it has been my pleasure to attend a number of community events over the summer, such as Yorkshire Day, the unveiling of the rebound wall at the Swimming Pool and the Over 90s Party.

While a few important issues are looming on the horizon, including the proposed re-development of the Swimming Pool and the consultation over the Bradford Local Development Framework, I am keen



not to lose sight of the positive role that the Parish Council can play in the life of Ilkley. For instance, work is already underway to encourage local residents to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012. Forthcoming community events which the Council is involved in include the switch-on of the Christmas Lights on 19th November and the Churches Together Carol Concert on 10th December at the Bandstand.

Cllr Heathcliffe Bowen

Co-option to Ben Rhydding Vacancy

Are you keen on working for the community? Do you want to serve the residents of Ben Rhydding? Following the resignation of Gerald Goldsbrough, a vacancy has arisen in the Ben Rhydding Ward. As no poll was called by electors over the summer, the Parish Council is in a position to co-opt an elector from the Ilkley Parish to fill the vacancy.

Any elector wishing to put themselves forward for co-option should submit a written statement to the Deputy Clerk to the Parish Council, Town Hall, Ilkley, by Friday 9th December 2011. Expressions of interest must include electors' reasons for standing for co-option, what skills, knowledge and understanding of local issues they believe they can bring to the Council, and any ideas for future developments. Following a short-listing process, eligible candidates will be invited to attend a Full Council meeting to make a presentation on why they should be chosen to fill the casual vacancy. Councillors will then decide, by a majority decision, which person will fill the vacancy. We look forward to hearing from many of you!

Statement of Accounts 2010 - 11

The Statement of Accounts for the Parish Council for 2010 - 11 has been returned by the External Auditor with an 'unqualified opinion', which is one of the requirements of Quality Council status. Thanks go to all those who helped the Council achieve this excellent result.

Civic Service Sunday 4 September

The Civic Service this year was held at St Margaret's Parish Church and was led by Canon Philip Gray. The Service was attended by the Deputy Lieutenant of West Yorkshire, the Deputy Lord Mayor of Bradford, Kris Hopkins MP, civic leaders from the district and many members of the community.



From the right: Deputy Lieutenant of West Yorkshire, Mr Roger Whittaker, Deputy Lord Mayor of Bradford, Cllr Valerie Slater, Chairman of Ilkley Parish Council, Cllr Heathcliffe Bowen, Priest in Charge, St Margaret's Church, Canon Philip Gray.

The theme of the Service was public service and members of the congregation were delighted to hear the St Margaret's Church choir in fine voice and the organ played superbly by Christopher Rathbone.

Darwin Gardens Millennium Green wins coveted Green Flag Community Award

Last July, the Darwin Gardens won the Community Award for being one of the best community-run green spaces in the country. The Darwin Gardens joins 1288 parks and green spaces across the country receiving the Green Flag Community Award organised by Keep Britain Tidy. The award is a tremendous accolade for both the Darwin Gardens Trust and for the town. Our thanks must go to former trustees, Ken Cooke and Peter Harnett, for their invaluable assistance in supporting the application for the award, and also to our contractors, Down to Earth, and the Area Parks and Landscape Service of Bradford Council for helping to maintain the area for the benefit of residents and visitors.

Cllr Heathcliffe Bowen, Chairman of Trustees and Project Manager for the Darwin Gardens Trust

Concert on the Grove

Despite heavy showers during the day, the Concert on the Grove, organised by Cllr Mike Gibbons, was again a tremendous success. A number of exciting new performers were included, making the programme even more varied. The Concert is the

Parish Council's main contribution to the month-long Ilkley Summer Festival, and is regarded as one of the highlights of Ilkley's summer calendar. This year was no exception, with guests filling tables along The Grove and thoroughly enjoying the atmosphere and entertainment. Look out for an announcement about next year's extra-special Concert to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

Queen's Diamond Jubilee 2012

Do you have a good idea for celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee next year? Work has started on planning a number of civic events in 2012, including a Civic Concert in February to celebrate the Accession and a Street Party in June. Councillors are keen for as many local groups, organisations and schools as possible to organise their own events to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty The Queen. Possible events could include a swimming gala, flower festival or individual street parties.

Ilkley Cemetery

Much work is continuing to improve the Ilkley Cemetery, in partnership with Bradford Council. The most recent project involved the planting of a monkey puzzle tree and refurbishment of the roundabout in the Cemetery, with the Council's project manager for the Cemetery, Cllr Lexa Robinson, working closely in partnership with John Elsbury from Bradford Council's Cemeteries Department.



Photograph courtesy of Mr Bryan Robinson

A tree planted in memory of a deceased relative is another recent innovation, which has proved popular. If residents would like to plant a tree in memory of a loved one, they can contact either Cllr Robinson on 608418 or John Elsbury (01535) 603162.

Family members are encouraged to maintain graves of relatives wherever possible, as neither Bradford Council nor the Parish Council can touch individual graves.

Many visitors have remarked on the beauty of the Cemetery and how well cut everything is. All credit to Bradford Council and their contractors for their hard work.

Planning Committee

The Planning Committee of the Parish Council meets on a regular basis to consider the applications for planning permission that have been submitted in the previous few weeks. Each application is carefully considered by the Committee, with the relevant site visited and a recommendation is then passed on to the planning officers at Bradford Council who deal with the application. In a number of applications, the planning officers have far more detailed reports and information than is available to the Committee, so any comments from the public should be sent to the planning department as well as the Parish Council.

There have been a number of occasions when a press release appears in the local paper before an application comes before the Committee, who often have no knowledge of the proposal and cannot comment until a planning application is made.

There is a proposal at this moment for a considerable number of dwellings to be constructed in the town, but in this case a consultation document is being prepared for the Committee to consider before any application is made. Local views will be considered when the details of the proposal are known, which may influence the consultation process.

There is often a delicate balance between progress and improvement, and retaining the quality and character of the town, and we are helped by the report of the Civic Society and the Town Plan with the identified conservation areas which we seek to preserve.

Cllr Andrew Walbank

Allotment Gardens

Having an allotment is a big benefit to those who sow, grow and harvest their own crops, but there needs to be significant time spent to keep the plots in good condition. The waiting list is still more than the number of plots in total that are available, despite trying to reduce the waiting list by offering two half plots when one is released.

The rather indifferent weather reported for 2011 has still resulted in many allotment gardens with a good harvest. The best seem to be for soft fruits, apples, pears, plums raspberries and red currants and some very large orange pumpkins, but potatoes, onions and cabbages also have been successful.

The ongoing problem with rabbits (and perhaps squirrels and deer) has taken time to settle but many seem now to be under control. Dog fouling is also a problem and concerns many tenants with the open nature of the boundary fencing.

In general, the standard of care, with a consequent increase of produce, is improving each year, and long-standing tenants show just what can be achieved and act as an inspiration to new tenants.

Each year some improvements are made to the fencing, water points and pathways as funds will

allow, so that the tenants can concentrate on using their plot to grow the produce of their choice. It is hoped that an application for grant funding will enable more to be improved in the coming year.

Cllr Andrew Walbank

Diary Dates 2011

Saturday 19th November 5.00pm Christmas Lights Switch-on outside Christchurch.

Saturday 10th December 3.00pm with CTI Carol Service Bandstand.

Forthcoming Meetings for the rest of the Council Year 2011-2012

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 except August.

5th December 2011

9th January 2012

6th February 2012

5th March 2012

16th April 2012

The Annual Council Meeting which is the first meeting of the new Council year will be held on 21st May 2012.

Plans Committee

28th November 2011

19th December 2011

10th January 2012 - Tuesday

30th January 2012

20th February 2012

12th March 2012

2nd April 2012

23rd April 2012

14th May 2012

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

2011-2012

CHAIRMAN: Cllr Heathcliffe Bowen

VICE CHAIRMAN: Cllr Mike Gibbons

Ilkley North

Cllr Brian Mann	602262	19 Owler 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 Paul Kitching	604683	71 Wyvil Crescent LS29 8ND
Cllr Andrew McKie	600820	89 Wheatley Lane LS29 8PP

v

Ilkley South

Cllr Rory Marshall	rorymarshall@hotmail.co.uk	The Lodge, 20 Rupert Road LS29 0AQ
Cllr Richard Reed	607036	Carlton Croft, Queen's Road LS29 9QL
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
Ben Rhydding PS Governor	Cllr McKie
Bandstand Management Committee	Cllr Robinson
Churches Together in Ilkley (CTI)	Cllr Kitching, Cllr Mann
Coronation Hospital	Cllr Gibbons, Cllr Sugden
Coutances Twinning Committee	Chairman, Cllr Gibbons
Darwin Gardens Trust	Cllr Bowen
Friends of Ilkley Lido (FOIL)	Cllr Bowen
Friends of Ilkley Moor	Cllr Kitching, Cllr Reed
Friends of the King's Hall	Cllr Gibbons
Ilkley and District Good Neighbours	Cllr Kitching
Ilkley and District Road Safety	v
Ilkley Business Forum	Cllr Kitching, Cllr Ridgway
Ilkley Fairtrade Group	Cllr Mann
Ilkley Flower Show	Cllr Souter
Ilkley in Bloom	Cllr Ridgway
Ilkley Senior Citizens	v
Ilkley Youth & Community Association	v
Keighley and Ilkley Voluntary Community Action	v
Parish Liaison Meetings	Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Clerk
Parish Plan group	Cllr Bowen, Cllr McKie
Police and Community Together (PACT)	Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Cllr McKie
Tourism Partnership	Cllr Butler
Transport – Metro	Cllr Reed, Cllr Ridgway
Wharfedale Festival of Performing Arts	Cllr Gibbons
Wharfedale On Line Trust	Cllr McKie
Wharfedale Rail Users Group (WRUG)	Cllr Reed
Wharfedale Activity Group (WAG)	Cllr Kitching
Yorkshire Local Councils Associations (YLCA)	Chairman, Vice-Chairman

PROJECT MANAGERS

Allotments - Cllr Walbank	Benches - Cllr Mann
Cemetery and Riverside Pathways - Cllr Robinson	Christmas Lights - Cllr Mann
Concert on The Grove - Cllr Gibbons	Traffic / Car Parking - Cllr Mann

COUNCILLORS WITH SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Awards and Projects	Cllr Gibbons
Finance	Cllr Ridgway, Cllr Sugden