



ILKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Elected to represent the residents of Ilkley and Ben Rhydding



NEWSLETTER No. 27

APRIL 2011

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

Chairman's Report

This has been another busy time for the Council and, in all, some thirty-four meetings will have taken place during this Council year: twelve full Council meetings, nineteen meetings of the Plans Committee chaired by Cllr Andrew McKie, assisted by Vice-Chairman Cllr Stuart Goddard, and three meetings of the Management and Staffing Committee chaired by Cllr Kate Brown.

There have been significant staffing changes throughout this year. Following Dr Jean Yule's qualification as Parish Clerk, Mrs Chris Dale stood down as Clerk and became Deputy Clerk (on a job share basis) anticipating retirement at the end of April 2011. To give continuity and to cover our increased operations, Mrs Fiona Birdsall was appointed as Deputy Clerk on 1st February 2011. We congratulate Jean on her achievement, wish Chris a happy retirement and welcome Fiona to our team.

In the summer, the Council took over as Corporate Trustee of the Darwin Garden's Millennium Green. All councillors are trustees and the project is managed by Cllr Heathcliffe Bowen. The site is maintained by the Parish Council's appointed contractors and we are pleased to note the continuing support of the original team of former trustees and express our thanks for the advice and consultancy which they provide.

We are now in our fourth year supervising the Town's allotments. Under the guidance of project manager Cllr Andrew Walbank steady progress has been made in the maintenance and security of the sites and in the allocation of plots to residents. Whilst it is heartening that there is a waiting list for plots it is sad that this wait is likely to be so very long and every effort is made to find additional provision. On behalf of the Council I must thank Andrew for his leadership and Chris for her accurate and dedicated administration of the scheme which will be carried on by Fiona.



The Council has been involved with many projects throughout the year, many in partnership with Bradford Council. Cllr Lexa Robinson has led schemes in the Cemetery, Riverside Memorial Gardens and on the riverside whilst Cllr Kathy Best has overseen work at the paddling pool on the Moor. We continue to install or refurbish benches as required throughout the Town with all the work carried out by the Parks and Landscapes Department of Bradford Council. This year, we enjoyed improved Christmas lights in the principal shopping areas of the Town and also in Ben Rhydding. Actress Kathryn Apanowicz switched on the lights in front of the usual large crowd on the Grove with Father Christmas and many children in attendance. We were entertained by the Air Cadets band, the Guiseley Brass band, the Churches Together in Ilkley (CTI) choir and the Performance School of Dance and Drama.

In autumn, the Council's application for renewal of Quality Status was awarded for a further four years. This followed much hard work by the Clerks and I thank them, on behalf of the Council, for the sheer slog which I know this application involved. Quality Status indicates to all that we are fit for purpose in our operations and procedures and it is a status that we value. Also at this time the Parish Plan was updated. The Plan highlights the way the Town could develop over the next few years. This was created by a team led by Cllr Kate Brown and has been well received by residents and professional local authority groups alike. The team is to be congratulated on this achievement following months of hard work. Many councillors work hard for the Town and the Council is represented on some twenty-nine organisations throughout the district. Details of this involvement can be seen on the back page of this newsletter.

In September, the role of Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) transferred from the Deputy Clerk to the Clerk. Chris has maintained our financial records and indeed financial well-being over many years enabling our annual external audit to go through unchallenged. The Council appreciates this effort and also that of our internal auditor, Keith

Pickles, whose friendly supervision and rigour has established much confidence over the years. Since becoming our RFO, Jean, along with Keith, has established new procedures designed to give councillors better information on budget spending as the year progresses.

This year, the precept was set at £15.96 per annum for a Band D property and together with a subsidy of £5,000 from reserves and a grant for Christmas lights from Bradford Council this gave an operating budget of £117,761. Roughly half this figure was spent on administration and operations. Some £46,000 was allocated to Awards and Projects and £19,700 to Community Events including Christmas lights. All the money spent on awards and projects is approved by Council and presented by Cllr Mike Gibbons who with the Clerk previews the applications. Details of this community expenditure can be found below.

Socially, my wife Sylvia, acting as Consort, and I have represented the Council and the Town on many occasions. It has been a pleasure for us to attend civic services, civic dinners, concerts and shows, Christmas parties, residential homes, voluntary groups, the Over 90s' party, Yorkshire Day celebrations, professional groups and school presentation evenings. Perhaps the highlights of the Town's social calendar were the Last Night of the Proms concert on the Grove, a fitting climax to the Summer Festival, and more recently the Civic Concert at the Craiglands Hotel. Both notable events and both organised and led by Cllr Mike Gibbons. Later this month, a delegation of seventeen intrepids will visit our twin town of Coutances in Normandy where we expect to receive the usual warm welcome and a full programme of civic and social events.

Finally, I have felt privileged to lead the Council through the last year of this session, prior to the elections for a new Council in May. I sincerely thank all councillors and our Clerks for their hard work and endeavours for the Town throughout this year. As a group, we have been together for five years and we can look back with some pride on our achievements. Equally, we can all think of the frustrations of things left still to do and perhaps look forward to the new Council taking up the reins and carrying forward our work. I wish the new Council well for the next four-year session.

Cllr Brian Mann

Community Expenditure 2010-2011

The Parish Council budgeted £46,253 this Council year for awards to local groups and councillor led projects. Grants were awarded to community groups as follows:

Ilkley Good Neighbours over 90s' party £500
IRUFC new club house £10,000

Ilkley AFC refurbish clubhouse £4,000
Clarke-Foley Centre tables & chairs £3,000
Ilkley Cricket Club practice nets £2,500
BR Cricket Club all weather nets £2,400
Olicanian Cricket Club kitchen refurb £3,500
Ilkley Gardeners' Assoc sheds £2,000
BR Scout Group tent & ground sheet £705
IGS internal climbing wall £1,500
Cantores Olicanae sheet music £550
Ilkley Road Safety speed check device £3,954
Ilkley Carnival marquees £1,425
Airienteers maps £500
PCC All Saint's kitchen refurb £2,305

Six benches by the riverside were restored at a cost of £810, £151 was allocated for a Cemetery litter bin and £4,300 for the resurfacing of a section of the riverside pathway in order to make it more accessible.

IPC is very grateful to Bradford Council for working in partnership to fund these joint projects which enhance the Town's public amenities.

The Parish Council has also supported a number of local events.

Ilkley Summer Festival £5,000
Ilkley Flower Show £700
W'dale Festival of P Arts £1,000
BR Community Fete £300
Ilkley Arts Federation £500
Christmas Lights £12,200

Expenditure for the year is within budget. The financial year ended on 31st March and full figures will be available shortly.

Allotments

Since the Parish Council took over the allotments in the parish from Bradford Council on the 1st April 2007 a number of improvements have been made such as increasing security, the splitting of plots where possible when they come up for renewal, and the extension of the Leeds Road site which gave a further 13 new plots.

We now have some 126 allotments and the waiting list remains popular, currently standing at 172!

Councillor Walbank as project manager puts in many hours showing new allotments to prospective tenants, sorting out day to day problems, arranging for quotations for work etc. Sometimes his help is very hands-on!

The income from the allotments is ring-fenced and used, together with any grants, for maintenance and water supply. This way the running of the allotments

is not a cost on the parish, other than the admin costs. As you can imagine, the income does not go very far but we are working on increasing the security of the sites with good quality fencing and hope to do some each year. There is a certain amount of tree work necessary in conjunction with Bradford Council to get a good balance between leafy Ilkley and growing potential.

The very modest charges are to be increased this year to £28 for a full plot, £14 for a half plot. Concessions will be £14 and £7 respectively. In addition each plot holder pays a £17 water charge. All water is metered so holders are asked to be careful in their use of water and to report any problems with the taps.

The new invoices will be going out at the beginning of April and payment by the end of the month will be much appreciated. Collecting the rents is very time consuming and it helps if it can be done all together. Last year all allotment holders paid in good time which was excellent!

This year we are sending out new simplified Tenancy Agreements based on the Yorkshire Local Council Association's 'model agreement' and we have taken the opportunity to add some general guidelines for tenants. The new agreements need to be signed by the Tenant Holder and returned to the parish office for signature. A copy is then sent to the holder for their records.

We plan to hold an open session at the parish office during the latter part of April, when tenants can come in to pay and get their Tenancy Agreement signed. It is also an opportunity to meet Mrs Fiona Birdsall, the new Deputy Parish Clerk, who will be Allotments Officer in the future. It also saves a lot of postage!

Darwin Gardens

Spring has officially arrived at Darwin Gardens. Already there is frog spawn in the pond and the daffodil bank promises to give a wonderful and welcome display.

As Corporate Trustee of the Darwin Gardens we are pleased to report that under the project management of Councillor Heathcliffe Bowen the gardens continue to flourish and the contractors are doing a superb job maintaining the site.

The highlight of the Gardens last year was the very impressive Willow Sheep project. This involved children from local schools working with local artist Phil Bradley to make life sized model sheep out of willow. Councillors Stuart Goddard and Kathy Best gave unstinting support throughout the whole project. It is hoped that similar projects will take place in the future and the Parish Council is happy to consider any ideas you may have.

General maintenance charges are met by the Parish Council but grants will be applied for to pay for some of the necessary repair work. We will be looking for volunteers in the coming year and if you are interested please contact the Parish office.

The Annual General Meeting of the Darwin Gardens Trust will be held on Monday 13 June 2011 in the Council Chamber.

Royal Wedding Celebration - 29th April Street Party on the Grove from 3.00pm

This is an open event to which you are invited to bring along your picnic table and chairs and enjoy the music of the Bradford City Brass Band.

Tea, coffee, soft drinks and cakes will be provided by generous donation from Betty's Café and Marks and Spencer.

Junior Town Crier Competition

The Parish Council is holding a Junior Town Crier Competition again this year.

As in previous years, the competition is open to all pupils in their final year at primary school (boys and girls) and selection for entry to the competition is made by the schools.

Entry forms giving full details of the competition have been sent out to all primary schools in Ilkley and Ben Rhydding and judging is to take place at the Ilkley Carnival on Monday 2nd May.

Forthcoming Meetings for the Council Year 2010-2011

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

16th May 2011

The Annual Council Meeting which is the first meeting of the new Council year will be held on 23rd May 2011.

Plans Committee

9th May 2011

Ilkley Parish Councillors 2006 - 2011

2010-2011

CHAIRMAN: Cllr Brian Mann

VICE CHAIRMAN: Cllr Heathcliffe Bowen

Ilkley West

Heathcliffe Bowen	600762	8 Woodlands Rise, LS29 9BU
Kate Brown	604521	12 Goodwood, Oowler Park Road, LS29 0BY
Angus Hartley	07980 987 334	148 Main Street, Addingham, LS29 0NF
Alan Morrell	432511	Brambletye, Oowler Park Road, LS29 0BG

Ilkley North

Pauline Dixon	431994	8 Goodwood, Oowler Park Road, LS29 0BY
Brian Mann	602262	19 Oowler Park Road, LS29 0BG
Lexa Robinson	608418	113 Leeds Road, LS29 8JS

Ben Rhydding

Mike Gibbons	605313	Apt 3, 19 Low Beck, LS29 8UN
Anne Hawkesworth	600701	29 Manley Road, LS29 8QP
Dawn Emsley	609123	13 Collyer View, LS29 8NE
Andrew McKie	600820	89 Wheatley Lane, LS29 8PP

Ilkley South

Kathy Best	607568	73 Leeds Road, LS29 8EG
Stuart Goddard	430015	21 Leeds Road, LS29 8DP
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.*

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

All Saints' PS Governor	Cllr Walbank
Ben Rhydding PS Governor	Cllr McKie
Bandstand Management Committee	<i>(v) to be appointed</i>
Bradford College Liaison	Cllr Brown, Cllr Best, Cllr Emsley
Churches Together in Ilkley	Cllr Emsley, Cllr Mann
Coronation Hospital	Cllr Best, Cllr Gibbons, Cllr Goddard
Coutances Twinning Committee	Chairman, Cllr Bowen, Cllr Gibbons
DDA representative on behalf of IPC	Cllr Best
Friends of Ilkley Lido (FOIL)	Cllr Bowen
Friends of Ilkley Moor	Cllr Bowen
Friends of the King's Hall	Cllr Dixon, Cllr Gibbons
Ilkley and District Good Neighbours	Cllr Mann
Ilkley and District Road Safety	Cllr Best
Ilkley Business Forum	Cllr Morrell
Ilkley Fairtrade Group	Cllr Mann
Ilkley Flower Show	Cllr Dixon
Ilkley in Bloom	Cllr Brown, Cllr Dixon
Ilkley Senior Citizens	Cllr Robinson
Ilkley Youth & Community Association	Cllr Hartley
Keighley and Ilkley Voluntary Community Action	Cllr Best
Parish Liaison Meetings	Chairman, Vice Chairman, Clerk
Police and Community Together (PACT)	Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Cllr Mann, Cllr McKie
Tourism Partnership	Cllr Brown
Transport – Metro	Cllr Best, Cllr Morrell
Wharfedale Festival of Performing Arts	Cllr Emsley, Cllr Gibbons
Wharfedale On Line Trust	Cllr McKie
Wharfedale Rail Users Group (WRUG)	Cllr Best
Wharfedale Activity Group (WAG)	Cllr Mann
Yorkshire Local Councils Association (YLCA)	Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Cllr Bowen

PROJECT MANAGERS

Allotments - Cllr Walbank	Benches in the Town - Cllr Mann
Parking / Traffic Management - Cllr Mann	Christmas Events - Cllr Mann
Cemetery / Riverside Pathways - Cllr Robinson	Concert on The Grove - Cllr Gibbons
Youth Project - Cllr Hartley	Darwin Gardens Trust - <i>(v) to be appointed</i>