

# ABERFORD & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER SPRING 2016

## Website

The Parish Council's new website is up and running. If you want to see what your PC has been doing over the past few months, or for the latest news within our Parish please visit [www.aberford-pc.gov.uk](http://www.aberford-pc.gov.uk).

You can also use the online contact form found at the bottom of our Home Page to send the Parish Council any of your enquiries.



## Parish Council Vacancies

The PC has 2 long-standing vacancies and we appeal again for residents in the Parish to come forward to join.

You would be joining an organisation with history going right back to 1869! There are statutory requirements which have to be fulfilled by persons wishing to be co-opted, but these are not onerous, and all the information can be obtained from the Clerk: [jsou.aberford@outlook.com](mailto:jsou.aberford@outlook.com).

If you wish to speak informally with any Councillor then full contact details are on the website and, of course, a good way to see what the PC does is to attend a regular meeting.

These take place at 7.30pm on the third Tuesday of every month in the Oriol Room at the Church.

## Neighbourhood Plan

Over the past few years communities throughout the Country have been involved in Neighbourhood Development Planning for their respective areas. Aberford's planning group (an extension of the Parish Council itself) was initially put together by Parish Councillors, during 2012, together with a number of local residents, and the process continues to this day - although with a drastically reduced membership.

It has been difficult to keep up momentum with the extended length of time that the City Council has taken to prepare their Core Strategy. This is because NPs must fit in/lead into the principal authority's Core Strategy.

The present day Group is made up of Parish Councillors, members of the local community, others with a lasting affinity to the area and a paid consultant (sponsored through grant funding).

Considerable progress was being made last year until our valued Consultant, Mike Dando, became unwell and had to leave us. A replacement for Mike is currently being sought to guide us through to a satisfactory completion of the Plan. The Group meets locally on the first Thursday of each month and more members are needed to help with the upcoming final stage of 'The Plan'. You can see more on this topic on the PC website. Interested residents are very welcome to join the NP Group - please get in touch for more details.

## SPRING 2016



## Planning Action Group

Over the past few months there have been one or two sites around our Village which the PC understands have been suggested by their owners as being available for large scale potential development.

This followed the withdrawal of land at Headley Hall by Leeds University. Our Ward Councillor Matthew Robinson confirms he is not aware at this time of any such plans being formally put before the City Council.

However, residents have raised the idea of setting up a "Planning Action Group" with a view of opposing such plans. As stated, at this present moment in time there have been no official Planning Applications submitted. When and if such Planning Applications are received, the PC will consult with residents on the best way to approach them.

It may be that a "Planning Action Group" will need to be formed. Please continue to view our website and notice boards for more information which you can be assured will be posted as soon as the PC knows anything further.

## Tour de Yorkshire - Saturday 30th April

Information can be obtained from the Tour website: [www.letouryorkshire.com](http://www.letouryorkshire.com). There will certainly be some disruption to travel on the day with the route coming from Barwick along Cattle Lane then right through Main Street and left along Lotherton Lane.

There is a women's race in the morning and men's in the afternoon. Additionally, from the published leaflet, it appears a 'Caravan' will travel ahead of the race and visit key points on the route, stopping to give out gifts and entertain spectators.

The exact times and arrangements are not yet available and will be published on the PC website as soon as we know them.



## Bramham (LeedsFest) Festival

The application forms to apply for tickets to this Event, at a discounted price, will be available to download from the Parish Council website imminently.

Please be certain that you comply with the criteria to apply for a ticket and that your completed form is returned via post to the Clerk of the Parish Council.



## CONTACT US

A reminder that our website address is [www.aberfordonline.com](http://www.aberfordonline.com) and our Clerk is Ms Julie Sou who can be contacted by telephone on **07719 797072** and by email at [jsou.aberford@outlook.com](mailto:jsou.aberford@outlook.com).

## PILGRIMAGE OF ARCHBISHOP SENTAMU

Many people might have seen on the news that Archbishop Sentamu is currently on a pilgrimage of Prayer, Witness and Blessing throughout the Deanery of Selby which includes Aberford.

The Archbishop is to be in this area from Tuesday 19th April to Sunday 24th April, although this could alter depending on his progress.

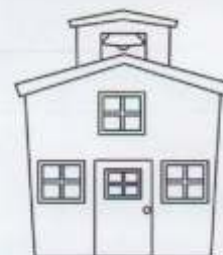
It is hoped if the Archbishop is in Aberford on Tuesday 19th April he will be at St Ricarius for the morning service at 9.30am and then continue his pilgrimage by walking to Micklefield.

More information on his progress can be found on [pilgrimage.archbishopofyork](http://pilgrimage.archbishopofyork) website.

## Village Hall Update

You will find an update within this Newsletter. Do please consider using the Village Hall for any family events you may have.

It is particularly good for children's parties as there is so much space for them to run around and a stage if an entertainer is booked.



## Hanging Baskets

The PC would like to thank residents for their continued support with the sponsorship of the summer hanging baskets. As with previous years, sponsors' name labels are fixed to each designated lamp post clearly displaying the name of the sponsor or with a name of the sponsor's choice.

The baskets are generally hung mid to late May and the PC hopes you agree they are a really colourful and welcome sight for residents and visitors alike. If you wish to sponsor a basket, at a cost of approximately £25.00, then please contact

Cllr Trevor Brown : email [TrevorBrown24@aol.com](mailto:TrevorBrown24@aol.com), telephone 0113 2813233.

## Conservation Area Grass Verges/Grass Cutting

Please do not park vehicles on the wide grass verges at either end of the village. The verges will get churned up and there may be bulbs planted.

If you are a resident and have a driveway large enough to take the household vehicles but need to perhaps move them around as family come and go, then please take the extra time and effort so that the verges are protected.

Dog walkers, residents as well as visitors, are sometimes to blame in the case of the South end of the village and here there is no excuse, as there is always room in the parking lane provided adjacent to Priory Park/Football Field

The few extra metres to walk will be good for the dog. Grass cutting in Leeds has been sub-contracted to Continental Landscapes who are supposed to cut amenity grass 14 times a year (verges alongside tarmaced pavements) and linear grass 3 times (roadside verges).

LCC has a team who monitor the cutting and do spot checks but rely on such as the PC and public to be their eyes and ears. If a bit of grass is not getting cut to your satisfaction you can report this to: simon.frosdick@leeds.gov.uk.



## Public Rights of Way

Aberford boasts many public rights of way on its doorstep which are maintained for the use and enjoyment of local people and visitors alike. It has recently come to the Parish Council's attention that access to some of these paths has been wrongly restricted.

To provide clear guidelines to the routes of the public rights of way, we have supplied a link on our website to the LCC definitive map. Walking Around the Village: as the better weather comes, more residents might want to explore the footpaths around the village.

A set of 10 simple leaflets, making use of many of them, is available from Cllr Piper email - [ruthpi1412@hotmail.com](mailto:ruthpi1412@hotmail.com) or telephone 0113 2813340.

There is a small charge of £2 with proceeds going to the school.

## Play Area Beckside

The equipment, together with that on Jubilee Field, is inspected every week by Cllr Paul Hancock, and any faults found are reported and repaired as soon as possible.



Cllr Hancock and his wife recently swept and cleaned the Play Area voluntarily. Please ensure your children put any litter in the bins provided.

As the better weather comes then we get chewing gum, sweet wrappers, empty drink cans/bottles and crisp packets discarded within a few metres of a bin! Our Play Area and Jubilee Field, being outdoor facilities, do get debris blown around from time to time and become 'weathered'.

The Play Area equipment will get sticky fingers and muddy footwear leaving marks as children use it so please be aware of this if your children are wearing their best clothes. The Play Area equipment is designed for children only whereas the outdoor gym equipment at Jubilee Field is adults only.

## Dog Fouling

There are certain spots within our Village that are causing real concern for our residents and we know how much this issue matters to you. Whilst a large number of dog owners within our village act responsibly there are still a number of dog owners, some being visitors, who continue to allow their dogs to foul. At the meeting on 16th February it was reported that a resident from the south end of the village has been clearing up after their dog, but then throwing the bags over the wall of the Church and Chapel! We know it is the same person as the bags are a distinctive green.

A day later one was found thrown into the hedge at the Bowling Club and they have been seen up Parlington on the grass verge. There is no excuse for residents or visitors to let this happen.

The PC has provided sufficient waste bins around the village to allow for dog waste to be disposed of appropriately. Any resident seeing a dog owner allowing fouling to happen can report them to the City Council on telephone number 0113 2224406 and with sufficient evidence the dog owner could receive a fixed penalty notice/fine.

It should be noted, if a Parish Councillor sees this happening, the, City Council will impose a fine on the dog owner without the need for further evidence.

Please help keep the environment in which we all live clean and tidy.



## Speed Signs

The speed signs at the North and South of our Village have been busy recording all speeding traffic both coming into and approaching our Village.



The PC has recently analysed this data and is concerned at the number of speeding incidents recorded.

Further preventative measures including, asking for the assistance of the local Police, will be considered by the PC should this issue continue.

For the safety of everyone in our Village, the PC asks all residents and visitors to observe the 30mph limit throughout our Village at all times.

## Hook Moor Wind Farm

The wind farm is now fully operational with five 125 metre tall turbines in place. It is anticipated that wind farm will generate enough energy to power over 900 houses per year. One benefit of having the Wind Farm on our doorstep is that a linked Community Fund is being set up and funding is available to all local community groups.

Any community group, environmental project or voluntary organisation within the Parishes of Aberford and Micklefield is being invited to apply for grants from this fund. Banks Renewables, part of The Banks Group, will provide around £10,000 each year of community funding, or around £250,000 over the scheme's 25-year lifespan.

The PC urges eligible groups looking for grant funding to contact James Eaglesham at the Banks Community Fund on 0191 378 6342 or visit [www.cdcf.org.uk/apply-for-a-grant/grants-for-groups/banks-community-fund](http://www.cdcf.org.uk/apply-for-a-grant/grants-for-groups/banks-community-fund)

## Flooding Advice/Help

Should the worst happen and you find you are in imminent danger of flooding then here is some useful information:

For information about an ongoing or potential incident check @LeedsEmergency and @LeedsCC\_news twitter feeds, or call the Environment Agency Floodline on 0345 988 1188(24hr service).

If you are not sure which Agency to contact then ring LCC for advice and support on:

0113 2224407 Mon to Frid 9am to 5pm, in emergency or outside of these hours then call 0113 3760499.

## Bits and Bobs

**Bowling Club:** reopens on the 5th April and is always happy to welcome new members. This is not a private facility and anyone can join.

Bowls can be borrowed so you can have a go and see what it is like. If you would like to speak to someone about an initial game and/or joining then you can telephone Cllr Paul Hancock on 0113 2813518.



**Jubilee Field:** residents who are new to the parish may not realise that there is a splendid facility next to the Bowling Club off Cattle Lane. There is a tennis court, a multi-games court, adult outdoor gym equipment, seating, picnic tables and plenty of space for children to run around and play football. If the weather is fine and boredom sets in, then a visit to Jubilee Field could be just the thing.



**Fly Tipping:** we are quite lucky in our village that we do not get much litter. However this does seem to increase in the summer when sweet, crisp and ice-cream wrappers tend to appear along the route to school and around the Play Area/Jubilee Field. Please ensure you take litter home or put it in the bins provided. One problematic fly tipping place is at the bottom of Kingfisher Lane (the road parallel to/and over the motorway). We know people drive from out of the parish to dump waste from time to time. This can be reported to LCC for them to remove: 0113 2224406



## Aberford In Bloom Group:

a big thanks to this small group. In particular their efforts around the bus stop at the junction of Main Street and Cattle Lane have resulted in a really colourful and much improved area.

## Older Persons Social Group:

Garforth Neighbourhood Elders Team now have a social group on the first Monday of each month at Parlington House 2pm till 4pm. Anybody wishing to come please contact Mrs Eileen Whitfield on 0113 2813458. The group have lots of fun together and would love to welcome new people to join them.