

BITS & BOBS

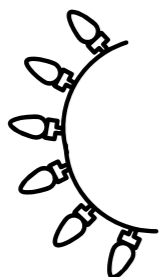
Hanging Baskets

The hanging baskets were particularly lovely last year. We would like to thank everyone who sponsored a basket, which tops up the amount the Parish Council puts towards them. They are provided and installed by Leeds City Council through The Arium. We do occasionally have spare ones so if you are interested in sponsoring a basket, please email clerk@aberford-pc.gov.uk



Christmas Lights

Thanks to grants from LCC and The Community Illuminations Group, topping up the funding provided by the Parish Council, we were able to have lamppost lights along with the trees outside the Arabian Horse pub. In addition, the area outside the Village Hall was pedestrianised to allow for stalls, making the lights switch on event bigger and better than ever before. The event was very well supported and hopefully something similar will go ahead again this year.



Litter Picking

Thank you to everyone who does their bit in keeping the Village litter free. We do suffer with wind-blown rubbish and still have problems

with inconsiderate dog owners leaving bags of poo, rather than taking them home or disposing of them in one of the bins. It's your village so please do your bit.

If you see incidents of fly-tipping please take photographs and report the incident to Leeds City Council using the link below or contact one of our local police team.

www.leeds.gov.uk/antisocial-behaviour-and-crime/report-fly-tipping

Jubilee Field

Situated behind the bowling club off Parlington Drive, Jubilee Field has a grassed area for football and other sports, a tennis court, basketball court, table tennis tables and an outdoor gym available for use by everyone.

The Parish Council is responsible for the maintenance of the site and the equipment. If you spot any issues with any of it, please contact the clerk in the first instance so that we can take appropriate action.

We are sorry to see that a number of people are walking or allowing dogs to run loose in the field and not picking up and disposing of the dog waste. We ask everyone to consider the impact of this behaviour on those using the field!

Aberford in Bloom

A small team of volunteers plant and maintain various flower beds in the village, with the Parish Council providing funding for plants. Volunteers are needed so if you can give up a little bit of time to help, please contact them – they would love to hear from you!

aberfordinbloom@googlemail.com

Bowling Club

The bowling club, situated off Parlington Drive, welcomes both league and casual bowlers with a very affordable membership fee. The club closes over Winter, reopening in April. For information contact Paul Hancock on (0113) 2813518.

Scouts

The Barwick scout group meet in the Village Hall on Wednesday evenings from 7-8:30 and would welcome Aberford residents aged 10.5 to 14 to join the group. Aberford residents aged 6-8 can also join Beavers (Wednesday evening 5:30-6:30 in Barwick Village Hall) or Cubs for ages 8-10.5 (Thursday evening 6:30-8 also in Barwick Village Hall)

For more information email Cathryn Atkinson: cathryn_5@hotmail.com

Sunbeams

We are a volunteer run pre-school group in the Village Hall on Mondays from 9:30 – 11:30. It is pay as you go, so no advance or monthly fees, charging just £2.50 per family per session, which includes snacks and refreshments for adults and children.

For more information contact us on aberfordsunbeams@gmail.com or just come along!

Aberford Albion Football Club

Although the season is coming to an end, we welcome enquiries from potential new players as pre-season training will soon begin again. Our young reserves are now 2nd in the league with a good chance of promotion. Support at home games is more than welcome so do come along and cheer us on!

For information contact Dave Black, Club Secretary on 07908 621823. Follow us on Facebook - [facebook.com/Aberford-Albion-Football-Club](https://www.facebook.com/Aberford-Albion-Football-Club)

POLICE REPORT

Reported crimes in the village remain low, but as always it is wise to keep outside doors locked and keys out of sight. Be wary of random tradesmen etc cold calling at your door and report any suspicious behaviour to the police.

Contacts:

In an Emergency always dial 999
For Non Emergencies dial 101

Email : nel.npt@westyorkshire.pnn.police.uk
Facebook: www.facebook.com/WYPLeedsNorthEast
Twitter: www.twitter.com/WYP_LeedsNE



ABERFORD & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

2024

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council consists of a number of councillors, who can be elected or co-opted depending on the number of vacancies. The Clerk is the only employee and responsible for various clerical and financial duties, including minuting meetings and dealing with emails and other correspondence. Working groups review various responsibilities of the PC and report back at the monthly meetings. These are held in the Oriel Room of the Parish Church at 7:00 on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Members of the public are welcome to attend and given the

opportunity to comment on matters on the Agenda. Minutes from the meetings are posted on the village noticeboards and the Parish Council website.

We have vacancies for councillors and being a member of the Parish Council gives you an opportunity to be more involved in the village. If you are interested, why not come along to a meeting and see what we do. New councillors can be co-opted after attending 3 meetings. email: clerk@aberford-pc.gov.uk website – aberford-pc.gov.uk Tel: 07719 797 072

GREEN SPACE MANAGEMENT

A large part of Aberford is in a conservation area, and the management of trees and green spaces can be subject to planning permission.

Whilst the Parish Council has a voice in these matters, we do not have the jurisdiction to take action on breaches. Villagers having concerns should contact the Planning Department of Leeds City Council as well as the Clerk to the Parish Council, who can alert the Parish Councillors to the matter.

www.leeds.gov.uk/planning/conservation-protection-and-heritage/conservation-area (0113) 222 4444 – general enquiries

The Parish Council liaise with

the Leeds City Council regarding management of the verges and trees. Any concerns or enquiries regarding this should be raised with the Clerk initially.

The small wildflower meadow off the footpath leading from opposite the Village Hall to the School was very successful in its first year, providing a mass of flowers. We are looking at how to maintain and improve it this year.

These will be ongoing projects and we hope that villagers will engage with us in creating and maintaining them going forward. If you are interested in being involved please contact the Clerk in the first instance and watch out for notices on our website and the Aberford Forum on Facebook.

LOCAL AND GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

As we are likely to have a General Election this year, please be aware that those wishing to vote at any election by attending the Poll Booth

in the Village Hall must provide photo ID. If you are on the Electoral Register and do not have photo ID you may want to register for a postal vote.

PUBLIC AND PERMISSIVE FOOTPATHS

We are lucky to have various areas in the village where we can walk safely, including several public footpaths.

Becca Lane is a public footpath/bridle path which eventually joins up with a footpath leading back towards Cattle Lane. A permissive path along the quarry bottom is subject to the landowner's permission and attention should be paid to any notices or restrictions.

The path through the gate on Parlington Drive, up to the Triumphal Arch is part of the Parlington Estate and only available thanks to the landowners. Please keep to the tarmac path and adhere to any notices, especially with regard to livestock. There is a bull and cows with calves on the land which may be alarmed by loose dogs or people coming too close to them.

Access beyond the cattle grid by the Triumphal Arch is strictly prohibited unless authorised by the Estate. Heading towards the Arch, a public footpath exits the park on the right-hand side and permission is allowed at the field fence across the field on the left, to join up with the bridle path/footpath off Parlington Lane that runs through the woods towards Garforth.

Parlington Lane is a bridleway and footpath which runs through the private land of the estate all the way to Garforth making a very pleasant walk. Remember to stop and read the information board about Nellie's Tree on your way.

The footpath that goes up School Lane does not provide access to Jubilee Field as this is private land. The only official entry to Jubilee Field is via Parlington Drive bowling green entrance.

ST RICARIUS CHURCH

If you haven't been in our lovely little church do pop in – the doors are always open during the day and it's worth a walk round the outside to see the fascinating gargoyles and painted panels inside.

There is a service every Sunday at 11:45 and now that we finally have the heating fixed, it is warm and welcoming!

We have real bells and thanks to a team of bellringers from Barwick, they are rung on the 1st Sunday every month and can be hired for weddings and funerals by arrangement. For more information contact Jane Copeland 0113 2813471 or Sara Fawcett 0113 2813208

The church runs a small Millenium Club Lottery each year with a draw on the first Sunday of each month. Subscription is £20 per number and the monthly prizes are £50, £20, and £10. Contact Mrs A M Lloyd of 22 Parlington Villas if you wish to join. 0113 2812965

ABERFORD AUTHORS & ABERFORD LITERATURE FESTIVAL (ALF)

We are a small group of writers (some published) and those who want to write. We meet regularly to talk about what we are up to.

Everyone is welcome to meetings in The Arabian Horse at 7pm on the 4th Tuesday of every month and some of us often enjoy a cup of coffee and hot sandwich in the Community Café in the Village Hall at 10am on a Friday. Follow us on social media on our Aberford Authors Facebook page or contact either:

andrewsparkeauthor@gmail.com or chrisberrymedia@gmail.com

We are keen to involve the whole community and will be staging the

THE ABERFORD ALMSHOUSES

The Gascoigne Almshouses building on Bunkers Hill has long since been office accommodation. However, situated in Parlington House, Beech View, The Aberford Almshouses Trust provides accommodation for retired people in need who live, have lived, or have relatives living in the area. There are 28 self-contained one and two bedroom flats.

Applicants must be retired and capable of living independently as no on-site care is provided. We assess each application on its merits and acceptance is based on the needs of applicants at the time.

When flats are available, they are offered first to those in greatest need. If you are interested in an Almshouses flat please contact Loraine, the House Manger, on: 07593 782825 to arrange a visit.

HOOK MOOR WIND FARM

Banks Renewables have a Community Fund which has grants available to local community groups in Aberford and Micklefield. If you are involved in a locally based group, you can apply for funding for projects.

Before applying for a grant applicants MUST contact The Banks Community Fund, fund manager at the CDCF. Tel 0191 378 6342 or email fundmanager@bankscommunityfund.org.uk For more information their website is: www.banksgroup.co.uk/corporate-responsibility/banks-community-fund

ABERFORD VILLAGE HALL

The Village Hall is used by various groups and available for bookings for events and private parties. Activities are advertised by the individual groups running them either on the noticeboard or the local social media sites.

All enquiries regarding booking should be raised with the Village Hall Secretary: AVHSecretary@outlook.com

📍 @AberfordVillageHall

ABERFORD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY (AHS)

Located just off Field Lane in the village (the lane in front of the Arabian Horse), there are allotments of various plot sizes. New members usually start with a quarter plot (5m x 10m that's 16ft x 32ft) which can be increased subject to availability. Why not come and have a look?

You can do this by yourself or if you would like more information, contact ahssecretary@outlook.com

We hold an Annual Show in the Village Hall around August bank Holiday weekend with classes for fruit, vegetables, flowers, and crafts.

TRAFFIC AND PARKING

We continue to work closely with our Ward Councillors to address the ongoing issues in the village, taking into consideration communication from residents.

New speed indicators, funded by the Parish Council are now installed but not yet set to the speed limits, as these are still to be confirmed by LCC. Enforcement will always be an issue, as will traffic using the village as a cut through. We are unable to prevent traffic from trying to avoid motorway and A1/A64 problems by cutting through the village.

The Parish Council is just one voice to raise these issues, so it helps if you as individuals also report directly to the appropriate authorities, any concerns you have.

The ongoing issue regarding the inappropriate build outs and confusing signage is currently with LCC and we continue to try to get this addressed with the help of our Ward Councillors. Unfortunately, LCC went ahead with introducing the 20mph painted road markings on every side street, despite the PC questioning the logic and expense, as most side streets are cul-de-sacs. We are still awaiting the erection of the decals on the newly installed posts, as currently the painted decals on the roads are not enforceable without the other signs. It is currently unclear which speed will apply and where. All a bit of a mess – but we are trying to resolve it.

We ask everyone to be considerate when parking, especially around road junctions and where vehicles are already parked on the opposite side of the road as all of this can restrict movement through narrow parts of the village. Parking on pavements is inconsiderate and dangerous as it can require wheelchair users, pushchairs etc to have to step into the road.



COMMUNITY CAFE

The volunteer run, not for profit Community Café in the Village Hall is open most Fridays from 10am until 3pm serving a range of drinks, cakes, and hot sandwiches.

Everyone will receive a warm welcome as a group or alone. Bring the baby, bring the dog, bring a friend or neighbour or come on your own to make some new friends! Passing through or local ramblers and cyclists, are welcome to come in out of the cold. We try to keep our prices affordable and there is no obligation to buy if you just want some company.

We have WiFi connection and a machine for taking card payments if you don't have cash.

There is bring and swap book stand

to help yourself from and a craft table where donations to a charity can be made in exchange for various hand made items including hats, slippers, scarves.

Occasionally we have visiting local vendors and crafters, selling their own products, so keep an eye out for notification of these.

Follow us on Facebook facebook.com/aberfordcafe, email us to aberfordcafe@gmail.com or keep an eye on the noticeboard outside the Village Hall for any special or closed days.

ABERFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL

The school now also provides limited nursery age places, another great asset for the village. Unfortunately the location of the school means that there is no parking attached and inevitably congestion happens at the beginning and end of the school day with parents dropping children off. Please park considerably if you are unable to walk your children to and from school, which is the best option when possible for everyone.

LEEDS FESTIVAL

We were over subscribed with applications in 2023 which unfortunately meant that not every applicant was successful. If we are oversubscribed in 2024 a draw will take place again.

The draw takes place at a time pre-arranged, with every applicant standing the same chance of getting tickets. If the applicant is not present for the draw another ticket is drawn, so it is essential to attend the draw. Payment must be made at the draw otherwise the tickets will be reallocated.

Thanks to the work of a team of representatives, things were much better controlled regarding road closures, with appropriate signage at both ends of the village.

The 2024 Leeds Festival is taking place on 21st – 25th August and application for residents' tickets opened on 2nd April and runs until 30th April.

Please see the instructions for applying below:

1. Download and print an application form by clicking on the link on the Parish Council website
2. Email the completed application form to clerk@aberford-pc.gov.uk
3. Ensure your application is received by the Parish Clerk no later than 30th April 2024

Please note that the rules continue to apply to children between the age of 5 and 12. Full details of requirements are shown on the application form.

BECKSIDE PLAY AREA

The site is maintained by the Parish Council which has to arrange and pay for any repairs and improvements. If you spot any problems with the equipment please advice the Clerk by email. The area will be fully cleaned following the annual inspection this Spring.