

ABERFORD VILLAGE BOOKLET

INFORMATION, COMMUNITY GROUPS,
EVENTS AND USEFUL CONTACTS

Produced by Aberford & District Parish Council
www.aberford-pc.gov.uk





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ABERFORD MAIN STREET AND POST OFFICE

Photo by J. F. LAWRENCE



WELCOME TO OUR VILLAGE COMMUNITY

Dear Resident,

On behalf of Aberford and District Parish Council, we are delighted to present this community booklet, which has been created to provide useful information about the many groups, organisations, facilities and events that make our village such a wonderful place to live.

Our aim is to help residents stay informed, stay connected, and discover the wide range of opportunities available within our local community. Whether you are new to the village or have lived here for many years, we hope you will find this booklet both useful and informative.

Aberford is fortunate to have a strong community spirit, supported by dedicated volunteers, local organisations, clubs, charities and community groups who work tirelessly throughout the year. This booklet brings together information about many of these groups and the activities they offer, helping residents to learn more about what is happening within the village and how they can get involved.

The Parish Council is committed to supporting our community and improving communication with residents. We hope this booklet provides a helpful guide to village life and strengthens the connections that make Aberford such a special place to live.

If you would like to learn more about the work of the Parish Council, attend one of our meetings, or keep up to date with local news and information, please visit our website.

With best wishes,

Aberford and District Parish Council

ABERFORD PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIR'S REPORT 2026

This report provides an opportunity to reflect on the last year and recognise some of the work, achievements and ongoing support provided by Aberford & District Parish Council on behalf of our community.

Firstly, I would like to give sincere thanks to our Clerk and fellow Councillors for another fantastic year. Parish Council work is often carried out quietly behind the scenes, but a huge amount of time, care and commitment goes into supporting our village and helping move projects forward. It has been a pleasure working alongside such a dedicated team who continues to give their time for the benefit of the community.

One of the highlights of the year was once again the successful Christmas Light Switch-On event in Aberford. The Parish Council was proud to heavily support this wonderful community occasion which continues to bring residents together and create such a fantastic atmosphere within the village. Special thanks must go to the Aberford Christmas Lights organisation and all volunteers involved for the enormous amount of work that goes into making the event such a success year after year.

We are also delighted with the improvements seen at Pump Hill following the successful appointment of a subcontracted gardener. The area is looking beautiful and has received many positive comments from both residents and visitors. We hope to build on this success over the coming year and explore opportunities to improve and maintain further common areas throughout the parish to the same high standard.

The Parish Council has continued to support local groups and village amenities through community grants and ongoing partnership working.

It has been a pleasure to work closely with organisations such as the football club and bowling club to help support the valuable facilities and opportunities they provide for residents of all ages. We are excited

to continue strengthening these relationships and supporting even more community projects in the year ahead.

We are also pleased to support our local school and the Literary Festival through grant funding, helping contribute towards activities and events that continue to enrich village life and bring people together.

Throughout the year, the Parish Council has continued to consider local planning matters, village maintenance issues and ways to improve the appearance and facilities within the parish. We always aim to represent the views and best interests of residents wherever possible to continue to work positively with Leeds City Council and other local organisations where required.

As always, community involvement remains extremely important to us.

We welcome residents to attend our monthly meeting, which are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 7pm. New ideas, feedback and community involvement is always encouraged. We currently have vacancies on the Parish Council and would encourage anyone who feels they could bring positivity, enthusiasm and a desire to support their local community, to consider becoming a Parish Councillor. It is a rewarding role and a genuine opportunity to help make a difference within the village.

Finally, I would like to thank all residents, volunteers, the community groups and local organisations for their continued support and contribution to village life. Aberford remains a wonderful place to live and we look forward to another positive and productive year ahead.

Sarah Bradley
Chair to Aberford Parish Council

GENERAL INFORMATION



TRAFFIC AND PARKING

We continue to work closely with our local Ward Councillors and

LCC Highways regarding the issues with speeding and inconsiderate parking. Unfortunately, we have no jurisdiction and no regular police presence. The speed indicators we purchased do slow some motorists down, but many continue to ignore them and we can't do anything about it apart from ask that residents observe them. Recent speed monitoring sessions by the police have again resulted in several prosecutions.

We still must report that work to remove and replace the buildouts with more appropriate traffic calming are still in the hands of LCC Highways – we are advised that it will go ahead, just don't know when, so, we continue to chase them for an update.



HANGING BASKETS

Due to the exceptionally dry and warm Spring/Summer last year, the hanging

baskets failed, despite us paying a contractor to regularly water them, as LCC decided that they would no longer provide a watering service. We therefore took the decision to remove them and no longer provide them. We may look at having some more planters in the village if we can identify suitable sites for them.

LEEDS FESTIVAL

The Parish Council works closely with Festival Republic to help make the effect on the village run as smoothly as possible. We do appreciate that the road closures through the village may cause some disruption to residents, but this is far better than having to cope with the volume of traffic we would otherwise experience.

Information about the Leeds Festival ticket draw and application process is always posted on our website, noticeboards and social media. We receive 130 tickets and Residents of Aberford Village can apply for them. If we are over-subscribed, a ballot is held on a set day, applicants must attend the ballot with the correct ID and cash payment otherwise another applicant will be drawn.

We were over subscribed this year so a ballot was held and the 130 lucky residents will now receive their E-tickets directly from Festival Republic.

The money raised by the ticket sales from last year has been used to

provide grants to local community groups, in addition to our usual annual budgeted amount for grants.

OUT AND ABOUT IN ABERFORD

Our village has much to offer with a good pub, local walks, a playground and park and many community and commercial activity groups.

ABERFORD IN BLOOM

Urgently needed!! Can you help? We are a small team of volunteers who 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 us – we would love to hear from you! It can be as little as half an hour when you can spare it.

Contact Maria at
aberfordinbloom@googlemail.com

SCOUTS

Unfortunately, the Barwick scout group no longer meet in the Village Hall due to lack of leaders.

However, Aberford residents aged 6-8 can join Beavers (Wednesday evening 5:30-6:30 in Barwick Village Hall) or Cubs for ages 8-10.5 (Thursday evening 6:30-8 in Barwick Village Hall)

They would also love to hear from anyone who may be interested in becoming a leader and then perhaps help re-establish a Scout Section (ages 10.5 – 14 yrs) in Aberford/Barwick.

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

ABERFORD VILLAGE HALL

Aberford Village Hall is a resource for everyone in our community, whether that is getting involved in one of our regular activities, hiring for a special occasion or attending annual events like the Horticultural Show, School Plays and Literature Festival. We rely on volunteers to make the place work, to raise funds when necessary and to plan for improvements - we currently have planning permission for a complete redevelopment of the site but not the funding to make that happen! Do you want to get involved? We will shortly be holding an annual general meeting (in September) to bring together a new board of trustees to plan for the next exciting phase of our Hall's future! Would you like to get involved? Watch out for notices on Facebook and around the village when the date is announced!

In the meantime, if you would like to use the Hall for any event, or want to know what's going on - please email AVHSecretary@outlook.com or call David on 07905 766831 and follow us on Facebook @Aberford Village Hall

ABERFORD ALMSHOUSES TRUST

Originally situated in the lovely historic building on the way to Hook Moor, but now based in the modern building, Parlinton House, on 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 plus a

Communal lounge and kitchen area, conservatory and terrace for residents to relax in and enjoy company of other residents if they wish.

Applicants must be retired and capable of living independently as no onsite 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 any Almshouses accommodation please contact Loraine, the House Manger, on 07593 782825 to arrange a visit.

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 10:45 and it is always warm and welcoming!

The Crib Service before Christmas is delightful so bring your children as they will love being involved in setting up the manger.

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.

Flowers in the church are thanks to a dedicated team of ladies who regularly get together to make the beautiful displays.

Details of all local services in our area can be found on the noticeboard just inside the porch.

For more information contact Jane Copeland 0113 2813471

ABERFORD AUTHORS

This wonderful group promotes writing and encourages and supports everyone who wants to write! Starting four and a half years ago with three villagers.

The group has had over 90 come to meetings from all around the area, and many from the village!

There are now several additional offshoots to the group:

Aberford Junior Authors (working with Aberford School);

Aberford Youth Authors for 12-17 year olds (meets monthly);

Aberford Authors Drama Collective (that writes plays);

Aberford Local History Authors (writing a new book about the village).

We now attract up to 20 at every meeting. It is NOT a clique! It is, and always will be, about everybody!

Our meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesday every month at The Arabian Horse from 7pm – 8.30pm.

Aberford Youth Authors meetings are held on the first Monday every month (Except when that falls as a bank holiday, when the meeting usually moves to the second Monday) at The Arabian Horse from 6pm – 7pm

ABERFORD LITERATURE FESTIVAL – 19th – 21st JUNE

Three years old this year, this year's festival included 10 sessions, 11 guest speakers, something for kids, youth and adults.

Tickets were FREE – except John Godber and The Brontës, which only cost £5!

If you missed it this year, watch out for the posters and leaflets next year!

www.aberfordlitfest.com



ABERFORD BOWLING CLUB

Aberford Bowling Club opened for the new season at the beginning of April. Thanks to the support of the Parish Council, we are now running independently from Leeds City Council and responsible for our own maintenance etc which is what fees go towards.

Open to all ages with no experience or equipment required. We're looking for new members and are running "taster sessions" until the end of July so that you can see if you would like to join us.

Saturdays 12-1 and Mondays 6-7pm

Coaching equipment is available, all you need is footwear with soft soles. We have plenty of sets of bowls so no need to splash out on your own set, although you can bring them if you do have a set.

Should you choose to join as a social member following a couple of free sessions the annual fee is only £20!

We have teams who play in regular leagues with other clubs, and anyone can come along to watch when we are at home. New team members are also very welcome!

We have a nice little club house where for a small fee you can have a cup of tea or coffee and sit under the shelter if you need to be out of the sun (or rain)!

We are situated off Beech View, Parlington Lane which is left off Cattle Lane as you leave the Village on the road to Barwick in Elmet.

More details on our club may be viewed by typing Aberford.net into your search engine or email us to bowls@aberford.net and we will get back to you.





ABERFORD COMMUNITY CAFE

Based in the Village Hall, the Aberford Community Cafe is a volunteer run cafe open most Fridays from 10-3.

Our little team of dedicated volunteers are there to welcome you for cake, hot or cold sandwiches and good tea, coffee and cold drinks at very reasonable prices.

Starting in 2018, having realised that there was nowhere in the village for a chat and a cuppa, we opened the doors on Fridays to welcome visitors for a chat over cake and a cuppa.

Over the years we have added hot sandwiches to our menu, usually bacon or sausage baps or cheese toasties and can also make a cold sandwich as we always have ham, tomatoes and onions at the ready.

We often get passing walkers or cyclists popping in and many of our customers spend several happy hours catching up on news, putting the world to rights and adding a few pieces to the jigsaw.

Bring the baby, bring the dog or come alone and make some new friends – Everyone receives a very warm welcome.

News of special events or closures can be found on the noticeboard or

Follow us on Instagram or Facebook or Email: aberfordcafe@gmail.com



ABERFORD COMMUNITY LIGHTS - CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

We had another fantastic turnout for the Christmas Light Switch on at the Village Hall on 21st November 2025. We appreciate the support of Aberford and surrounding villages at our events and your patience during the road closure.

The event is hosted by the Aberford Christmas Illuminations Committee with help and support from many local volunteers and the Parish Council. Thanks to Stage One Events who provided the outdoor gazebos on the day and Bimbo Farm on the A64 for the amazing donation of the Christmas Tree on the Village Green outside the Arabian Horse, that you will all have seen over the festive period.

Thank you to everyone who came along and joined in the fun with Mr Shuffles who entertained the children for the afternoon, the stall holders and food vendors who made up the festive market, followed by a visit from Santa himself to turn on the lights and a firework display and music from Collingham Band. Not to mention the adult bar.

This year, in conjunction with the Parish Council, we were able to hire (from Leeds City Council) 24 Lamp Post motives and our very own 'Happy Christmas Aberford' on the North and South approach to the village which will be a regular feature.

Please do support our community events that raise funds to provide the Christmas Lights for the village.

Our next event will be the Beer Festival on Saturday 4th July at the Arabian Horse where all proceeds from the outside bar will help fund this years Christmas Lights.

Look forward to seeing you all there!



ABERFORD C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA

We are a group of parents who work with teachers and the wider Aberford community to enhance our children's education. From small moments to big projects, everything we do is towards creating better opportunities and experiences for students at Aberford C of E Primary School. Through fundraising, events and hands-on support, we help provide additional resources that go beyond the school budget, including playground equipment, books, technology and enriching school trips.

SUMMER FAIR

Saturday 4th July 12pm – 4pm
Aberford Albion Football Club

Our much-loved summer fair is back this July and it's going to be bigger than ever in our exciting new home at the football club.

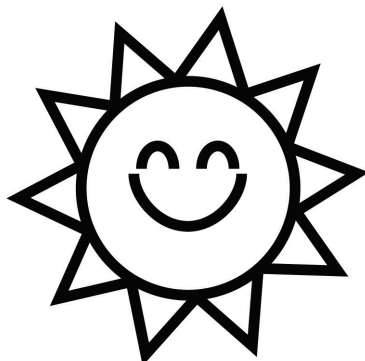
Join us for a fantastic afternoon packed with:

Donkey rides – Inflatables - Face painting - Food trucks & bar - Carnival games - Tombola and raffle... and plenty more family fun!

A brilliant day out for the whole community- everyone is welcome.

If you're a local resident or business who would like to help at the event or book a stall, please email us.

Got a question? Email us at aberfordpta@aberfordceprimary.org.uk or visit our website, aberfordpta.wixsite.com/home





ABERFORD ALBION FC

Aberford Albion Football Club was founded in 1904 and has a proud history. The club currently has two teams. The first team plays in the West Yorkshire League Division 2 and the second team plays in the West Yorkshire Alliance Division 1. Pre-Season for 2026-27 starts June 30.

The Beehive is the clubhouse on account of the club's colours of yellow and black and is based at Bunkers Hill at the south end of the village going towards Aberford Almshouses.

WE ARE A COMMUNITY CLUB

Aberford is our home and we want to keep the club moving forward and are hoping to encourage greater involvement from the village.

We are currently looking for new volunteers to start a **NEW JUNIOR TEAM** and **GIRLS TEAM** and to help run our two existing open age teams.

NEW COMMUNITY ROOM

Functions/Meetings – We have just opened our brand-new community room which is now available to hire for parties, functions and meetings for up to 35 people.

For all enquiries please contact:
Kevin Hayton 07739 074807

Follow us on Facebook –
Aberford Albion FC

FREE TENNIS COACHING AT JUBILEE FIELDS

Aberford Parish Council is delighted to announce a series of free tennis coaching sessions this summer, delivered with the support of Active Leeds.

Whether you are completely new to tennis or looking to improve your existing skills, these sessions provide a fantastic opportunity to get active, learn from qualified coaches, and enjoy one of the village's excellent sporting facilities. The coaching will take place at the tennis courts at Jubilee Fields, Aberford, on the following dates:

- 22 July
- 29 July
- 5 August
- 12 August

Two sessions will be available on each date:
5:00pm – 6:00pm

For children aged 8–13 years
6:00pm – 7:00pm

For ages 14 and over, open to both teenagers and adults

Places are limited to six participants per session, ensuring that everyone receives plenty of individual coaching and support.

Whether you've never picked up a racket before or already enjoy playing tennis, we encourage you to come along and take part.

To reserve a place, please email: sarah.bradley@aberford-pc.gov.uk



USEFUL CONTACTS



www.aberford-pc.gov.uk

The Parish Council website is where you can find details of your current councillors,

current and past copies of our meeting agendas and minutes, plus all the financial information regarding our income and expenditure.

If you wish to raise any issues or ask for something to be placed on the meeting agenda please only contact us via our Clerk, as we need to ensure that all requests and correspondence are handled correctly.

Email: clerk@aberford-pc.gov.uk

For Information about planning applications, you can access the LCC website 24 hours a day. This includes a link to the public access system which provides a view of planning applications submitted since 2009.

The planning history of properties going back to 1974 is also available.

www.leeds.gov.uk/planning



For reporting Highway problems via Leeds CC website use the following

[services.leeds.gov.uk/
RoadSurfaceDamage](http://services.leeds.gov.uk/RoadSurfaceDamage)

[services.leeds.gov.uk/
DamagedOrMissingManholeOrGully](http://services.leeds.gov.uk/DamagedOrMissingManholeOrGully)