

Ackworth Parish Council



Newsletter

Autumn Issue

November 2009



The Parish Council has overall responsibility for the well-being of the local community. It has committees and working groups that deal with these responsibilities. They meet in between full Parish Council meetings and report on their discussions and recommendations for action.

The next full Parish Council meeting will be held on 14 December. Full Parish Council and Committee Meeting dates are published on the website along with the minutes. If you do not have access to the internet copies can be obtained at the Parish Council office. For more information on the Parish Council including a detailed list of responsibilities, services available, news, plus more; please visit our website at www.ackworthparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Message from the Chairman – Allan Garbutt

It's been a busy few months and as you'll see from the larger than normal newsletter, there is plenty going on. We are currently organising our annual Santa Day as well as the Christmas Lights Switch On. See inside for further events being held over the festive season.



Some of you may have noticed a flagpole in the garden area outside the Community Centre on Bell Lane. This is to allow us to recognise our service men and women. Flags will be flown on recognised days throughout the year. On 9 November the Parish Council supported an event organised by Margaret Canning and Kath Stephenson to raise funds for the British Legion. The first flag was raised for this occasion. Over £400 was raised at this 2hr event which shows the generosity of the local people and goes some way to appreciate all those involved in the day. As the event was so successful, they are going to hold this event annually.

I was pleased to see, and attended as a guest, the opening of the new A1/Hemsworth Link Road on 10 November. The HGV lorry ban comes into force on A628 on 23 November and we hope that this will reduce the amount of traffic through the village.

Finally, some people seem disappointed with the quality of the restoration of the Obilisk. Ackworth Heritage Group worked tirelessly to raise funds to get this work carried out however contractors appointed by English Heritage were responsible for the restoration work with the Ackworth Heritage Group having no control over the Project. They continue to work with English Heritage to get the problems resolved.

Ackworth Parish Council covers two wards. One being Ackworth Moortop which has eight representatives, the other being High and Low Ackworth which has four representatives. As part of each newsletter we will be introducing your parish councillors; this issue gives the profiles of Dave Johnson and Sara Tonkinson.

Dave Johnson

Dave has been on the Parish Council for 3 years representing Ackworth Moortop. Dave was born in Ackworth and still lives in the village. He is married and has 2 children and 4 grandchildren.

Dave works as a plasterer and previously worked in ceiling partitioning.

In his spare time Dave likes restoring classic motorbikes and clay pigeon shooting.



Sara Tonkinson

Sara has been a Parish Councillor for 2½ years representing Ackworth Moortop. Although new to parish council life she has been secretary and committee member of Friends of Brackenhill since 2004. Sara was born in Ackworth and apart from a few years living in Castleford she has always lived in the village. She is married and has a 12 year old Son.



Sara is a trained nurse and currently works as a mental health nurse at Fieldhead Hospital which she finds fascinating and rewarding.

For relaxation, Sara likes music and films and if she gets a chance, going to the theatre. She also spends time walking their three dogs (one of which is blind). She loves reading and runs the Ackworth reading group which meets monthly.

Ackworth Parish Council Santa Day



To be held at the Parish Council Community Centre, Bell Lane on Saturday 12 December 2009. Santa will arrive at approx. 9:15 and will head back to the North Pole at 4:30pm.

This is a ticket only event and is open to all primary school children who live in Ackworth. The tickets are free of charge and are distributed via the schools prior to the event.

BT's Adopt a Kiosk

Earlier this year the Parish Council took part in BT's Adopt a Kiosk programme. This is where Parish Councils, for £1, could buy the old red telephone boxes from BT. The famous Gilbert Scott designed K6 kiosk was launched in 1936 and by the 1960's over 70,000 kiosks could be found around the countryside. As public payphone services have changed throughout the years the traditional red kiosk has already forged itself as an iconic symbol of British life.

Having now bought the box, currently situation on Wakefield Road, the Parish Council along with Ackworth Heritage Group hope to restore the box to its former glory and have it fully restored and relocated to the Parish Council Community Centre where school children can visit and see how telecommunications has changed over the years.

Parish Council Drop-In Sessions

The Parish Council hold a Drop In session on 4th Tuesday of each month at the Parish Council Community Centre on Bell Lane. All Ackworth residents are welcome to come along and socialise with other local people. The session runs from 1pm to 3:30pm. Refreshments provided.

Craft Class

Each Monday at the Parish Council Community Centre from 1:30pm to 3:30pm. Bring your own project and craft in a friendly relaxed atmosphere.

Senior Citizen's Christmas Party

Richard Dunn (Treasurer of Senior Citizen's Christmas Party)

To be held at the Quaker School 15 December at 3:30pm

In its present format, the Senior Citizens' Christmas Party began after the end of the miners' strike. The Miners' support group in Ackworth had money left following the strike and decided that spending it on a Christmas party for Senior Citizens would be a worthwhile project.

My wife and I joined the group a couple of years later and are the only remaining members of the group. In the early days under the Chairmanship of Roy Hirst, the group was involved in fund raising but these days there are a number of generous local charities and individuals providing funds. The largest contribution comes from the Parish Council.

The Quaker School provides the venue free of charge and we have enough money to cater for 250 guests and in recent years this is about the number that turns up on the day. A coach provides transport for those who need it and once everyone arrives we begin the celebrations with a three-course meal. This is followed by a few words from the Mayor of Wakefield and then the distribution of prizes. (Everyone receives something.)

The afternoon concludes with entertainment and the bus is ready to take people home at 7pm. This year it has been decided to start the day 30 minutes earlier to make sure no-one is rushed.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank retiring committee members Jean Moxon and Roy Hirst for their many years of supporting and organising the event.



Photographs: Les Thompson of The Boot and Shoe giving a donation to Richard Dunn, and members of the Senior Citizen's Christmas Party Committee.

Brackenhill Allotments Prize Giving and Social Event

(Brian Coop – Secretary Brackenhill Allotments)

During July each year all allotment plots are inspected by judges to determine the “best kept plots” and prizes are supplied and awarded later in the year by Ackworth Parish Council.

In the past, the prizes have been presented by the Parish Council at their September meeting. This year, the Allotment Association Committee decided that it would be nice to try something different and make the presentation more of a social event to promote fellowship amongst its members, by changing the venue to the Masons Arms.

All the prize winners and all the plot holders were invited to attend. The Treasurer of the Allotment Association, Clive Johnson, welcomed everyone present and Mr Allan Garbutt, Chairman of the Parish Council, kindly presented the prizes. This was followed by a very enjoyable buffet.

The evening was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone who attended. It was such a good evening that everyone agreed that it should be repeated and made an annual event. The winners were:

Full Plot:

1st Mrs Pat Maunder

2nd Ms Corrine Clarkson

3rd Mr David Farey

Half Plot:

1st Mr Paul Waters

2nd Mrs Audrey Ward

3rd Mrs W Williams



Most Improved Garden:

Steve Clifton

We currently have a waiting list for new allotment holders, however if you are interesting in having an allotment and would like to be put on the list, please complete an application form. Forms can be downloaded from our website, collected in person or posted out from the Parish Council Community Centre on Bell Lane.

Come and meet your Ackworth Neighbourhood Police Team

PC Dave Walker would like to hear your views on what you would like your neighbourhood police team to do in Ackworth. He would welcome people to attend one of the regular contact points and discuss local issues and concerns.



See below for dates and venues:

Wednesday 11th November 7.00pm Bell Lane, Parish Council offices

Saturday 28th November 10.00am Bell Lane, Parish Council offices

Wednesday 9th Dec. 3.00pm Low Ackworth Comm. Centre, Station Rd

Wednesday 23rd Dec. 7.00pm Bell Lane, Parish Council offices

Police and Communities Together (PACT)

(Meetings held at Parish Council Community Centre, Bell Lane, Ackworth)

Thursday 21st January 2010 @ 7:30pm

Thursday 25th March 2010 @ 7:30pm

Thursday 27th May 2010 @ 7:30pm

Walk with Fawkes

In conjunction with Wakefield MDC Safe Route to School Team, Ackworth Parish Council is allowing the Howard J&I School to use the Low Ackworth Community Centre car park. This began on 5th November to encourage parents to park at the community centre and walk along to school.

Road Safety Group

The Parish Council Road Safety Group meets every 6 weeks and discusses issues concerning residents of Ackworth. Representatives are present from West Yorkshire Police, Wakefield MDC Highways Department and SELRAG. If you have any matters that you would like to be raised at this meeting please contact the office on 01977 611583.



**Ackworth School invites the local community to the musical
'Hairspray'**

Fothergill Theatre, Ackworth School

**Thursday 3rd, Friday 4th and Saturday 5th December at 7.00pm
Matinee Performance on Saturday 5th December at 2.00pm**

Ackworth School is proud to present the musical 'Hairspray' which is set in Baltimore in 1962. This feel good musical tackles the issues of racial equality and personal image. It is set against the civil rights movement in 1960's America. We are delighted that nearly 100 of our pupils are involved in this large production; in the cast, orchestra and behind the scenes. This will be a very entertaining show with lots of interesting characters, dynamic dancing and toe tapping songs. We hope that you and your friends will be able to come along and support the children. This year we are putting on a Saturday matinee performance starting at 2pm all other performances will begin at 7pm and end around 9.30pm.

There is no charge for tickets; however, there will be a retiring collection in aid of the Ackworth Meeting House refurbishment appeal. The appeal has already raised enough money to repair the roof and put in new windows, but we are hoping to redecorate and to add some audio visual equipment and we thank you for any support you can give.

To book tickets please contact Julie Hart at the School Reception on 01977 611401.

Ackworth Girl in Musical Theatre Production

Earlier this year Zoe Utley from Ackworth successfully auditioned to become a flautist with Youth Music Theatre UK. In August Zoe travelled to Belfast to be part of the production “The Chosen Room”. Below is Zoe’s account of her experience.

The Chosen Room Production 2-8 August 2009 – Belfast

The day finally arrived for my trip to Belfast. I arrived at the Belfast Methodist College on the Sunday afternoon. Eight musicians were chosen, four of whom were professionals.

Instruments requested were flute, piccolo, saxophone (alto and tenor), clarinet, keyboard, bass guitar, percussion, piano, violin and oboe.



Music rehearsals began slowly as the project was new and music was very much “work in progress”. However, once the music was available, we practiced long and hard and within a short period of time, began to play with the cast during the musical numbers. A “soundscape” piece had also been arranged, electronically, by Mark Dougherty and the Assistant Musical Director; something I had not experienced before. Specialist teachers were also brought in to give tuition.

I found the experience of working with Mark Dougherty very different to a full orchestra, where you are playing music constantly. My first impression of playing for a stage musical is that the music is in short bursts with music being constantly, changed, completely re-written or even a new piece being written at the time.

The dancing, acting and singing was of a very high standard with some memorable characters being portrayed. There was a standing ovation at the end of the final performance and at the end mobile numbers and email addresses were being passed around the cast and musicians, together with tissues. I have made lots of new friends who I hope to keep in touch with.

I am very grateful to all who have helped me with funding this course. Together with the second-hand book sale, sponsored swim and donations the course fee was fully covered together with out-of-pocket expenses of fuel and accommodation the night before and after each ferry crossings.

I thoroughly enjoyed the experience and would like to audition again next year, so fingers crossed.

Zoe Utley, August 2009

Group	Contact Details
Ackworth and District Embroidery Group	Janet Martin 01977 610780
Ackworth Heritage Group	Stephen Carlile 01977 706444
Ackworth First Responders	Tony Glover 07833138110
Ackworth & Featherstone Model Railway Society	0845 1563438
Ackworth Allotment Association	Sue Templeman 01977 611583 Tony Dockerty 07792 195694
Save the Children – Ackworth Group	Margaret Shaw 01977 704932 Mrs Janet Standen
South East Link Road Action Group	Des Waites 01977 797942 Keith Shaw 01977 704932
Riding for the Disabled	Alison Harris 01977 795450
Ackworth Cricket Club	Keith Best 01977 611409
Ackworth Karate Club	Karl Tate 07816 467323
Ackworth Community Church	Pastor Ashley Guest 01977 649320 accchurch@tiscali.co.uk www.ackworthcommunitychurch.co.uk
Ackworth Methodist Church	Harvey Jubb Cahjubb@hotmail.com
St Cuthbert's and All Saints' Churches	Rev. Paul Hartley 01977 602751 Rev. Jenny Montgomery 01977 702726
Ackworth Spiritualist Church	Mrs Anne Arundel 01977 790540
Society of Friends	John Wattis 01977 619962
Townend Avenue Independent Living Scheme	Lynn Jackson 01977 723185 01977 614362
Chiltern Court Independent Living Scheme	Ann Kay 01977 723150 01977 625093

Ackworth Concert Society	Maureen O'Neill 01977 705805
Ackworth and District Probus Club	Meets at the Boot and Shoe, Wakefield Road 10am 'til 12pm, 1 st and 3 rd Wednesday each month. Contact Jack Forrester 01977 617037
Ackworth 74 Club (Ladies group)	Linda Phillips 01977 613653
Ackworth and District Rotary Club	Meets at Rogerthorpe Manor Tuesday @ 19:30. Meal every 2 nd and 4 th Tuesday (must book) £10. Cynthia Edwards 01977 616966
Ackworth and Pontefract The Royal British Legion	Meets at Ackworth Village Club, Wakefield Road, 10:30am, 1 st Sunday in the month. Malcolm Lodge 01977 610655
Ackworth Reading Club	Sara Tonkinson 07852 141850

Groups and Activities for Young People

1 st Ackworth Rainbows 1 st Ackworth Brownies	Sue Malyan 01977 615575
2 nd Ackworth Rainbows	Marie Baxter 01977 643826
2 nd Ackworth Brownies 1 st Ackworth Rangers	Deborah Barker 01977 610243
1 st Ackworth Guides	Jane Siddall 01977 617862
Beavers, Cubs and Scouts	Tom Peacock 01977 611225
1 st Ackworth Boys Brigade	http://www.wakefieldcommunities.co.uk/site/ackworth-methodist-church/index.htm
Ackworth Youth Group	Terry Cutler 01977 723165
Ackworth United Football Club	Steve Winder 01977 612452
Ackworth Allstars Junior Football Club	Mick Ryan 01977 611617
Ackworth Juniors Football Club	Dave Roughley 07890 539078
Ackworth Jaguars ARLFC	Gary Roberts Garyroberts9@googlemail.com



Useful Information

Ackworth Parish Council

01977 611583

Sue Templeman - Clerk

clerk@ackworthparishcouncil.gov.uk

Kyla Batty – Admin Assistant

admin@ackworthparishcouncil.gov.uk

Low Ackworth Community Centre

Judith Rooke

01977 611285

Brackenhill Community Centre

Friends of Brackenhill

07954 814325

Police

Non urgent calls

0845 606 0606

Local Officers

01924 295413

Emergency

999

Email – southeast.npt@westyorkshire.pnn.police.uk

Wakefield Metropolitan District Council

General Enquiries

01924 306090

Amey – street lighting (24hrs)

0800 783 1654

Social Care Direct (24hrs)

0845 8 503 503

Environment Contact Centre

0845 8 506 506

Wakefield District Housing – Access Point (24hrs) 0845 8 507 507

Parish Councillors

Chair Allan Garbutt 01977 780742

Vice Chair Bill Storey 01977 611785

Sarah Balfour

610699

Dave Johnson

613816

Ron Barnsley

611905

Don Lloyd

617318

John Evans

610375

Roy Hirst

611875

Pat Garbutt

780742

Sara Tonkinson

611583

Sue Hollyhead

611585

Keith Wilson

704688

District Councillors

Jean Martin

01977 610844 jeanmartin@wakefield.gov.uk

Sarah Balfour

01977 610699 sbalfour@wakefield.gov.uk

Richard Molloy

01977 612338 rmolloy@wakefield.gov.uk

Member of Parliament

Jon Trickett

01977 722290 jtrickett@jontrickett.org.uk