

Ackworth Parish Council



Newsletter

Winter Issue

February 2010



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 8th March. 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

As we embark on a New Year I would again like to thank all Parish Councillors, staff and involved community members for their time and effort spent for the benefit of the village. Our events in the lead up to Christmas were a success, and work is underway planning the village events for 2010.

The precept for 2010/11 has been set and although it would have been nice to freeze the precept for a second year, after careful consideration and in view of the requirement to extend the cemetery on Doncaster Road, the Parish Council have, they believe, taken a responsible approach and increased the precept by 7.5% for the forthcoming financial year. On a Band D property this will increase the annual cost by £2.39.

Following complaints from local residents about anti-social behaviour at Low Ackworth playing fields, the Parish Council have erected fencing to restrict access.

The temporary traffic lights through the village in January gridlocked morning and evening commuters. This demonstrates the amount of vehicles passing through the village and we hope that the authorities take note.

Environment Services Neighbourhood Action Plan

This service will be in Ackworth w/c 1st and 12th March, the team will be engaged in a cleanup operation over and above the normal street cleaning service, striving to make environmental improvements. Anyone with suggestions of areas requiring this service please contact the Parish Council on 01977 611583.

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 Allan Garbutt and Don Lloyd.

Allan Garbutt

Allan has been on the Parish Council for 7 years, the last 3 of which has been as Chairman. Allan is married and has lived in Ackworth for the last 9 years. He has a son and daughter-in-law, and a daughter, who unfortunately died at the age of 9.



Allan began his career as an apprentice joiner and continued with that line of work for 7 years before changing direction and moving into local government where he stayed for 34 years, working in various departments. Allan is passionate about vulnerable members of society and in 2007/8 during his time as Mayor of Wakefield raised money for Martin House Hospice for Children and Cystic Fibrosis

Allan's hobbies include caravanning, looking after his dogs, tending to his allotment, and following the progress of Featherstone Rovers and Leeds Utd.

Don Lloyd

Don has been on the Parish Council for 5 years representing Ackworth Moortop. With over 150 years of family history in Ackworth, Don was born, educated and continues to live in the village.



Don is a Korean War Veteran who served in the tank regiment. He spent most of his working life in Plant Hire and is now happily retired.

Don enjoys travelling and has a keen interest in village life.

Ackworth Christmas Lights Switch On

Doesn't it seem a long time ago. On 20 November, the Parish Council organised the village lights switch on at the Green in High Ackworth. Approximately 150 people arrived and wandered around the festive market stalls then joined in with the Carol Service lead by Churches Together.

The lights were switched on by Courtney Shorthouse, Gala Queen 2009. Refreshments were provided at St Cuthbert's Church. Celebrations for 2010 will take place at the Christmas tree next to All Saints Church on Wakefield Road.

Santa Day

The Parish Council's Santa Day proved to be another success amongst school children living in Ackworth. Almost 350 turned up on the day to see Santa, all receiving a goodie bag.

Children from Airedale High School were amongst those who helped to get the grotto ready for the children.



Senior Citizen's Christmas Party

The Ackworth Senior Citizens' party took place on Tuesday 15th December 2009 and followed the usual format of: meal, raffle and entertainment. The guests of honour were The Mayor of Wakefield, Cllr Heather Hudson and her consort Mr Peter Davis, and this year rather than give a speech she decided to move around the rooms talking to individuals. This was greatly appreciated by all and provided a more informal approach to the whole proceedings.

The food seemed extra tasty this year and as always the school catering staff were pleasant and helpful. A wide range of presents was available but the star prize seemed to be Dudley the cuddly dog who came with his own passport. Finally, the artist sang lots of hits from the 40s, 50s and 60s and people were encouraged to join in. A good time was had by all and many of our guests reckoned it was our best party for a long time!



Events at Ackworth School

Fiona Wood Talk

Fiona Wood, an Old Scholar and former Head Girl of Ackworth School be giving a talk on 14 March 2010 at 7.00 pm. Fiona left Ackworth approximately 35 years ago to study Medicine. She is now a leading specialist in the treatment of burns and reconstructive surgery in Perth, Australia. She has become world renowned for her patented invention of spray on skin for burns victims. All welcome.

Contact Delia Coburn at Ackworth School for more information: 01977 624305

Community Easter Concert

Tuesday 23 March 2010

7.00 pm in the Meeting House at Ackworth School

All welcome. No tickets required.

All local Churches have been invited to take part.

Contact Clare Pugh at Ackworth School for more information: 01977 624311

Activate Sport at Ackworth School

Holiday courses for children aged 5-16 years

2 – 6 August 2010 (Andrew Flintoff Cricket Academy),

Contact Rupert Kitzinger Manager and Head Coach AFCA Tel. 07789 915 345

rupert@activatesport.co.uk www.andrewflintoffcricketacademy.co.uk

9 - 13 August 2010 (Multi-Sport and Activity Week)

16 – 20 August 2010 (Multi-Sport and Activity Week)

Contact Toby Mitchell (Director Activate Sport) Tel. 07814 902218

toby@activatesport.co.uk

www.activatesport.co.uk

West Yorkshire Police Neighbourhood Police Team

Contact Opportunities

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.

- Saturday 20th February 10am Bell Lane, Parish Council Community Centre
- Wednesday 3rd March 3pm Station Road, Community Centre
- Wednesday 17th March 7pm Bell Lane, Parish Council Community Centre
- Saturday 3rd April 10am Bell Lane. Parish Council Community Centre

Partners and Communities Together (PACT)

PACT Meetings are open meetings for you to attend. They last for approximately 1 hour and this is your opportunity to be informed of what has occurred over the last 6 weeks in your area, what your local Officers have been doing and what the planned activity is for the next 6 weeks. You will also be given the opportunity to air and discuss any concerns you may have.



The meetings alternate between The Parish Council Community Centre, Bell Lane, Ackworth and Upton Village Hall, Harewood Lane, Upton. The next scheduled meetings are listed below:

- Thursday 25th March 2010 @ 7:30pm (Ackworth)
- Monday 26th April 2010 @ 7:30pm (Upton)
- Thursday 27th May 2010 @ 7:30pm (Ackworth)

Although we would really like to see you in person at the PACT meetings we understand that it is not always possible for you to make it. As a result we have introduced an esurvey whereby you can nominate an issue that you feel should be a policing priority in your area.

Visit www.westyorkshire.police.uk/npt/Contact.asp. Fill in the form and we will ensure that your voice is heard at the next PACT meeting.

Ackworth Gala 2010

Plans are already underway for this years Gala. To be held on 26 June at Carr Bridge, it's sure to be another great success with lots of entertainment for all ages from start to finish. In response to feedback received about the need for a theme; as it is World Cup year, we thought we couldn't let it go by without having a football theme.

Stalls are issued free of charge and are available to any local charitable organisation on a first come first served basis. This is a great opportunity to raise funds for your club. If you are interested in having a fundraising stall this year please call us on 01977 611583 or email info@ackworthparishcouncil.gov.uk so we can add you to our distribution list. We still intend to have a parade and are keen to see more participants.



Catholic Church

A meeting was held on 4 February at The Boot and Shoe Inn to discuss how to save the facility so it could be used as a Community Hall for Ackworth. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 18 February 2010 @ 7:30pm at The Boot and Shoe Inn – everyone is welcome to attend.

Ackworth Reading Group

(Sara Tonkinson – Ackworth Reading Group)

I love to read and find that it helps me unwind, at work many of my colleagues borrow one another's books and discuss them. I thought it would be a great idea to join a reading group. However although Ackworth does offer a lot of good groups I noticed that it did not have a book club or reading group. So I thought I'd start one myself. It was winter October 2008 when it began, a time when we all hibernate a bit and I thought it would be a good time to get to know a few fellow bookworms. I put up notices around the village, got some replies and the reading group began. Wakefield and Ackworth libraries were and continue to be, brilliant. They helped me set up the group and have a catalogue of books. The only thing you need to be is a member of a library, so it is an inexpensive hobby too.

We not only discuss the month's book but other books we have read and recommend to each other as well as films and theatre productions we have seen. One of our members is currently writing a panto to be performed in the village in April. Which I hope will be well received.

I'd like to say thanks to all our current members and finally that we would welcome any newcomers to our group. If you'd like to join, or find out more information, please contact me on 07852 141850.

The Tongue in Cheek Theatre Company

(Cath Clark)

A newly created theatre company in Ackworth is scheduled to perform a pantomime in April 2010.

“Carry on up the Yellow Brick Road.”
The Jesters, Wakefield Road, Ackworth

Dorothy’s step mum Marjory and her Auntie Jenny invite her onto the Killjoy Kyle show to inform her that Dad , Bruce, has won the the lottery and he lives in Oz and that she has two sisters she’s never met. Her Auntie gives her some new red shoes for her journey. Dorothy, with the help of three wishes from the good fairy Esmerelda Picklepot, hopes to meet her true love along the way, despite attempts to sabotage her journey by the Barnsley Witch. But who will she choose for her true love along the way? The dashing Connor Merchant or the Wolf in Sheep’s clothing?



Tickets will be on sale from March from various locations in Ackworth. Adults £3, Children £2. Proceeds towards Martin’s House Hospice for Children. Performances Friday 9th April 7pm, Sat 10th April 4pm and Sun 11th April 4pm. Please come along and support this local production.

Ackworth Rotary Club

Ackworth Rotary offers the opportunity to experience that positive feeling gained from fund-raising for charities that help the less fortunate members of our society. This is combined with developing a good social network, enjoying an informal fortnightly meal and also taking part in many enjoyable events. This is a recently formed informal and mixed club with members from Ackworth and the surrounding areas meeting fortnightly on Tuesday evenings at Rogerthorpe Manor Hotel. This takes place at 7:30pm when we have a meal, share friendship, come together socially and plan fund-raising events.

If this is something that would interest you please contact Liz Thring, Membership Secretary, Ackworth Rotary Club, liz@thring.co.uk, 01977 795843

South East Link Road Action Group

(Des Waites – SELRAG)

Formed over 30 years ago, SELRAG continues to strive to achieve the objective of a bypass for Ackworth. The village cannot be considered in isolation to obtain the maximum benefit from the construction of a new road. Problems currently apparent in Pontefract and Featherstone have also to be addressed. It is for this reason that the Ackworth bypass was incorporated in the South East Link Road scheme, first proposed almost 20 years ago, to incorporate bypasses for Pontefract and Featherstone. We continue to press for such a scheme to be implemented, although there are outstanding planning issues, particularly around Pontefract.

Times change, but the need for an Ackworth Bypass has increased over the intervening years. Various new roads have been built, but apart from the Hemsworth bypass which ends short of this village, these have all been to relieve traffic in an East/West direction. The latest road is the Hemsworth/A1 link which was built to service potential areas of industrial development, not to relieve traffic in Ackworth, although the HGV ban has been implemented on parts of the A628 since its completion. Even with this restriction in force, traffic at Carr Bridge on 1st December totalled almost 12,500 in a twelve hour period (7am-7pm). This is during a period of recession and before the development of proposed “housing growth points” in the area.

It is essential we keep up the pressure on the various bodies who have influence; local councillors, MP’s, WMDC officials, Yorkshire Forward and other development agencies. We have had meetings with many of them during the last year and they are fully aware of our problems which require solving now. We are fully aware of the current economic situation and the lack of funding for capital projects, but we must keep pressing for the South East Link Road to be top of the agenda when the situation improves and before new housing schemes are started.

Our AGM will be held on 3rd March 2010 at The Parish Council Community Centre, Bell Lane at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

Ackworth 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.

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
Society of Friends	John Wattis 01977 619962
Townend Avenue Independent Living Scheme	Lynn Jackson 01977 614362
Chiltern Court Independent Living Scheme	Ann Kay 01977 625093
Ackworth Concert Society	Maureen O'Neill 07946594099

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	Colin Godridge 01977 704883
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