



Parish Council Office, Parish Council Community Centre, Bell Lane, Ackworth, WF7 7JH Tel: 01977 611583
Website www.ackworthparishcouncil.gov.uk E-mail info@ackworthparishcouncil.gov.uk

Current office opening hours are Monday to Friday 10am to 12 noon or by appointment.

Welcome to our Autumn / Winter 2023 newsletter

It has been a busy but exciting year for our village with lots of events happening throughout and lots more to come. The village elected a new Parish Council in May, we said farewell to our Clerk Sue Templeman who retired after 31 years and we appointed our New Clerk Jemma Nolan.

We'd like to offer a warm welcome to our new Parish Councillors and also to our New Clerk.

**Ackworth Parish Councils
Santa Day & Craft Fair 2023**
9th & 10th December 10am - 2pm



Free Tickets available at
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/myevent?eid=735344775017>
for all children of Ackworth who are in Year 6 or under or who attend an Ackworth Primary School.

Includes a free craft activity for all children.

Bell Lane Community Centre
Bell Lane, Ackworth

**Ackworth's
Christmas Lights
Switch-On 2023**

Friday 24th
November 6pm

All Saints Church,
Wakefield Road

Carol service at 6pm followed by the switch-on and refreshments in the church.




Sunflowers


Happy Sunflowers. It was great to see so many Sunflowers growing throughout the village. Thank you to everyone who took part.



Pumpkin Weigh-in 2023



Happy faces all around at this year's re-scheduled Pumpkin Weigh-In, with some impressive entries. The winner this year weighed an impressive 36kg. Congratulations to everyone who took part.



Ackworth Quarries Community Centre



We are delighted to announce that it won't be long till the new community centre on the Strata estate will be handed over to the Parish Council. The space will offer many groups and clubs within Ackworth and surrounding areas an exciting place to meet.

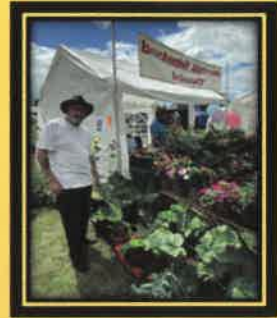


We're not in a position to take bookings at present. Any updates will be posted on our website and social media accounts.

Ackworth Gala 2023

Once again Carr Bridge playing field was filled with Ackworth residents, groups and charities for another fabulous Ackworth Gala. Opened by the Gala King and Queen and two Attendants the event was blessed with superb weather bringing the whole village out to celebrate as a community. Special guests Sue and Terry Hollyhead joined in the celebrations following their retirement serving the community for over 20 years as Parish Councillors.

With the stage filled with amazing musical acts, the scene was set for a great afternoon. The crowds were entertained by some of the finest walk-about acts including John the Magician and we hope you didn't miss the charismatic Ferret racing. Our local groups, clubs and charities did not disappoint and put on a wonderful array of fundraising stalls, filled with fun activities, tombola's and home grown produce. Something for the whole family.



Free activities entertained the children whilst parents enjoyed the joyous atmosphere Refreshments were a plenty, with a variety of tasty food vans as well as the Churches essential refreshment stall. The perfect recipe for a gala. The whole event was opened by the Gala King and Queen and two attendants, who lead the parade around the field followed by many of the community groups and charities. Local dance and gymnastics groups entertained us with their skill and agility in front of the stage. The whole event was a huge success and a real treat for the residents of Ackworth.

Thank You!



A huge Thank You to all the Community Stall holders for all the effort they put into their stalls and for supporting the gala. We would also like to thank the Air Cadets from 23 (South Elmsall) Sqn, for providing car park support. The cadets worked diligently throughout the day and were a credit to their squadron. Our final Thank you goes out to the Ackworth Parish Council staff team, who work tirelessly behind the scenes to support all Parish Council events.

Ackworth's Scarecrow Festival 2023

This year, Ackworth Parish Council supported the Ackworth Scarecrow Festival in hosting the 2023 competition. The theme of Kings & Queens past or present, fact or fiction, inspired many to take part and were in with a chance of winning some great prizes. With some wonderful creations being entered the standard was high, which didn't make it easy when it came to judging. Our winners joined us with their Scarecrows at the Gala to be awarded with their prizes and trophies.

Thank you to everyone who took part and to the Ackworth Scarecrow Festival team who keep this annual event going!
 1st Prize Tutankhamun, 2nd Prize Queen Elizabeth II and 3rd Prize King C'nut.
 1st Place in the schools competition – Bell Lane Outwood and The Queen of Hearts.





**1st Mr and Mrs
Harris
2nd Ackworth
Village Club
3rd place Carole
Marsh**



Best Dressed House 2023

To celebrate King Charles III's Coronation the Parish Council hosted a Best Dressed House competition. It was lovely to see the village all beautifully decorated in readiness for the celebrations and street parties. We were delighted to receive so many entries to the competition, which made the judging fun. Thank you to all who took part and enjoyed celebrating this historic occasion.

PENSIONERS CHRISTMAS TEA - TUESDAY 12TH DECEMBER 2023

We expect to welcome 180/200 guests... everyone receives a three course Xmas dinner and a gift... we can arrange transport, courtesy of Elise from Ackworth School. We are very grateful for the generous donations we receive from the Parish Council and Ackworth United Charities... DC Alan Garbutt, Mr Dave Johnson and Sue Hollyhead have been organising this event for several years now and we thank our helpers on the day. Terry, Pat, Mag, Jim and of course our dear friend Steve McCann.. our guests this year will be the Mayor of Wakefield and our Ackworth Vicar Karen also we will be welcoming a special guest, Sue Templeman who as Clerk to the Council, served our village expertly, graciously and tirelessly for 31 years.

Sue Templeman

In June our Clerk Sue Templeman retired after working tirelessly for over 31 years for the benefit of the community. Sue worked with many different variations of the council and councillors. She was always polite, friendly, fair and professional, steering them through many changes over the years. Sue was held in high regard in the community as witnessed by the number of people who visited her on her last working days to mark her retirement with gifts and flowers.



Thank You!

Our continued 'Thanks' goes to the dedicated volunteers to keep our village looking beautiful. Ackworth's Litter Picking Fairies work tirelessly throughout the year - Thank You!

The whole village has to Thank our wonderful community gardeners who tend to the villages community gardening spaces.



Ackworth Community Library

Ackworth Community Library has had a busy Summer. We said goodbye to our manager Fay. We wish her well in her new career and thank her for her dedicated and energetic contribution to the progress of the library. New manager, Sarah, has used her experience as a volunteer to make the transition go smoothly and we look forward to continued development under her leadership.



**Kes,
the making
of a Classic**

The library remains an important hub for the village. As well as lending out books we continue to support the people of Ackworth through:

- Computer use, printing, photocopying. We now have public wi-fi available.
- Children's activities, story times and holiday crafts.
- Coffee mornings every third Friday of the month.
- A monthly reading Group.

Details of our activities can be found on our website and social media as well as at the library.

This Summer we have hosted some very successful activities.

- Wendy Nutton a children's writer and illustrator did a workshop for children and adults.
- David Forrest, brought up in Ackworth, now a professor at Sheffield University, lead a sold out evening on the subject 'Kes, the making of a Classic'.
- Children's Summer activities and reading scheme.



**Wendy
Nutton**

Coming Soon.....

December

- Children's Christmas activities
- Parish Council Santa Days (9th and 10th December) Please visit the library for refreshments and our book/jigsaw sale.

As a charity we depend on grants and the donations and support of the individuals and businesses of Ackworth. Please help the library to continue serving our community, by visiting us and perhaps by considering sponsoring us financially.

We also have vacancies on our Trustee board. Please contact the library if you feel you could help us keep this vital hub for the village serving the people of Ackworth.

Parish Council Elections 2023

Ackworth residents voted in our new Parish Council Thursday 4th May. Introducing your newly elected Parish Councillors.



Martin Roberts
Chair



John Bell
Vice-Chair



Sarah Balfour



Mike Galvin



Sharon Maiden



Suzy Sherratt



Amanda Cook



Caroline Hall



Gwen Marshall



Stephen Parker



Andy Sherratt



Nathan Bland

Sue and Terry Hollyhead

This year we said a fond farewell to Sue and Terry Hollyhead, who, after serving the village as Parish Councillors for over 30 years, have retired. Their contribution has been outstanding, being members of various committees and an integral part of the organisation and hosting of the Parish Council events. We thank them for their commitment and dedication to the village and staff will be forever grateful for the support they gave. They will be hugely missed.



Bell Lane Community Centre

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Bloom Wakefield - Morning sessions	Parents and Toddlers 9.30 - 11.00	Parents and Toddlers 9.30 - 11.00	My Baby Can Dance 9.30 - 10.30	North Star Pilates 9.15 - 10.15	Dance Works Various classes	Ackworth Community Church 10.00 - 12.00
Bloom Wakefield - Afternoon sessions	Painting for pleasure 10.00 - 12.00	Painting for pleasure 13.00 - 15.00	Ackworth Slimmer's Support Group 9.15 - 10.15	Kidspace 9.30 - 10.30	★ ★ ★ Available for party bookings ★ ★ ★ Contact the office for further details ★ ★ ★	Ackworth Community Church 18.00 - 19.15
	Yoga 13.30 - 15.00	Ackworth Line Dancing 13.00 - 15.00	Hugge Yoga 11.00 - 12.00	Music Bus 13.00 - 14.30		Spiritualist Church 18.00 - 20.00
	Yoga 19.00 - 20.30	1st Ackworth Rainbows 17.30 - 18.30	Sound Healing Adventure 1st Thursday of the month 19.00 - 20.00	GKR Karate 18.00 - 19.00		
	Ackworth Drop-in 4th Tuesday of the month 13.00 - 15.00	Ackworth Needles and Pins 19.00 - 21.00	Yorkshire Country Women 1st Thursday of the month 19.30 - 21.30	Ackworth Community Library Monday 09.00 - 12.00 Tuesday 12.00 - 17.00 Wednesday 12.00 - 17.00 Thursday 12.00 - 17.00 Friday 09.00 - 13.00 Saturday 09.00 - 12.00		
	Ukulele 19.00 - 21.00	Board Games 19.00 - 21.00 every other Wednesday	Heritage Group 4th Thursday of the month 19.30			
Blue - Sessions must be booked				Green - Drop in		