Ackworth Parish Council

2026
Autumn / Winter Issue

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

Our office opening hours are Mon 10am - 12pm, Tues 10am -1pm, Wed 10am - 12pm, Thurs Closed and Fri 10am –1pm

Welcome to our Autumn/Winter 2026 Newsletter





As summer comes to a close and autumn settles in, we'd like to take this opportunity to reflect on some of the great things that have happened across the parish over recent months, while also looking ahead to the activities and events that will brighten the winter season.

After a number of setbacks following the transfer of Ackworth Quarries Community Centre into parish council ownership, we're pleased to say that things are now firmly back on track. We're excited to be welcoming some of our village groups to use the centre from December 2026, with new bookings then being welcomed into this space from early 2027.

2027 Culture Grant

We're thrilled to announce that Ackworth Parish Council has received a Wakefield Council Culture Grant for 'Ackworth's Heritage Bunting', a community project celebrating 50 years of the annual Ackworth Gala. With the help of two local artists, residents will be invited to take part in creative workshops for families and adults, alongside a special session for our village schools. The final piece will be displayed at the 2027 Ackworth Gala and other village events.

If you have any photographs or images of the village gala from years gone by, we would love to see them. Please send them to the Parish Council - info@ackworthparishcouncil.gov.uk



We're pleased to be supporting this amazing charity with their Christmas appeal for new children's clothing & pyjamas.
From now until the 16th of December, drop offs can be made at Bell Lane Community Centre between 9am-3pm.

Every child deserves a gift from Santa!

Low Ackworth Community Centre Association

SAVE OUR CENTRE! The community centre has been an important and integral part of the community for over 40 years. You will be aware that we had to demolish our much loved building in August. We are currently working hard to secure planning and we have secured CIL funding through the Parish Council and of course we are also actively fundraising. The committee is steadfast in its determination to deliver a new building that will again become the beating heart of Low Ackworth and a fantastic space for community use. Our recent Dinner Dance event at Darrington Golf Club raised an amazing £2043.38. THANK YOU!! Look out for future fundraising and community events. Please give your support to the rebuild. Warmest wishes, LACCA









UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

13th November 2026
Community Safety Coffee Morning

27th November 2026
Christmas Lights Switch-On

5th & 6th December 2026
Santa Day & Craft Fair

26th June 2027
50TH ANNIVERSARY of Ackworth Parish Council's Ackworth Gala

Keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates on our events.

Sunflower & Pumpkin Planting

We're delighted to announce this year's winners from the Pumpkin & Sunflower Planting Event. With support from Ackworth Parish Council and Brackenhill Allotments, everyone who attended enjoyed refreshments and crafts. The winning pumpkin weighed in at a whopping, record-breaking 44kg! It was closely followed by the runners-up, whose massive pumpkins weighed 19kg and 20kg. Well done, and a huge thank you to everyone who took part. Every entrant received a prize and a certificate in recognition of their efforts. A special round of applause goes to the grower of the tallest sunflower, which reached an impressive height of 218cm! Amazing work!



ACKWORTH GALA 2026

Our annual village gala is always the pinnacle event in our calendar. The sun shone offering everyone a wonderful day out filled with activities and entertainment for all.
This year's community stalls went above and beyond, with a fabulous variety of fundraising activities, and we were proud to be joined by so many new groups and schools. We were especially pleased to learn that many groups achieved record sales compared with last year, demonstrating once again the incredible support our community gives to local organisations and charities. The fire service put on a spectacular display, with water and fire safety demonstrations as well as two live vehicle rescues. A massive thank you for an exciting and educational display!



A Summer Spruce-Up

The Community Centre is often a little quieter during the summer months, making it the ideal time to carry out some much-needed maintenance and improvements. The Bell Lane Community Centre notice board and signage at the front of the building had begun to show their age, so a refresh of the noticeboard background and deep clean of both has left them looking as good as new. We also spent time redecorating and refreshing the downstairs venue room, which now provides a brighter and more welcoming space for all our user groups. You may have noticed that the fingerpost signs on the Village Green in High Ackworth were removed earlier this year. We're pleased to report that they have now been replaced with attractive new wooden signs featuring clear, easy-to-read lettering, helping residents and visitors alike find their way around the village.



MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

A huge thank you to everyone who came and supported our Macmillan Coffee Morning at the Quarries Community Centre.
We are delighted to announce that, thanks to your generosity, we raised a fantastic £220!
We are so grateful to those that donated their homemade bakes and treats.





Ackworth Cemetery Memorial Wall

For more information about the memorial wall plaques, please contact:

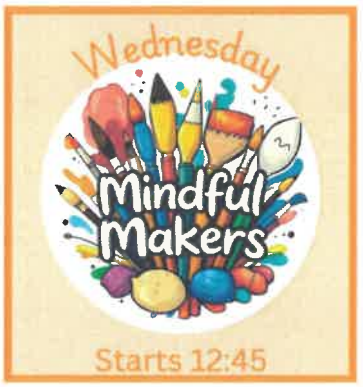
info@ackworthparishcouncil.gov.uk.

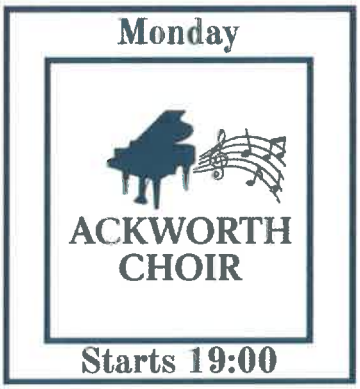
Community groups are the heart of Bell Lane Centre, bringing people together through shared interests, local needs and a sense of belonging. We're proud to host a variety of independently run groups, many of which are always happy to welcome new members with open arms. Some are free of charge and some just involve a small fee to cover the cost of room hire and running the group. Interested in getting involved? You can find a full timetable of groups on our website or pick up a copy from Bell Lane Community Centre.

Here are some of the other independently run community groups in the village.









If you're interested in attending one of these group, please contact the group leader.

Ackworth Strummers / Ukulele - Mary: marybolger199@gmail.com

Board Games - palmer.m.l@hotmail.com

Mindful Makers - retrocakes2012@yahoo.com

Karen - 07445547169 or Nicola 07376390633

Ackworth Choir - rhianjim@aol.com

ACKWORTH HERITAGE GROUP

The Heritage group was founded in 2000 to repair the village cross, which was destroyed in an act of vandalism. After successfully restoring the cross, the group decided to continue their work, meeting monthly to ensure that Ackworth's history is preserved for future generations.

Their next two meetings are November 19th to discuss "1960s" and December 17th to talk about "Retirement for Beginners"

Ackworth Litter Fairies

We would like to extend our utmost thanks to the Fairies for their continued hard work and dedication in Ackworth.

They help keep our community clean and tidy, and in August alone collected an impressive 112 bags of litter.

Thank you for all that you do!



Bell Lane Community Centre is a registered Safe Zone. Safe Zones are places across the Wakefield district that are able to provide a place of support to contact a family member, friend or carer if someone is feeling unsafe. Safety Zones are located across the whole district, look out for a Safe Zone badge or lanyard. Find your nearest Safe Zone by visiting www.wakefield.gov.uk/safezone



Stay up to date with village news, events, and room hire rates. To find information about our cemetery, allotments, and all other enquiries, please visit our website.

Scan me!

Girlguiding Ackworth Division



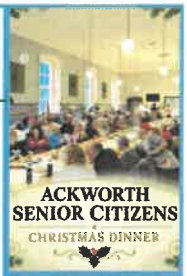
Grants awarded by Ackworth Parish Council in 2026

Ackworth Community Library- £200

Ackworth Pramfest- £500

Ackworth Senior Citizens Christmas Fund- £1,500

Ackworth Guides- £200





Ackworth Community Library

Monday 09:00 - 12:00	Friday 09:00 - 13:00
Tuesday 12:00 - 17:00	Saturday 09:00 - 12:00
Wednesday 12:00 - 17:00	Sunday CLOSED
Thursday 12:00 - 17:00	

Tel: 01977 617625
Email us at info@ackworthcommunitylibrary.org.uk

Your District Councillors wakefieldcouncil working for you

Cllr Rhys Carr - 07721812098
rhyscarr@wakefield.gov.uk

Cllr Kevin Atcheson -07721807257
katcheson@wakefield.gov.uk

Cllr Chad Thomas - 07721812012
chadthomas@wakefield.gov.uk

Bell Lane Community Centre 01977 611583 info@ackworthparishcouncil.gov.uk

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Bloom Wakefield		Parents and Toddlers 09:30-11:00	Ackworth Slimmer's Support 09:30-10:30	North Star Pilates 09:15-10:15	Dance Works Various Classes	Ackworth Community Church 10:00-12:00
Baby Band 11:00-12:00	Painting for pleasure 10:00-12:00	Painting for pleasure 10:00-12:00	Hygge Yoga 10:30-11:30	Gymnastics In Ackworth 11:15-12:00 12:15-13:00	★ Available for party bookings Contact info@ackworthparishcouncil.gov.uk for further information ★	
		Mindful Makers 13:00-15:00				
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 **Book Club - Every 3rd Monday of the month**	Yoga with Kelly 13:30-15:00	Ackworth Line Dancing 13:00-15:00		Wakefield Carers 3rd Friday of the month 13.30-15.00		
	Ackworth Drop-in 4th Tuesday of the month 13:00-15:00	Inspire To Change 17:00-20:00	Dance Works 16:30-18:30			
	Ackworth Scouts Squirrels 17:00-18:00	1st Ackworth Rainbows 17.30-18.30	Taichi Qigong By Beyond Healing 19:15-20:15			
	Yoga with Linda 19:00-20:30	Ackworth Needles & Pins 19:00-21:00	Yorkshire Country Women 1st Thursday of the month 19:30-21:30	**Ackworth Parish Council Opening Hours** Monday 10am-12pm Tuesday 10am - 1pm Wednesday 10am - 12pm Thursday CLOSED Friday 10am-1pm		Ackworth Community Church 18:00-19:15
Ackworth Choir 19:00-21:00	Ukulele 19:00-21:00	Board Games Every other Wednesday 19:00-21:00	Heritage Group 4th Thursday of the month 19:30			Spiritualist Church 18:00-20:00

Rooms for hire - We have 3 rooms to hire at Bell Lane Community Centre. There is also a small room at Carr Bridge and Brackenhill Centre that can be hired out for smaller events/groups. Please contact the office on info@ackworthparishcouncil.gov.uk

Amy's Canine Coaching - Usually a 6 week course which takes place on an evening once a week and 1 Saturday in each block

Blue - Sesssions must be booked | Green - Drop in

Ask the Clerk



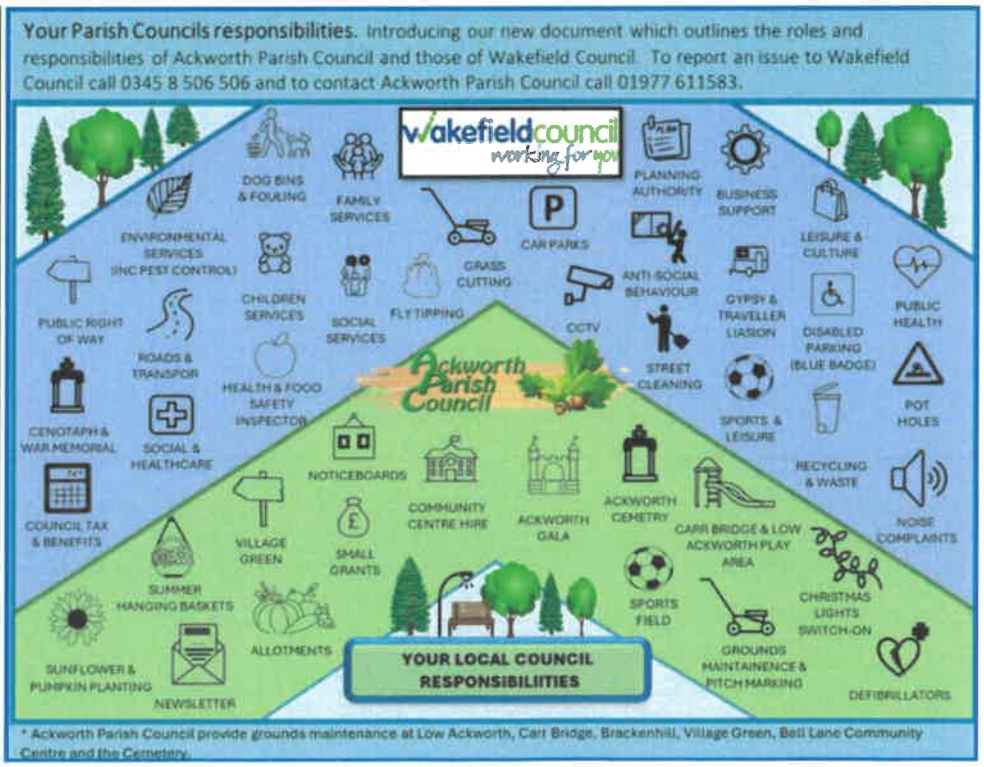
Your Parish Council Your Questions

Concerns? Queries? Heard or read something and want clarity? We're here to help!

'Ask the Clerk' and I will be happy to provide accurate information, answering any questions you may have.

clerk@ackworthparishcouncil.gov.uk
01977 611583
In person – by appointment

Your Parish Councils responsibilities. Introducing our new document which outlines the roles and responsibilities of Ackworth Parish Council and those of Wakefield Council. To report an issue to Wakefield Council call 0345 8 506 506 and to contact Ackworth Parish Council call 01977 611583.



* Ackworth Parish Council provide grounds maintenance at Low Ackworth, Carr Bridge, Brackenhill, Village Green, Bell Lane Community Centre and the Cemetery.