

Horden Parish Council

Newsletter

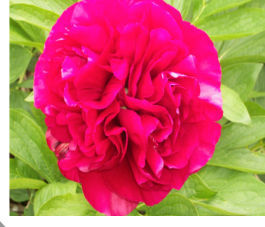
Issue 26 - AUTUMN 2013



Pirates in the Park Fancy Dress Winners



One of the banners on display at the Heritage Day



Horden Welfare Park receives Gold Award from Northumbria in Bloom



The Social Welfare Centre is available for private hire call 0191 5180823 for details

Hi Folks

Well it seems like the weather was on our side for the Teddy Bear's Picnic and the Pirates in the Park with this ever popular afternoon being a great success. Around 2,000 people turned out to enjoy Punch and Judy, bouncy castles, games, face painting and of course our own pirate games. Many of children including staff and helpers were involved in promoting the theme of the afternoon by donning pirate costumes. The competitions, prizes and freebies went down very well and a brilliant afternoon was enjoyed by all. There were quite a lot of children who entered in the spirit of the afternoon and joined in the fancy dress competition which made it really difficult to judge!

Although there always has to be one winner myself and Isabelle Roberts, the Chairman of the Parks and Cemetery, would like to think they are all winners. All of the summer activities which are organised by the Parks and Cemetery Manager, Jimmy Bush were all once again well attended.

The Green Leaf Café is doing really well which is now run and managed by Haswell and District Mencap.

Horden Sea View Station Update

There has been much discussion regarding the re-opening of a railway station in Horden over the last couple of years and now the parish council are in a position to provide an update! Durham County Council who are driving the project forward, are working with Network Rail and other agencies in order to bring this project to fruition.

A successful £4.5M bid has been made to the North East Major Transport Scheme, which is a significant boost to pay for the projected cost of £7.5M to complete the station. There may also be the possibility that the rest of the funding can be obtained through related bids.

There is however, a significant issue with regard to train time tables to create the time for trains to stop at Horden in the first instance. Prior work on this showed that there was sufficient time to accommodate a 3 minute stop at Horden, however, Network Rail have recently extended services to better serve James Cook Hospital which have absorbed this time. Therefore, further work will now be required in order to find the time in which to stop before any further progress can be made to build.

Durham County Council have stated that once the funding has been finalised and the stopping time issues have been resolved, then the final design stage and building should be able to commence. As of September 2013, the project is still on schedule for the building to commence in March 2015 with an opening date of March 2016. The parish council will keep you updated as further developments occur.

I have attended a few charity events and also the Heritage Day which was held in the Social Welfare Centre displaying colliery banners and memorabilia. I also opened the Garden Fete at the Salvation Army. My own charity night is a sell out and I would like to thank friends, relatives and local businesses for their kind donations to my chosen charities.

Remembrance Sunday is in November and we have the Salvation Army to play for this year's Christmas Tree Lighting Service. See inside for details.

I went into Horden schools recently with Isabelle Roberts to present the winning children with their prizes and certificates from the Horden in Bloom Painting Competition.

I would like to convey my thanks to the Parks and Cemetery staff for their hard work which played a vital role in the achievement of a special award from

Northumbria in Bloom.

We have also installed a new large basket swing in the Welfare Park aimed at the use for disabled children as part of plans to replace the play equipment in the Welfare Park.

**Chairman,
Jean White**



Horden Parish Council

Christmas Tree Lighting Service 2013

Horden Parish Council are pleased to announce that the annual Christmas Tree Lighting service will take place on Wednesday 4th December 2013 at 6pm.

Following on from a fantastic service last year, Horden Salvation Army Brass Band will be accompanying proceedings and providing the music that only a brass band can provide. The council hope you can pop along for the half hour service, which attracts more and more members of the public each year. Father Kevin Smith, the curate of St. Mary's Church will preside over the proceeding and there will be a church service to follow once the tree has been lit.



Durham County Council's Household Waste Recycling Centres

DCC's waste recycling centres winter opening hours will come into effect from 1st October 2013 and residents are asked to check site opening times before they visit.

The waste centres are for household waste only and any residents who own a van, minibus, trailer or pick up will also need to apply for a waste permit to access the site.

If you need any further information please telephone 03000 261 000 or visit the website www.durham.gov.uk/hwrc



MS ACTIVE

MS Active is a group of individuals with multiple sclerosis (MS) who meet every fortnight at Healthworks, Easington Colliery for informal chats, monthly meetings and regular outings.

If you have MS or you know someone who has and needs that little bit of support, either drop in or phone Healthworks on 0191 5274150.

Cemetery Plans Progress

Due to a reduction of burial spaces at their existing cemetery at Thorpe Road, Horden Parish Council is undertaking testing on the field adjacent to its existing boundary in Horden to determine its suitability to extend the cemetery.

If the land is found to be suitable for cemetery purposes, then the parish council will undertake appropriate consultation with the public prior to a planning application being submitted to find out the community's views on the proposal.

The parish council will then take the community's feedback into account before making a decision on whether to proceed with development plans, should the land be suitable.

The testing was carried out in September and the results will be published shortly. The parish council will keep the public informed appropriately throughout the rest of the year. Please contact Paul Davison, Clerk to the Council for any further queries on the proposal.



Inclusion Matters

The Welfare Park will be getting its first piece of play equipment aimed at including disabled children installed in September. A large basket type swing will be installed in the over 6 year olds play area as part of phased plans to replace play equipment that was installed as part of the 1.8 million pound lottery grant when the park was redeveloped in 2005.

Paul Davison, Clerk to the parish council said, "The parish council recognise the importance of maintaining their play areas to a high standard which is why they have identified a phased programme of improvements to play equipment in their strategic plan. Part of these improvements includes providing equipment that can be used by all members of the community. The introduction of this type of swing will mean that those children who would otherwise not be able to use conventional swings will now have the opportunity to indulge in the recreational facilities the park has to offer".



Remembrance Sunday 2013

This years Remembrance Sunday Parade will take place on Sunday 10th November. This continues Horden's great tradition of annually honouring those men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice for their country. The turnout is always impressive at the Memorial Park and it is hoped that this year will be no exception. The Lord Lieutenant Arthur Charlton will again be the dignitary of honour as he has been in previous years but all are welcome to pay their respects and lay a wreath or a cross if they so wish.

If you wish to attend the service at the Memorial Park, simply turn up shortly before 11am. There will then follow a Remembrance Day service at St. Mary's Church immediately afterwards.



Horden Parish Council

Blooming Marvellous!

As part of the annual Britain in Bloom event, Horden Welfare Park was entered into the 2013 competition for the best park in the town category and a separate entry for Horden as a community in the small town section.

The Northumbria in Bloom awards ceremony was held at Gateshead on Tuesday 17th September, where the winners would be announced on the day. Horden retained its Silver Award in the Small Town category which is an excellent achievement.

Horden Welfare Park however re-attained its Gold award for the second consecutive year. In 2012 the park was awarded the Ken Sherwood Trophy for Best Park in the Town section. This year it achieved Gold for a special award given for the grounds of Colleges, Universities and sports complexes.

Horden Welfare Park has been managed by Horden Parish Council since 1986 and became a registered charity since 1998.

Paul Davison the Clerk at Horden Parish Council said, "This is truly a fantastic achievement for which the community should be proud. There are many contributors to the success of the park, from the trustees who provide the vision to progress the park forward to the members of the public who enjoy the recreation facilities and enjoy the open space that the park provides. The success of the park, exemplified in this stunning achievement is only made possible by a true team effort. The Welfare Park has attained many awards in recent years, but being bestowed with this accolade is of particular significance".

"Special mention must, of course, go to the Welfare Park parks staff, and in particular the sports turf grounds men who maintain the pitches on a daily basis. Without their tireless dedication, professionalism and commitment to excellence, the standard of achievement attained and now recognised in Northumbria in Bloom, would not be possible".



If that wasn't enough, Horden also scooped the award for the best Conservation Project in relation to the Horden Reed Bed Project that has been developed on the old colliery site and uses natural resources to filter contaminated mine water and make it safe.

The Horden in Bloom Committee, which is open to anyone will be holding a meeting on 16th October 2013 at 5pm at Horden Social Welfare Centre and would welcome any new members.

Horden Rugby Club receive The Whole Club Accreditation

Horden RFC are among only three other clubs in the County to receive 'The Whole Club Accreditation' the club's dedication has paid off as the award recognises that the club are demonstrating that they run the club in a professional manner to the high standards laid down by the governing bodies Sport England and the RFU, having high regard for the safety and welfare of players and members at all times.

Congratulations to all those at Horden RFC!



Green Flag Success - Again!

Horden Memorial and Welfare Parks are one of the very best in the U.K. - and that's official. The two parks are among a record breaking 1,447 parks and green spaces that have received the prestigious Green Flag award.

The national award, handed out by Keep Britain Tidy, recognises and rewards the best parks and green spaces in the country. A Green Flag flying overhead is a clear sign to visitors that the parks boast the highest possible standards, is beautifully maintained and has excellent facilities.

Quality green spaces are essential to happy, healthy communities. They are fundamental to people's quality of life, whether in cities or villages and that is why parks are so important.

Horden Welfare Park has been awarded both the Green Flag and Green Heritage site awards for the eighth consecutive year, following the restoration of the 23-acre site in 2005 using 1.8 million of lottery funding. Horden Memorial Park joins its larger sister park for the sixth consecutive time.

Jimmy Bush, Horden Parish Council's Parks and Cemetery Manager said, "every one of the parks and cemetery staff take a great deal of pride in maintaining all of the parks and cemetery open spaces within Horden ensuring they are kept to the highest standards".



Horden Parish Council

Stayplton Drive MUGA

The future of the MUGA facility and children's play area at Stayplton Drive faces further uncertainty moving forward. Alexander Developments who built Stayplton Drive, also built the MUGA and small play area as part of the development conditions imposed by the then Easington District Council (now Durham County Council).

At the time of the development, Horden Parish Council stated that they would take over the running of the facilities once they were built and would maintain them.

Unfortunately, Alexander Developments went into administration in 2009, leaving both facilities unfinished and of poor quality. The receivers were called in and in 2013 are still winding up Alexander Developments business.

However, from the time that the parish council made the commitment in principle to take on the facilities, several issues have arisen that have forced them to re-consider that commitment.

The parish council are faced with unprecedented budget cuts in the next few years, which has already led to scaling back its existing operations in the current year. Additionally, the parish council would be faced with an extensive bill for completing a great deal of repair and improvement work on the facilities before they would be satisfied that the facilities are fit for use to the parish council's standards.

Members therefore felt that it would not be a prudent use of local taxpayer's money to take on another facility at great unbudgeted cost when the council should be concentrating on maintaining its currently owned facilities, which is becoming more expensive each year. This means that the parish council will not undertake any responsibility for the facilities and their future is in the hands of the receivers until they decide how best to deal with them.

Lost or Stolen Bike?

A girls mountain bike was found abandoned at Horden Welfare Park back in July and the owner of the bike still remains a mystery despite this being reported to the Police.

If you think this may belong to you or someone you know please call in to the Parish Council Office to enquire.

Have Your Say....

Have you ever wanted to tell the Parish Council what you think of the services that are provided: Wanted to make a complaint but didn't know who to write to or where to send a letter? There are many ways that you can contact us:

You can phone us on **0191 5180823** during office hours, or leave a message on our answer phone after hours. You can contact us by e-mail at:- hordencouncil@btconnect.com

Or you can fax us, on: **0191 5180385**

Letters of enquiry, compliment or complaint can be sent to: The Clerk – Mr Paul Davison, Horden Parish Council, Social Welfare Centre, Seventh Street, Horden, Peterlee, Co Durham, SR8 4LX.

You can call into the Social Welfare Centre during office hours. If you wish to speak to the Clerk, you may need to make an appointment. This can be arranged by telephoning the office in advance.

If you are interested in finding out how the Parish Council makes decisions, you are entitled to attend meetings of the Parish Council to observe the proceedings. Meetings of the Parish Council, Parks & Cemetery Committee and Finance & General Purposes Committee are held the first Thursday of the month (except August) in the Training Room at the Social Welfare Centre from 6.00 pm. The agenda for the meeting (which details what is to be discussed) is placed on the notice board in the foyer of Horden Social Welfare Centre on the Friday before the meeting.

If you wish to speak at the meeting, all you need to do is contact the Clerk before the meeting. You would be able to speak at the Public Participation Section of the meeting. A maximum of 20 minutes is allowed for the public.

To find out more, please contact the Clerk.

You can contact Horden Parish Council Office direct:

Chairman: Jean White

Councillors:

Mr R Bagnall

11 Ash Crescent, Horden, Co. Durham, SR8 4JN

Miss J Clark

73 Cotsford Park Estate, Horden, Co Durham, SR8 4TA

Mrs M Clark

89 Cotsford Park Estate, Horden, Co Durham, SR8 4TA

Mrs E Connor

2 Cedar Street, Horden, Co Durham, SR8 4HD

Mr W Hill

6 Sunderland Avenue, Horden, Co Durham, SR8 4BH

Mr D Langan

1 Snowdrop Avenue, Horden, Co. Durham, SR8 4PP

Mr D Nicol

86 Fifth Street, Horden, Co Durham, SR8 4LA

Mrs G Phillips

13 Macbeth Walk, Horden, Co Durham, SR8 4HU

Mrs I Roberts

33 Ninth Street, Horden, Co. Durham, SR8 4LZ

Mrs M Robinson

Northlea, 19 Shotton Road, Horden, Co Durham SR8 4RB

Mr W Smith

22 Alder Road, Horden, Co Durham ,SR8 4HQ

Mr D Tait

6 Warkworth Avenue, Horden, Co Durham, SR8 4AZ

Mrs J White

23 Blackhills Tce, Horden, Co Durham, SR8 4LJ

Mr L Williams

1 Warren Street, Horden, Co Durham, SR8 4NA

Mrs E Wood

12 Roseby Rd, Horden, Co Durham, SR8 4RJ

All Councillors can be contacted via the Parish Council Office

Clerk to the Council: Paul Davison

Assistant Clerk: Jacqui Hunt

Admin & Finance Officer: Gemma Rowe

Office Opening Hours:

Monday – Thursday: 9.00 am – 5.00 pm

Friday: 9.00 am – 4.30 pm

Social Welfare Centre opening Hours:

Monday till 8 pm

Tuesday till 8.00 pm

Wednesday till 5.00 pm

Thursday till 9.00 pm

Address: Horden Parish Council, Horden Social Welfare Centre, Seventh Street, Horden, Peterlee, Co Durham, SR8 4LX.

Tel: 0191 5180823

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Facebook: HordenSocialWelfareCentre

Website: www.hordenparishcouncil.gov.uk