

Hornden Parish Council

Newsletter

Issue 4 - Spring 2007

Children and Friends of the Welfare Park at "Boom Dang" Drumming workshop



Children from Cotsford Infant School planting crocus bulbs at Sunderland Road Playing Fields



Volunteers working with Hornden Regeneration Partnership planting bulbs at village entrances



Wreath laid at Cenotaph at Memorial Park on Remembrance Sunday November 2006



Hi folks,

Here's wishing you all a Happy New Year, I hope that when you read the first newsletter of 2007 all your headaches are gone and diets are back on track. Just to let you know what has happened up to the festive season and what events are coming up in the next few months.

Remembrance Sunday Service had a good turn out with Ex-Servicemen, representative of the Lord Lieutenant of County Durham, Territorial Army Cadets, Girl Guides, churches, representatives from clubs around the area, the Parish Council and others laying the wreaths on the cenotaph at the Memorial Park also the Church Service followed at St Mary's Church. Hornden Social Welfare Centre raised £62.20 for the Poppy Appeal and there was also money raised from wreaths.

The Christmas Tree Lighting and Carol Service which was held at the Memorial Park on December 10th was once again a great success. I wish to thank the community for coming along on such a windy and cold night thanks go especially to the Churches Together, Jack Wetherell who switched on the Christmas tree lights, but most of all to Blackhall Youth Band who played the music for the Christmas carols, well done.

There will be a pantomime in the Social Welfare Centre for the children on 24th and 25th January which is



free to all Hornden primary school children for the eighth consecutive year. Our thanks go to the Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder Team and Walkers Crisps for supplying drinks and crisps.

Following the improvements to the footpaths on Church Green last March, the Parish Council are soon going to install new seats at the centre of the green to replace the seats already in place. After working with the District of Easington Council and the police, we are awaiting the introduction of an Alcohol Free Zone

order covering the Green and Memorial Park following the disturbances experienced by residents throughout the summer of 2006. This will hopefully be in place by the end of March.

There will be another two-day football coaching event 22nd and 23rd February at the Welfare Park coached by Jimmy Bush, places must be booked in advance by contacting the Parish Council office.

Jimmy Bush has put together a historic plan of Memorial Park which will be used to help us look after the park into the future. Also, Jimmy has already started with arrangements of the summer events for which the brass bands have been booked and the Teddy Bears Picnic date chosen for 1st July, look out for more details in future newsletters.

May 2007 is the 60th Anniversary of the formation of Hornden Parish Council, originally the village was part of Shotton Parish, which also covered the land where Peterlee now stands. The Council are planning how to mark this important anniversary and I will keep you all informed in the next newsletter.

I hope you enjoy the first edition of the Newsletter for 2007.

Jean White

Chairman of Hornden Parish Council

Hornden Parish Council



“Children from Cotford Infant School with Parish Council staff, plant 500 crocuses at Sunderland Road Playing Fields. Thanks to Lloyds of Bishop Auckland who kindly lent the council a turf lifter for the day.”



Hornden Bids Farewell to Police Staff!

PC Keith Bowmaker who has been one of the two beat officers for Hornden for the past five years has recently moved to become Community Beat Officer in Murton and has been replaced by PC Chris Fixter.

Also PCSO Kevin Middleton left Hornden in December 2006, continuing to work as a PCSO for Cleveland Police and has been replaced by PCSO Tony Dickinson.

We wish Keith and Kev luck in their new roles and on behalf of the community of Hornden thank them for the good work they have done in the village, and welcome Chris and Tony.

Memorial Park

I have recently been working on the Management Plan of the Memorial Park and would like to share some significant facts about the park: -

The Park was opened in 1936 by Shotton Parish Council and was maintained by them up until 1947 when Hornden Parish Council took over ownership. The War Memorial Clock was erected in 1949.

When the park first opened it only comprised of the main entrance, four small greens and a large flowerbed, it wasn't until two years later that the park was extended to where the boundary is today.



The Church Green was waste land and it wasn't until 1957 when the Church Green walls and paths were constructed, much as it is today.

Jimmy Bush
Parks & Cemetery Manager

Heading in the right direction!

Hornden has a lot of services and amenities but are they easy for visitors and new residents to find?

Hornden Regeneration Partnership members identified the need to

improve signage and have come up with the idea of an attractive cast iron fingerpost which will feature a selection of the amenities.

Partnership members are working closely with Hornden Parish Council to make sure that the fingerpost is put in the best place to point people in the right direction.

It's hoped that funding will be secured to have the fingerpost installed later this year.

The Regeneration Partnership is working to make Hornden a better place. Members are local volunteers who take regeneration ideas and make them happen. Along the way we learn new skills, access training and make new friends.

If you would like to find out more about getting involved, contact Michael Fishwick on 0797 0500 824.

Dangerous Dogs

Members of the public would be as worried as we



were to hear the horrendous stories of a little girl mauled to death by a violent dog. Subsequent stories emerged that there had been attacks up and down the country.

The District of Easington Council immediately took action. A dog amnesty was issued to the effect that any owner who considered their animal to be dangerous, or to be a threat to the public at large, could request that the Council take charge of the dog. To the 11th January 2007 four dogs have been handed in. This service is free of charge, but not to be confused with unwanted Christmas pets. The Sunderland Echo did an internet survey which found that 92% of the public were in favour of this type of action.



Contact Number
0191 5275040 Envirocall.

George Patterson, Cabinet Member for Liveability, District of Easington Council

Hornden Parish Council

JUNE CLARK

Chairman of Finance & General Purposes Committee 2006/7

Another New Year has been welcomed in and as well as getting our own houses and finances ready for the coming year, came the vitally important programme of work required by the Council to agree the financial needs within the parish for 2007/2008.

This piece of work is called "setting the Precept" and I would like to explain a little about what this entails.

To help meet the tight time deadlines needed in dealing with financial matters, a sub committee of the full Finance and General Purposes Committee is identified. This is done at the A.G.M. of the Parish Council in May each year and is made up of the Chairs and Vice Chairs of all Parish Council committees. This group started work on the task of setting the Precept in November.

Sensibly enough, we start by looking at an analysis of what is expected for the current year, against what was predicted to have been spent. The information is produced for each department e.g. Cemetery, Social Welfare Centre.

It also shows where, mainly due to good budgeting and housekeeping, there may be any potential savings at the year end.

This information is prepared for us by our Clerk and is in fine detail.

We are also given the same departmental breakdown with figures showing anticipated expenses for the next financial year, with an explanation of any changes.

The sub committee makes its recommendations to the Full Parish Council who decide on the level of the eventual Precept for the coming year.

This year again, in an effort to keep any increase to our Parishioners to a minimum we have decided to put back and use up the savings made from last years precept.

We are very proud of the achievements that have been made so far in maintaining the services provided by the Parish Council and with the completion of the two newly revamped play areas, the standard of facilities offered have increased yet again.

Financial Information is always available to Parishioners and the Finance and General Purposes Committee meets each month when the Full Parish Council holds their meeting.

Parish Council Staff update

Gaynor Crute joined the administration team as Administration & Finance Officer. Gaynor has over 20 years of experience in local government, she joined us from the District of Easington Council, she is also a Parish Councillor at neighbouring Monk Hesleden Parish Council.



Steven Corner is the new Social Welfare Centre Assistant Caretaker, looking after community groups and other users of the building on an afternoon and evening. He

joined us after caretaking in many local schools.

There is change in the Parks and cemetery departments Jimmy Bush has returned from secondment as Welfare Park Development Officer to his post of Parks & Cemetery Manager, Walter Rudkin has returned to the Welfare Park as Parks & Playing Fields Supervisor and Colin Muir has a new post as Parks & Cemetery Team Leader.



Grants and Donations

The Parish Council receives many requests for donations to organisations and charities. We have to make sure before we agree to give any donations that we are legally allowed to do so and the funding source is identified.

We take the advice of the Clerk on availability of a suitable power to grant funding and try to be fair, but we look to prioritise requests which will benefit parishioners in these requests and have to keep them in an affordable level.

We regularly get written letters of thanks for the valuable support given via the parishioners of Hornden for this

sort of support and the letters or cards are displayed on the noticeboard of the Social Welfare Centre.

Some of the groups and organisations that have received our support so far this year include Mencap, Durham Wildlife Trust, Crimestoppers NE, Citizens Advice Bureau, Guide Dogs for the Blind, Hornden Banner Committee and the Hornden Brownies and Guides.

*June Clark,
Finance & General Purposes Chairman*

Cemetery Update

Following public concern at the Parish Council's change of rules regarding the use of solar lights on graves, a public consultation was carried out in late summer.

As a result of the responses, a new policy has been introduced with effect from 1st January 2007.



Solar lights may be placed on purchased graves without the Parks & Cemetery Manager's specific approval subject to the following conditions.

Solar lights shall be no higher than headstone (max. 42 inches).

Where there is a kerb, solar lights must be contained within the 18 inch space allowed.

Where there is no kerb any solar light shall be immediately in front of the headstone.

A maximum of 2 lights shall be allowed on any grave.

The colour of solar lights to be restricted to blue/white.

No other lights of any type shall be allowed on any grave within the cemetery, any lights not in compliance with the regulations shall be removed by Parish Council staff without notice and can be recovered by contacting the Parks and Cemetery Manager. Any items not collected within six months of removal shall be disposed of by the Council.

The Council have also recently published a new Burial Guide which combines the older guide and rules of management. Please contact either Jimmy Bush or Sam Shippen if you need any further information about the lights or new guide.

Horden Parish Council

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 24th & Thursday 25th January 2007:

Pantomime for primary school children, Social Welfare Centre.

Thursday 1st February 2007:

Parish Council Meeting, 6pm, Social Welfare Centre.

Wednesday 21st & Thursday 22nd February 2007:

Soccer Skills Training, Welfare Park, make your booking now by contacting the Parish Council Office for a booking form. **Cost £5.**

Thursday 1st March 2007:

Parish Council Meeting, 6pm, Social Welfare Centre.

Thursday 5th April 2007:

Parish Council Meeting, 6pm, Social Welfare Centre.

Easter Holiday Activities:

Please check the Welfare Park Noticeboards or contact the Parish Council for details of school holiday activities in Easter holidays.

Police Report

The main concern being raised by the residents of Horden is youth nuisance, if you are suffering from problems caused by youth nuisance or are aware of any problems please contact Police **0845 606 0365** or Council Street Wardens **0191 527 5047**.

Another problem in the area is thefts from motor vehicles, most of this crime is opportunist with items left in vehicles such as bags, coats, tools and the removable fronts of car stereos being the attraction. Think before you leave your car!

Also another crime on the increase is theft from sheds and garages, people do not appear to realise the value of items such as power tools and bicycles which are stored in garages and sheds but are not adequately secured, again making it easy for the opportunist criminal.

Another important point to pass to the residents of Horden is the importance of informing the Police of incidents and crime as if we do not know there is a problem we cannot do anything about it!

At 10am till 12noon the last Wednesday of every month at

the Horden Social Welfare Centre there is a beat surgery for anybody to drop in and speak to police, representatives of East Durham Homes and Accent North East. Another contact for Police, Street Wardens, District Council and Accent is between 1330 and 1530 on the last Thursday of every month at Roseby Road Community Centre where there is a



Neighbourhood Forum which is an opportunity for any residents of Horden to discuss any concerns or issues they may have.

Finally, another way to contact police is just to pop in to the Social Welfare Centre and leave a message with parish council staff who will pass on any information to Police.

*PC Glen Davies,
Community Beat Officer.*

Having 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 518 0823** during office hours, or leave a message on our answerphone after hours.

We can be contacted by email at hordencouncil@btconnect.com.

Our fax number is **0191 518 0385**, if you prefer to fax us.

Letters of enquiry, compliment or complaint can be sent to the Clerk - Mrs Samantha J Shippen FCIS, 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 Conference Room at the Social Welfare Centre from 6pm. The agenda for the meeting (which details what is to be discussed) is placed on the noticeboard in the foyer of the 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:

Mrs A. Buttress

1 Voden Crescent, Horden, Peterlee, Co Durham SR8 4PU

Mrs J. Clark

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

Mrs M. Clark

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

Mrs E. M. Connor

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

Mr T. W. Haddick

2 Blackthorne Avenue, Horden, Peterlee, Co Durham SR8 4HH

Mr G. Jones

12 Smillie Road, Horden, Peterlee, Co Durham SR8 4AH

Mr G. Lavery

9 Park Terrace, Horden, Peterlee, Co Durham SR8 4JG

Mr D. Maddison

4 Langthorne Avenue, Horden, Co Durham SR8 4HL

Mr G. Patterson

7 Hope Avenue, Horden, Peterlee, Co Durham SR8 4ER

Mrs G. Phillips

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

Mrs M. Robinson

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

Mr E. Slack

26 Edenvale Estate, Horden, Peterlee, Co Durham SR8 4RE

Mr P. Stradling

4 Blackthorne Avenue, Horden, Peterlee, Co Durham SR8 4HH

Mrs J. White

23 Blackhills Terrace, Horden, Peterlee, Co Durham SR8 4LJ

Mrs E. Wood

12 Roseby Road, Horden, Peterlee, Co Durham SR8 4RJ

All Councillors can also be contacted via the Parish Council Office.

Clerk to the Council: Samantha Shippen
Admin & Finance Officer: Gaynor Crute
Clerical Assistant: Gemma Rowe

Office opening hours now:

Monday - Thursday	9am - 5.00pm
Friday	9am - 4.30pm

(Social Welfare Centre open Monday to 6.30pm, Tuesday to 8pm, Wednesday to 10pm, Thursday to 9pm)

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

Tel: 0191 518 0823

Fax: 0191 518 0385

email: hordencouncil@btconnect.com