

Darrington Parish Council Newsletter

VOLUME 1-ISSUE 17

SPRING 2018

Air Crash Memorial

Update: We've had confirmation from the RAF that, weather and operations permitting, there will be a flypast of the Lancaster Bomber from the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight on the afternoon of Saturday, 22nd September!

In the morning, there will be a formal commemoration of the 75th Anniversary since six Darrington residents and six RAF Aircrew died when Halifax Mk11 Bomber BB245 crashed into houses on Chapel Hill, Valley Road.

The Project Team have successfully contacted many current members of residents' families who suffered loss on that fateful night as well as 4 of the Aircrew families.

We're struggling to contact the families of the two remaining aircrew but are doing everything possible to complete our searches.

On the morning of the 22nd, members of those families, along with members of families who had to be relocated as a result of the severe damage to houses will be Special Guests during a Commemoration that will include the unveiling of a sign. Also invited will be representatives of those Services who attended to respond to the disaster—Police, Fire, Medical, Army, The Church, The Council.

Because of the location, there's likely to be disruption to traffic on Valley Road and we know there is simply insufficient space to accommodate large numbers of other people who may wish to watch and be present during the commemoration. Consequently, we are hoping to

arranging for the Commemoration to be professionally videoed and intend to make it available both online as well as – hopefully – in the afternoon at Mid Yorkshire Golf Club.

On the Afternoon of the 22nd, Darrington Golf Club has very generously offered to allow those attending the morning event and also members of the public to visit, view a display of artifacts, pictures and information gathered by the Project Team. Also – and hopefully – it will be possible to view the video of the commemoration that will be presented on a continuous loop throughout the afternoon. The highpoint for the afternoon will be a fly past of the Lancaster Bomber!

Understandably, there must be some restriction on numbers attending the Golf Club so we will – in the next few months - invite applications for a free ticket to attend the afternoon event. We will publicise the date when and how applications may be made in as many ways as possible around Darrington. This will include posters on the noticeboards, road-side, Darrington Shop, The Kyte, Darrington Hotel and of course, the Mid-Yorkshire Golf Club as well on the various village facebook sites.

We will strive to allocate general public attendance

tickets as fairly and transparently as is reasonably possible! The team is pretty sure that anyone unsuccessful in the ticket application will still be able to watch the flypast from many other parts of the Village!

Following the events on September 22nd, the video, photos, copies of documents etc will be available to view on the Project's facebook page (If you're on the internet, simply search for the headline above and apply to join). The Commemorative sign includes QR Codes that will enable people to link to the Project as well as to the Parish Council site.

We are producing a Commemorative Programme for the event and would welcome support from any Darrington businesses who may wish to support this. We are currently also very keen to contact any company that may help facilitate the quality video of the event!

Several updates on this project have already been made and minuted during the monthly Parish Council Meetings and will continue to be made.

Please contact the team via the facebook site or by phone to Andy Tagger: 01977 704681

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Defibrillator

You may have already noticed that our refurbished and shiny red phone box is now installed in the village on the site of the old BT box. It arrived after an almost 5 month delay by suppliers so we are chuffed to see it finally in place. We will now arrange installation of the Defibrillator and will notify you all when it is in and functional



Parish Council Annual Report from the Chair 2017/18.

The past year began with optimism as the AGM saw the election of a new chairman. For my part, I was happy to hand over the position to a man who I considered perfectly capable of leading the council into the new year. Unfortunately, Councillor Thompson's tenure was to be a short one as health problems meant that he was forced to resign, and with no other volunteers coming forward, I once again took over the roll. Councillor Thompson remained a member of the council and has continued to be an invaluable contributor to our meetings.

Throughout the year our annual events continued as previously. The Scarecrow Competition, Open Garden event, Feast and Fayre stall, Christmas Carol service and the Christmas tree erection and decoration all went ahead as before. Thank go to all who gave assistance.

The project to mark the 75th anniversary of the air crash at Chapel Hill is well advanced and it would seem to be going to be a fitting tribute to those who lost their lives on that fateful evening. I should like to express particular thanks to Councillor Tagger for managing this project.

Unfortunately I have to report a number of failings this year. The ongoing planning dispute at the east end of the village has still not been resolved and is now into its eighth year. We are informed that the matter is now in the hands of the planning office's legal department and entirely out of our hands.

The Tithe Barn and Church Orchard projects have been somewhat neglected in recent months, but arrangements have been made to tidy these areas up in the coming summer months. The idea to install an information board in the Tithe Barn garden has been revived and artwork is presently being prepared. Thanks go to Alastair Wilson for trimming the trees this year. An arboreal expert from Wakefield College has become interested in

the Old Orchard and has offered to assist in the coming year.

My greatest regret this year has been our failure to install the defibrillator as promised. The situation is embarrassing to say the least as we have received numerous donations to fund this project and as yet have failed to complete the installation. The council have purchased a device, and have commissioned a company to install it in a reconditioned old red telephone box, on the site of the existing phone box. It was felt that this was as near the centre of the village as possible, and the old telephone box having an existing electrical supply would negate the problem of where to find another one. Unfortunately despite numerous complaints to the installation company, they have failed to carry out the work. Having given and reneged on installation dates. My last ultimatum was that if the installation was not completed by the AGM, I would propose, at the following council meeting, that the order is cancelled. The latest from the company is that they intend to install on the day of the AGM, or failing that, on the following day. Andrew, the new landlord of the Spread Eagle has offered to have the defibrillator on the outside of the pub and he will cover the electricity cost for free. The problem is that this would be a long way from residents who live to the east of the flyover. No doubt the council will come to a satisfactory decision at the following meeting.

The Parish Council continues to be in a sound financial state and as a consequence the decision was taken not to increase the precept this year. As it happens the council are about to receive a windfall payment from the developers of Hilltop farm. New government rules say that developers have to pay a percentage of the value of the development to the Town Council, and we, the Parish Council, receive a percentage of that. It is anticipated that DPC's share will be in the region of £20,000. The council are currently

deliberating on how best to spend this money for the benefit of residents.

I would like to remind all residents that our monthly meetings (second Thursday of each month) are open to anyone who wishes to come along and comment on proceedings.

Michael Britton ` Chairman DPC.

Garden Open Week

Hopefully, you'll have seen the posters and signs around the Village?

Entries invited by June 14th for the 2018 Darrington Open Garden Week. It will run from June 17th to the 25th.

However, don't feel you're committing to 7 days! You decide whether your garden will be Open for an afternoon or three or 1 day or more! It's not about 'Show Gardens'! It's about well-used, small or large and 'loved' gardens.

Darrington Garden Club June 13th 6pm to 7pm The Kyte Hotel

Guest speaker: Richard Brown - Lecturer in Horticulture, Wakefield College.

Richard is currently contributing to a national audit of fruit trees and has recently studied and logged details of the apple trees in our recently restored Darrington Old Orchard (near Darrington Church).

During our Wednesday 13th Garden Club meeting, he will talk about his interests generally in Horticulture as well as more specifically in Fruit trees.

He'll then take questions on any garden problems. Everyone welcome. No charge (except £1 contribution for a cuppa!)

Even if you've never thought about coming to Garden Club meetings before, June 13th could be a good chance for you to get an answer for any of your gardening 'niggles!' Interested? Want more info?

Andy Tagger: 01977 704681

No Scarecrows

We are sorry if this sounds like a broken record but yet another village event will not take place in 2018 due to lack of support or assistance from the local residents.

We appealed for help but received no response so came to the conclusion that there was no appetite for this event.

This is not a Parish Council event so anyone who would like to reinvigorate it will be most welcome.

Bonfire Night 2018—Cancelled

The Field Committee has come to the decision not to hold a bonfire and fireworks display in November this year.

This is primarily because of the magnificent success in previous years! So good have been the displays recently that annual numbers of visitors have been growing to the extent that it is felt that the event has outgrown the space available and cannot be safely supported any longer. There aren't enough volunteers to help set up, man the stalls, and reinstate the field. There is traffic chaos throughout the village, and the police cannot guarantee to supply officers on the day.

As a result the field committee has come to the conclusion that it would be unsafe to hold future events of this nature.

Editors Note: Following the publication of this information on the Village

Field Facebook Page it has been encouraging to note how many folk will miss this event.

Part of the problem was a lack of organising support and help on the day. To make sure the Feast and Fayre does not go the same way please volunteer to help the Village Field committee, who run both events, whether on the day for an hour or getting more involved in the organisation, planning and running of the day.

These events do not just happen so please get involved.

Contact Sam Wood on

01977 706479 to offer help

Feast and Fayre 2018—June 16th

This is the 35th Annual Darrington Feast & Fayre and the 21st Annual run, which this year sold out in record time!

Thank you and a very warm welcome to the 2018 King and Queen Morgan Bennett and Tegan Johnson who are attended by Finlay Guest, Daisy Firth and Mia Garner.

Proceeds this year will be retained for the upkeep of our field and equipment and general running costs.

We welcome back once again Knottingly Concert Brass and Dance Fusion. We also extend a warm welcome to a new performer Sean King who has very kindly squeezed us into his busy schedule.

West Yorkshire Retired Greyhound Trust are having a display once again this year so we would encourage visitors to leave their own dogs at home please. If you must bring them then

please refrain from allowing them into the catering tent.

There will also be a demonstration of Bushcrafts which will include lighting fires so would advise any youngsters wishing to participate to have an adult with them to give consent.

There will be a Cake Baking competition taking place again with 2 categories, "Best Cake Appearance" and "Best Tasting Cake" We have no specific theme so it is entirely down to your imagination. Judging will take place in the catering tent at 12:30 after which all cakes, unless otherwise specified will be cut and sold.

This year we have introduced a new competition "Home Made Sloe Gin". This will be judged at the same time as the baking competition so get your Demijohns at the ready.

The Catering tent will open at 12 Noon prompt and stop serving at 4pm. The

Bar and the BBQ will continue to serve until 5pm. This will enable the clear up process to begin and any helpers would be most welcome.

We look forward to another enjoyable afternoon of entertainment.

Visit our website at www.darringtonvillagefield.org for new updates or like our facebook page

SAM WOOD – CHAIR DARRINGTON FEAST & FAYRE



Darrington Parish Council Members
 Michael Britton Chair 708205 ,
 Fiona Smith—Vice Chair 797644
 Kelvin Wilkins—Clerk 702240
 Paul Stainer—Responsible Finance
 Officer - 705373
 John Hoyle 704619
 Andy Tagger 704681
 Vera Stones 794794
 Linda Johnson 702923
 Ian Thompson 798884 ,

Darrington Parish Council are working on your behalf to improve and maintain the atmosphere and facilities of Darrington and Wentbridge.

If you have any issues that you wish to raise or ideas to help the community please contact one of the Councillors above.

If you are interested in getting more involved contact the Chair or come to the next Parish Council meeting which is usually held on the second Thursday in the month in the Reading Rooms.

Keep up to date with Darrington events at www.darrington.org.uk and www.darringtonvillagefield.org

Our thanks to Darrington Golf Club and Hungry Horse for sponsoring the production of this newsletter.

All the information given in this newsletter is provided in good faith. As such the Parish Council disclaim all responsibility for any inaccuracies irrespective of the reason or cause.

Newsletter created and edited by Kelvin Wilkins.



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