

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Dear All,

Time for our monthly update – hope everyone is keeping safe – and once again grateful thanks to everyone involved in delivering the very successful vaccine roll-out;..we may be jaded but we can see light at the end of the tunnel.

Kirkburton Parish Council have kindly approved our grant application for two further waste bins on Huddersfield Road to replace two old ones – the grant covers the full cost of the bins. We are very grateful to them as both bins are very visible – and very well used!

Our Community First- Responder, Martin Smith, has kindly organised the replacement of the defibrillator pads in the Village Hall defib as they are near the end of their shelf life – many thanks to Martin for arranging this, with the Community Association covering the £40 cost.

The steps down the Whins are shortly to be rebuilt by Conservation Trust for Volunteers who have worked on the Whins before – notably creating the Safe Route to School. Shelley Conservation Group are leading this project. Many thanks to Andy Scott of the Rising Sun who cut back the vegetation and improved the steps – it will make the work of the complete overhaul much easier.

New signs are being designed for Shelley Open Spaces with links to the website so that people can easily access further natural information and a brief history of each site. Kirklees are helping with the design in conjunction with Shelley resident Martin Davis of Signs Express and we are very grateful for all the constructive advice we receive from Moira Scarff of Kirklees Open Spaces.

On a very positive note Shelley Garden Festival on Sunday 4th July is going ahead. We have had a very encouraging response from gardeners who wish to open – and quite a few are gardens new to us! We are just going at arrangements steadily so expect more details next month. If you are considering opening but would like more information please contact Damian on 07920 840045 – and, if you prefer, we are happy to have a ‘Focus on the Front’ where people admire your front garden from the street if you don’t wish them to go round the back of your house.

Finally, in response to national concerns about street safety, the Community Association has written to our MP, Mark Eastwood, to relay the concerns expressed in Ask Shelley that street lighting is a big cause for concern, with the new LED bulbs less effective and our streets ‘Darker and less safe’ with some people ‘not comfortable going out after dark.’ There is of course a balance between less light pollution and safety – but there must be a boffin somewhere that might suggest a solution! Perhaps in the design of lamp-posts!

Anne Priestman

Shelley Village Website

Again as a reminder you can find the website by typing the shelleyvillage.org url into your browser, after a few weeks you should be able to find it by searching on google.

MAGAZINE COVER

This month's front cover is of the old coop at the top of Near Bank, by Shelley resident Lav Mell.

Sue Brant



MESSAGE FOR THE MONTH
The NHS has teamed up with Action Fraud and the National Crime Agency in issuing joint advice around the vaccine and that it is only available for free through the NHS.
They will NEVER ask for payment



If you have any coronavirus symptoms:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste

[Get a test](#) and stay at home

Welcome Packs

Carole Hepworth would like to remind everyone in Shelley that Welcome Packs are available for new residents to Shelley. Please inform her if you know of anyone new who has moved into the area.

Her telephone number is 608963

LOCAL GROUPS

SHELLEY CONSERVATION GROUP

In June 1998 Shelley Community Association took an interest in the Whins as part of the Huddersfield Millennium Challenge. It had come into the ownership of Kirklees Council as part of a land swap when Shelley Park estate was being built. Prior to that it had been owned by a development company who had intended to build on it. At that time it was in an unkempt state, and a dumping ground without a maintenance plan.

As a result of that challenge Shelley Conservation Group was constituted in 1999. A decision was made to work in partnership with Kirklees Leisure Services, with the aim of looking after this valuable open space in the centre of the village for the benefit of local people and wildlife. The Whins (formerly The Gorse) is a steeply sloping site with amazing views across to Holme Moss, West Nab, and the northern end of the Peak National Park

Firstly, rubbish was removed. Then through fundraising, footpaths were constructed including the safe route to school down the Whins, which were adopted by Kirklees Council on to their definitive footpath map. A variety of trees were planted in suitable locations followed by wild flowers such as red campions, wild garlic, primroses, yellow flag iris and king cups. Daffodils were planted on the upper slopes to provide a splash of spring colour. Although it is the intention to preserve the the Whins as a wild area the presence of a bench or two are welcomed by visitors to the site!

Other sites that have been adopted and planted by the Conservation Group are Shelley Bridle, Healey Greave Meadow and Wood and Hill Top Garden at the top of Dam Hill. In each case we had to seek permission from the land owner, before carrying out any work. In the case of Hill Top Garden, we had additionally to obtain a "permission to cultivate" from Kirklees Council. Other pockets of land maintained by the Group include the roadside garden on Far Bank opposite Shelley Sports and Social Group and the small triangle of land next to the Pinfold on Near Bank.

From time to time, daffodils have been planted on road side verges (with a spectacular display at Kirklea) as organised projects, and by individuals. Kirklees Council mows the grass on the Whins and Healey Greave Meadow in the autumn after the flower seeds have set. This ensures that swathes of grassland are opened up for better access.

Over the years, the Conservation Group has organised litter picks usually in the spring after the winter weather has flattened the vegetation and the litter is easy to see. Litter picking goes on throughout the year in small groups and by individuals and. We are grateful to those people. I have some litter picking sticks and some black bags if anyone wants to do a litter pick.

Similarly, if anyone wants to plant wild flowers on any of the sites I have mentioned, please feel free to do so. Planting has taken place by individuals on the small garden opposite the Sports and Social Club at various times and in December, it doubled up as a Christmas tableau.

We all would like to see our village clean and tidy and free from litter. Similarly, we need to make sure that our open spaces look well cared for. If they look neglected, they could come under pressure to be developed!

The Conservation Group will this year as every year, once again be providing hanging baskets to decorate the village. The long awaited restructuring of the steps at the eastern

end of the Whins will hopefully be carried out as planned, by TCV, once the lockdown has eased.

You can read more about our open spaces on the Shelley website, www.shelleyvillage.org. If you would like to join our band of volunteers, please let me know. When we do carry out work, it is at irregular intervals and is far from onerous!

Malcolm MacDonald
Chairman Shelley Conservation Group
01484 609032 Email malcolmfshelley@gmail.com

OUR COMMUNITY WORKS

Our community group have not been previously included or mentioned in the Shelley Village magazine but have been active in the area for a number of years... volunteering has been a little difficult recently with restrictions and lockdowns but after meetings with local councillors, site visits and far too many zoom meetings, we are back in action.

We started as Friends of Shepley, borne originally from Shepley Village Association and a need for a more pro-active and less political community group, after some years of growing we became Friends of Shepley and Shelley and tried to create links with a similar Shelley Village Association while keeping them informed of our proposals. We have since grown to include surrounding villages and found it necessary to rename ourselves Our Community Works.

We are a non-political, all-inclusive community group that volunteers to protect and preserve our history and environment for future generations. We take a proactive role in developing and improving facilities for all age groups within the community. We use popular methods of communication and are mostly active on social media where our Facebook page keeps people informed while encouraging local business and we happily post ads and events.

Our ongoing plan to repair and rebuild dry stone walls throughout the community continues with the aim of saving some important historic features of our villages before they're lost forever.

Work started again this year to clear the footpaths and gutters of overgrowth, firstly around the Village Green but we have been asked by residents to look at several other areas that need clearing and repair.

Our volunteers carried out planned works on the Whins repairing the steps and clearing more paths after consultation with the Parish Council and agreed future works that will have a positive environmental outcome.

Members replaced faulty bulbs on the one-way road signs on Park Drive hoping to urge an unresponsive Kirklees Council to take action regarding this poorly lit, illegibly signed and dangerous area of Shelley. This gamble worked with Highways agreeing to look into faulty lights and poorly lit areas and carried out the repainting of road signage which will hopefully have a positive effect on increasingly erratic driving in the village. The group are pushing for further road safety initiatives including campaigning to gain fixed speed cameras through Shepley, Shelley and Kirkburton with the support of local councillors.

We have many more positive plans and proposals for the community that need agreement from Kirklees Council but we thank you all for the kind comments and support of the years.

Andrew Scott

SHEPLEY BIRD & WILDLIFE GROUP

Long-tailed Tit *Aegithalos caudatus*

Last on our local garden list survey, but many would say the most delightful, the Long-tailed Tit appears as a tiny fluffy ball with a long tail. With a black striped white head, tiny beak, pinkish flanks, black back and tail, and dark wings with pink patches they are always welcome visitors. Small flocks will suddenly descend onto feeders, especially fat balls, feed actively and then, in a follow-my-leader fashion, just as quickly move on.

The good news is that while many other species are declining Long-tailed Tits have increased in number by 80% since 1980 - due to the milder winters recently? Unfortunately, in severe winters because they are very small birds, they may suffer an 80% mortality. To try to offset heat loss they will often roost communally.

Their nests are amazing structures, built over a three week period by both male and female. Ball-shaped, with the entrance near the top, and situated in a branch fork, they are made of moss, cobwebs, and feathers, covered with lichens and lined with feathers. The female lays up to twelve eggs. Unfortunately the nests suffer a high predation rate. Unsuccessful breeders often then help feeding the other large successful broods.

John Wheeler

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Online Shopping

With the pandemic still very much with us, shopping on the internet may well be your preferred choice, making it very important to make sure you're buying safely and securely, and not falling victim to a scam.

IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION ABOUT ANY CRIMES, YOU CAN CONTACT THE INDEPENDENT CRIME-FIGHTING CHARITY CRIMESTOPPERS ANONYMOUSLY ON 0800 555 111 OR THROUGH THEIR ANONYMOUS ONLINE FORM AT WWW.CRIMESTOPPERS-UK.ORG. NO PERSONAL DETAILS ARE TAKEN, INFORMATION CANNOT BE TRACED OR RECORDED AND YOU WILL NOT GO TO COURT

rural@westyorkshire.pnn.police.uk

Contact your local policing team on **101**, or
FOR A CRIME IN PROGRESS OR IN AN EMERGENCY USE 999

Below is a link which will take you to Trading Standards website, where information can be found in relation to Scams around Covid19. Please take time to read and share this information and remember you will never be asked to pay for any testing regarding the virus.

<https://www.nationaltradingstandards.uk/news/beware-of-covid19-scams/>



Shed and Garage

Crime Prevention Advice

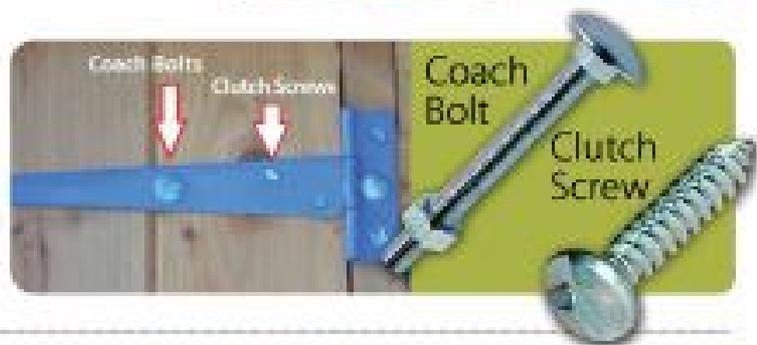
THERE HAS RECENTLY BEEN A SHED / GARAGE BURGLARY IN THIS AREA

Offenders will target sheds which have poor levels of security.

There are a number of security measures which are fairly inexpensive and are quite easy to install.

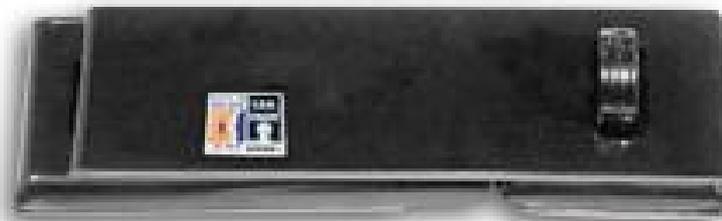
The first thing to look out for are the points of entry to the shed;

- Doors - are the hinges visible from the outside? Are the screws accessible and easy to remove?
- If they are, you may wish to consider installing 'coach bolts' and 'clutch screws' to both the door side and the frame side of the hinges.
- It is recommended that the wooden door and the frame is reinforced with wood or metal where the bolts are drilled through on the inside of the shed.



Shed door locks and hasps

We recommend the use of Secured by Design products such as the hasp shown here, which protects the fixings from being tampered with. A good quality padlock tested to British Standard BS12520 with a 3 – 4 rating for domestic use. Secured by Design tested products are recommended by Police Forces in the UK to offer a high level of security.



Once again the hasp can be reinforced on the inside of the shed. Shed bars can be fitted to the front of the shed covering the door as a further security measure.

Windows

Any window is a potential point of entry to the shed or garage.

- The glass can be obscured with various products to prevent offenders from being able to see the contents of the shed.
- Laminate sheeting can be applied to the glass on the inside giving it added strength and preventing it from breaking.
- Think of securing the windows with a grill or heavy wire mesh to increase window security and the use of net curtains to deter casual viewing of your property.
- Consideration should be given to the way that the glass is installed in the shed or garage. If the beading holding the glass is on the outside, it can be secured by using clutch screws or the use of silicon based adhesives.



Garage Doors

Devices such as the door defender shown here, once again recommended by Secured by Design, can be installed into a solid concrete base to prevent the garage door being raised. There are also other products of similar design available.



Cycle Security

There are a number of Secured by Design products which can be installed inside sheds and garages to prevent the removal of bikes and other high value products such as lawnmowers etc. These products come in various shapes and sizes and are all securely fastened to either the shed frame or the base. It is recommended that a good quality lock and chain is used to secure the bike etc. to the anchor.

Shed and Garage Alarms

There are a number of different alarm companies who supply alarms. These can vary in price from basic battery operated PIR type alarms to sensors which can

be linked to domestic alarm systems within the home. The advent of wireless technology has enabled this type of alarm to be used on sheds and garages.

Shed and Garage Structure

Consideration should be made to the physical condition of the structure.

- If the wooden door is rotten, on a shed for example, there would be little point in trying to secure the hinges. A replacement door of sufficient quality should be installed prior to any further security measures being added.
- If you have a door connecting the garage to the house make sure this has the same level of security as your front door, fitting locks that meet BS 3621 or fitting a door that meets PAS 24: 2012.
- Your local Neighbourhood Policing Teams can be contacted in the first instance for further assistance or the Crime Reduction Officer will be more than happy to assist with any further security issues. Please call 101 should you require any more assistance.

**Contact your local Crime Reduction Officer for further advice
Simply call 101 or visit www.westyorkshire.police.uk**



**WEST YORKSHIRE
POLICE**

CHURCH PAGES

SHELLEY PARISH CHURCH

Services and Events during April
(All at Emmanuel (Parish) Church unless otherwise stated)

COVID 19

The Church Council has taken the decision to suspend Sunday Services until further notice due to the severity of the current COVID outbreak.

Funerals. These services can take place in church but are limited to 30 people participating.

Weddings If these were to take place under the current restrictions only 10 people are allowed to attend.

The situation will be kept under review following advice from the Diocese. Hopefully conditions will change during April, announcements will be made on the "ACNY" website. On the ACNY or "A Church Near You" website just search for Shelley to find the link to Emmanuel Church. Also on the Emmanuel Facebook page

Church Contacts Baptisms and Weddings: Mrs Carol Robertshaw 860657
Funerals Mr Stephen Hughes 605755



Discovered your Inner Gardener this Lockdown?

Whether you can now boast grass where it should be, a new seating area, colourful planting or a veg plot in the making we would love you to share your garden with us...

Please think of opening your garden on **Sunday 4th July** as part of **Shelley Garden Festival**.

Hopefully there will be no restrictions and this can be a community event we all join in.

All profit raised will be put towards village projects and even your chosen charity if you wish.

New for this time – Focus on the Front – for if you are happy to let people into just your front garden – that is all we have been able to do for the last year and there are some crackers out there. So open up!

To find out more contact Damian on 07929361276 email damianstansfield@btinternet.com

Or Lorna on 01484 609032 email lornashelmac@hotmail.com

HEALTH

KIRKBURTON HEALTH CENTRE



Our Newsletter can be viewed on our website www.kirkburtonhealthcentre.nhs.uk , or by email upon request.

WELCOME

A sincere thank you to all our patients for your ongoing support and co-operation throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. We are working hard to provide safe, effective care remotely, and face-to-face appointments when needed. Please do not ignore health issues or ongoing medical conditions. Our doctors, nurses and support team are here for you.

COVID-19 VACCINATION PROGRAMME SUCCESS

We are delighted with how The Mast Primary Care Network (PCN), is working together to deliver the COVID-19 Vaccination programme for patients of Kirkburton, Dearne Valley, Lepton and Kirkheaton, Shepley and Skelmanthorpe practices. **A huge thank you to our staff, volunteers and car park team**, who continue to work tirelessly to ensure a safe, efficient experience for our patients.

We are working through groups in priority order, as set out by the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI). We are currently focusing on Cohort six, those aged 16 to 64 with an underlying health condition, and our second dose vaccination patients.

Please do not ring the practice to try and book a vaccine. We will contact you when your vaccination is due.

When we do contact you, act immediately and make sure you attend your appointment.

Please: wear a face covering unless exempt; use the intercom on arrival; sanitise your hands; have your temperature checked.

It is important that when you have received both doses of the vaccine, you must continue to follow Government guidance on social distancing.

If you do not need your appointment, or simply want to change it, call 01484 602040 or email reception.kirkburtonhealthcentre@nhs.net. Thank you for your co-operation.



**SOCIAL PRESCRIBING LINK WORKER
ANN SWEENEY**

Health and wellbeing can be affected by many things, such as feeling isolated, lonely, stressed, or living with a health condition. Our Social Prescribing Link Worker, Ann, works across the Mast Primary Care Network practices. Her role is to offer one-to-one support, listen to what matters, and put patients in touch with people and activities that will help to make them feel better. Ann said: “Although many activities and groups are currently on hold, social prescribing is making an important contribution through staying in touch with people who are feeling lonely or isolated.”



Referrals can be made to Ann through our doctors or nurses, or by contacting the Practice. To find out more, please visit our Social Prescribing web page [Social Prescribing | Kirklees Council](#).

What to do if someone is having a heart attack or has collapsed.

Keep yourself safe, check to see if the person can respond to you, then call the emergency services on 999.

Keep calm, answer the call handlers' questions and they will guide you through what to do; they will also need to know where you are.

If the person needs urgent help, an ambulance or first responder will be dispatched immediately.

If it is appropriate and there is someone who can collect it, you may also be told about the location of a local defibrillator.

Our local Community Public Access Defibrillators (CPADs) are located as follows –

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| On the Shelley Village Hall | 98 Huddersfield Road, accessible from the car park |
| On the Rising Sun Public House at | 162 Penistone Road. |
| On Lydgate Styles Hairdressers at | 267 Huddersfield Road |

LETTERS

Parliamentary Report

I was pleased recently to visit one of the vaccination centres in constituency to see how the roll out of the vaccines is continuing at pace and would like to record my thanks to all those involved including the volunteers who help marshall the centres.

The roadmap for the removal of current lockdown restrictions has been published and I am glad that the return to school and colleges seems to have gone well and is a testament to the teachers who have prepared for this whilst continue to support home schooling. The re-introduction of limited visits to relatives in care homes is also welcomed. My wife manages a number of care homes so know first hand how important contact is to the residents who have been deprived of family contact for so long.



I was glad that this week I was also able to come over and visit North Rd in Kirkburton to call at Joys Coffee Shop on it's first day of trading. I am pleased to see a new business opening in North Rd and certainly enjoyed my coffee and meeting with the amazing team behind this launch. I hope you get an opportunity to try the coffee and the range of cakes and baked goods on offer yourselves in the coming weeks as we all start to get out more as the weather and regulations allow.

I look forward to further relaxations in the coming weeks and months and hope that we will be able to finally put behind us this dreadful pandemic and look forward to a recovery and helping all those whose lives and livelihoods have been affected by the pandemic and lockdowns. The recent budget announcements saw further financial support provided to those groups most impacted with an extension of the furlough scheme and more support for the self employed and hospitality sectors. I continue to help a number of people who are having difficulties accessing the necessary financial support and would encourage people to contact my office if I can help them.

A top priority for me is the Pensitone Line which I know is seen as a valuable service locally and this month I have held a further series of meetings both at Parliament and Kirklees to continue to work on securing funding from the levelling up fund to improve the service frequency. I am now working with Cllr Taylor and representatives from the West Yorkshire Combined Authority, South Yorkshire PTE, Kirklees Council and my fellow MPs in both West and South Yorkshire whose constituencies are supported by the line.

Finally, as I mentioned at the beginning of this update, I am looking forward to the relaxation of the restrictions that have been in force and that this will start to allow me to get more actively involved in activities in villages like Shepley and across the constituency. I look forward to attending local events and would encourage you to contact me if you would like me to support any forthcoming events and activities. It has been one of my frustrations since being elected that for most of my time restrictions have meant I have been mainly a virtual presence. I look forward to that changing going forward.

Mark Eastwood MP

Kirklees Council Reports

Hello to all in Shelley

I hope you and yours are keeping well, and will remain in good health. Getting there folks!

Since Spring is now sprung, this is the time to be thinking of ways to improve both the village and the lives of residents. An important avenue towards this is through locally based community groups of one form or another. My Parish Council colleague Ray Bray and I often find ourselves discussing the seeming reluctance of groups in Shelley to apply for funding for projects. There is money available for good ideas, and it is not very difficult to apply for. I cannot of course guarantee success for any specific application, but what I can guarantee is that if you don't ask, you won't get!

Parish Council has both a Small Annual Grants scheme, which provides £300 a year for the running costs of an organisation, and a general Grants Scheme which may be able to finance specific projects. Full details of these schemes and how to access them are on the Parish Council website and email advice may be had from Mrs Angela Royle on clerk@kbbc.co.uk.

Your Kirklees Ward Councillors also have access to some funding, which must be used to benefit the community in one way or another. These funds are limited and have to cover the whole of Kirkburton Ward, but it is always worth asking by contacting myself, Richard Smith or John Taylor. There are also funding opportunities from Kirklees Council directly. Groups have to register with the Council, and anyone interested should look at this Kirklees website: <https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/grants-and-funding/grants-access-point.aspx>. There is also an information page, which includes sources of funds and advice at: <https://www.idoxopen4community.co.uk/kirkleescommunity/>.

Besides the larger sources such as Sport England and Comic Relief, there are various community funds administered by charities. The only one which I am personally familiar with is One Community (I sit on the Panel) which has access to a number of local funds, and can be found online at: <https://www.one-community.org.uk/>. As a general rule, these funds are not open to individuals, so you need to get a small committee together. Not difficult, and potentially very rewarding for the community. Get your ideas together, and start applying.

I have had a number of emails recently asking about speed cameras. These are not provided by Kirklees, and there are a number of conditions which must be satisfied before one will even be considered. The most onerous of these, and one which I totally disagree with, is that there must have been a number of very serious or fatal accidents in recent years on that stretch of road. Bent metal doesn't count, only serious injuries or deaths. If you wish to know more, look at: <http://www.safetycameraswestyorkshire.co.uk/frequently-asked-questions/camera-equipment-and-site>.

A group of youths (who might not be from Shelley) have tried to set fire to one of the picnic tables on the Rec. They managed to cause some damage, and I have asked Parks Department to take a look to see what if anything can be done about it. It is disappointing to see wanton damage being caused, especially when the Community Association is working hard to have the Rec improved. The vast majority of our young people are decent citizens who care about the village environment, and it would be a shame for one or two with different ideas to spoil things for the majority. Speaking of the environment, I have

asked the Ranger to pay attention to the perennial problem of weeds growing over the footpath at the bottom of the Whins. I hope that we can get on top of this in good time.

I know that I have included a lot of web links here. If you are not an internet user, but want to know more, please feel free to email or phone me.

With my best wishes to you all,

Bill (Bill Armer, Ward and Parish Cllr, tel 01484 314314 email bill@gmx.ca)

Dear all,

I last wrote in the magazine at the end of last year and wanted to give residents an update

Speeding remains a concern and your 3 Ward Councillors continue to raise this with both the Police and Kirklees. It is unlikely due to national guidance that a fixed camera will be able to be sited on Red Hill, but we have been successful in getting the Police to undertake mobile speed checks in this location and several others. This week I have written to the Police with details of speeding hotspots where we would like them to target their resources. Separately I have also attended Kirklees Cabinet and pushed on an update on the mobile Speed Indicator Devices which were removed from our ward a few months ago for recalibration. I am hopeful that we will be able to get these operational again in the near future.

Following the "Ask Shelley" initiative where there was a really good response from local residents. Thank you for this, Kirklees are now in the later stages of appointing a contractor for work to start at the Children's play area. I am looking forward to seeing this work completed as I am sure this will be a big improvement.

Roads remain a cause for concern and I have worked with my Ward colleagues, John Taylor and Bill Armer to draw up a list of priority roads that we can get work started on in the near future. Included in the list is Westerley Way and other minor (but important) roads will follow.

I continue to be contacted by residents quite regularly who are experiencing issues with bin collections and access to recycling facilities. If you do have any problems with this, I have managed to get a very good response recently from refuse team leaders in Kirklees, so let me know.

Local elections are taking place on Thursday May 6th 2021 but will be held in challenging circumstances due to the current Covid restrictions. However, it is still really important that democracy is served, and you all have the chance to vote for your preferred candidate, whoever that is. I would encourage people to consider applying for a postal vote which will mean you can cast your vote without having to visit a Polling Station. A link to the form for applying for a postal vote can be found here <https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/voting-and-elections/postal-voting.aspx>

If I can help with anything, please feel free to contact me on:
richard.smith@kirklees.gov.uk or telephone 07799 310 725.

Best Wishes, Richard Smith, Kirklees Ward Councillor, Kirkburton Ward

Parish Council Report

Here's hoping you are keeping well despite Covid-19 and the dismal weather. Two recent local events have made me wonder in which direction society is headed. Event number one was the wanton vandalism (arson attempt) of one of our picnic benches on the recreational field. These benches are manufactured using composite materials which makes them ideal for outdoor use. They don't rot and need minimal maintenance work. However, like most if not all things in life they struggle when under attack from vandals. One table had an attempt to set fire to it. Why would anyone do such a thing?

Event number two which has been a recurring for quite some time. After the "Ask Shelley" questionnaire it was noted that many people made comment about the KBPC dog glove dispensers. This idea/project started many years ago and the basic idea was to try and clean up our area from dog mess. The dispensers along with the bags were meant as emergency use. However, the project failed in its attempt to clean up our areas and the bags contained within the dispensers became an expensive freebie. Considerate dog owners clear away the mess their dogs make whilst others do not bother and no amount of dispensers and bags will alter how some behave.

The three dispensers have been removed due to a local consensus that the project had failed. When the dispensers were removed one dispenser contained nothing whilst another contained a polystyrene cup, crisp packets, sweet wrappers and a plastic bag full of dog mess. The third and final dispenser contained three plastic bags full of dog mess. This act has been going on for a very long time and the dog owner must have issues as people do not act in this manner.

With regard to litter we are not winning the battle. The new litter kid on the block is the single use face mask with the odd pair of surgical gloves thrown in to make a matching set. Just popping in to the newspaper shop last week I noticed uneaten fish and chips and their wrappers discarded on the public footpath by the bus stop. Nothing unusual with regard to take-away food and cartons on the roadside and pavements but these were a metre from the waste bin!

What is to be done with HTFC; their form - didn't know we had any - is dire. We have been heading south in the division and if we do not stem this we shall be dropping a division. At times the team has played well and lost in the dying seconds of a few games. After our emphatic win against Swansea we thought we were heading for a purple patch, but sadly our hopes were dashed. Keeping the faith is getting more and more of a challenge.

Like many of you I shall be pleased when some form of normality resumes. Covid-19 has taken a heavy toll both on the health, well-being of the people and our economy. We are banking a lot on the vaccine roll out and at the moment things are looking brighter. I feel a new dawn is just around the corner, but we still need to be careful not to let Covid-19 out of the box again by relaxing our guard too quickly.

Lastly a quick message to all our local groups please don't forget to apply for a Parish Council Grant when the times come around. I am sure many of our groups have been finding funding hard these past 12 months. Take a look on the KBPC website for the application cut off dates there are normally three per year. The grants are designed to help you. Our clerk is also there to help you. Your Parish Councillors would like to think that this option for financial assistance will be taken up by all our local groups who qualify.

Keep well and stay safe.

Ray Bray (PClR)

IN THE KITCHEN

Freezing Lemons ?

Read this. It's amazing! Amazing frozen lemons All it is.....is a frozen lemon

Many professionals in restaurants and eateries are using or consuming the entire lemon and not much is wasted. How can you use the whole lemon without waste? Simple, place the washed lemon in the freezer section of your refrigerator. Once the lemon is frozen, use your grater, and shred the whole lemon (no need to peel it). Sprinkle it on top of your foods.

Sprinkle it on your vegetable salad, ice cream, soup, cereals, noodles, spaghetti sauce, rice, sushi, fish dishes...the list is endless. All of the foods will unexpectedly have a wonderful taste, something that you may have never tasted before. Most likely, you only think of lemon juice and vitamin C. Not anymore. Now that you've learned this lemon secret, you can use lemon even in instant cup noodles. What's the major advantage of using the whole lemon other than preventing waste and adding new taste to your dishes?

Well, you see lemon peels contain as much as 5 to 10 times more vitamins than the lemon juice itself. And yes, that's what you've been wasting. But from now on, by following this simple procedure of freezing the whole lemon, then grating it on top of your dishes, you can consume all of those nutrients and get even healthier. It's also good that lemon peels are health rejuvenators in eradicating toxic elements in the body.

So place your washed lemon in your freezer, and then grate it on your meals. It is a key to make your foods tastier and you get to live healthier and longer! That's the lemon secret! Better late than never. The surprising benefits of lemon!

As you know, the lemon tree is known for its varieties of lemons and limes. You can eat the fruit in different ways: you can eat the pulp, juice press, prepare drinks, sorbets, pastries, etc...It is credited with many virtues, and it has even been suggested that it might be helpful in treating some cancers.

So, give those lemons a good wash, freeze them and grate them. Your whole body will love you for it!!!!

(Thanks to Liz Hoyle for passing this on)