



BRANDON & BYSHOTTLES

PARISH COUNCIL

QUARTERLY

NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2014



Your Ward Councillors

Brandon

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Your Money, Your Village, Your Vote

You may remember the village vote sessions which took place last summer resulted in £5,000 being awarded to the following winning projects:

Brandon Community Hall refurbishment
Langley Moor Holliday Park Drainage Scheme
St. John's Church Hall refurbishment, Meadowfield
New Brancepeth Miners Banner Group
Broompark Play site refurbishment
Family activity programme, Esh Winning–
Play site refurbishment Waterhouses

Work is now continuing to progress these projects as follows:

Brandon Community Hall are working with Durham County Council and Durham Community Action to progress a lease before refurbishment takes place. However the management committee would like to increase their numbers, therefore if you would like to be involved please contact Sarah Leckenby on 07794604669.

Holliday Park's Drainage scheme should commence this month, weather permitting. A new drainage system will be installed around the car park and garden area.

St. John's Church Hall is working to raise further funding in order to refurbish the hall. Several groups are already interested in using the building so hopefully funding can be secured in order to re-open the hall in the near future.

Anyone interested in volunteering their services or using the building should contact Lesley Baxter on 07846542035.

New Brancepeth Banner Group has submitted an application to County Durham Community Foundation for match funding.

Broompark Play Site refurbishment is temporarily on hold until Durham County Council's Play Strategy consultation begins.

Esh Winning Family Activity Programme– the Residents Association are currently working with partners to develop several village family events in 2014.

Waterhouses Play Site refurbishment–the Parish Council are currently working with Durham County Council to renew the lease on the site and further funding for new play equipment is being sought from the AAP and local unitary members.

North Durham Community Engagement Project

This project is a joint venture between Durham Community Action and North Durham Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), running for two years until September 2015. The aim of the project is to improve patient, public and carer engagement throughout North Durham. You can become an active stakeholder in the development of healthcare services by joining the free membership scheme whereby you can receive regular information about health services and also take part in regular forums and discussions. This is an opportunity for you to put forward your issues regarding your experiences with any form of healthcare, whether good or bad, thus helping to deliver a better standard of care and improve healthcare in North Durham. The information you share will be amalgamated to prioritise the needs for the CCG Governing Body to consider. Once decisions have been made follow up information will then be fed back to you. For more information on how to join the scheme please contact Chris Affleck on 01207 529621 or the Parish Council.

Villages in Bloom

Look out for some lovely floral displays this summer. The Council has contracted Durham County Council to install flower beds at all the village entrances throughout the Parish. The beds will continue to be maintained during winter as well as summer.

Around the Wards Brandon

The Council were recently approached by Carrside Youth & Community Project with a request for funding towards an Administrator who will support the youth work staff in pulling together resources for their sessions. The club provides nine Youth Work sessions a week for 13-19 year olds and last year worked with approximately 350 young people across the district. Also

on offer are issue based workshops, opportunities to gain awards, provision of offsite visits and residential visits to enrich the young peoples lives. The club also runs many classes for the local community including boxing classes, fitness classes, healthy lifestyles and budgeting courses. The Parish were delighted to support this fantastic resource for the young people of our area.

Brandon ward were also pleased to assist

Brandon F.C. with a donation towards the cost of training equipment and facility hire. Over 200 local children regularly attend coaching sessions and matches and the club is run by trained volunteers. The council believes it is really important to try to keep our local clubs running in these difficult times for the benefit of our local community.



Meadowfield and Langley Moor

Brandon & Meadowfield Royal British Legion Club, to mark the centenary of the First World War, are proposing to create a special tribute to the fallen of the community by transforming the old cellar into a Branch memorabilia snug room. The room will be used to display books, medals and Armed Forces memorabilia donated from local people. The Parish Council have assisted the Branch with funding to enable this project to come to fruition. The room will hopefully be opened on Remembrance Sunday.

New seat for Harry Carr House - the Council has recently replaced the seat outside Harry Carr House with a new recycled plastic seat which hopefully will last for many years to come.

Friends of Langley Moor Community Group continue to meet once a month in the Parish Council offices. The group are currently working together with the Parish Council and local County Councillors on a project to provide a community garden/meeting place in the area of land between the Cod Father fish shop and the Podiatrists in the High Street. The area will be transformed by new paving, floral displays and new street furniture. If you would like to

become part of the group please come along to their meetings, details of which can be found on the Parish Council website. The next meeting will be held on Thursday 13th March 2014 at 7p.m.

New Brancepeth

New Brancepeth ward successfully applied for this year's tree week grant from Durham County Council. This enabled the council to plant two maple and two cherry trees on land coming into New Brancepeth from Ushaw Moor.

Esh Winning & Waterhouses

Acton Road Playgroup currently provides play sessions for two groups, one for babies from birth to 2 years, the other for children from 2 to 3 years. The local ward were pleased to contribute towards the purchase of a ball pool for the baby group.

Ushaw Moor & Broompark

Ushaw Moor Ward, together with the remaining five wards, were once again pleased to give a donation to the Hexham and Newcastle Diocese Pilgrimage to Lourdes. The Pilgrimage is organised by St. Joseph's Church in Ushaw Moor and the young people from the area will be helping to support the sick during their visit to Lourdes.

The Hive Coffee Shop on Station Road has now been open for about 3 months; Wed-Fri 10am to 4pm and Sat 10am to 2pm. As well as offering a warm, comfortable, place to meet and have a relaxing drink, the Hive has computer facilities for those people who do not have access to a computer at home and free WiFi. The menu includes a variety of hot and cold drinks, soup and a roll, scone and butter, toasted teacake and cakes - all at very competitive prices. The Coffee Shop is run by volunteers for the benefit of the whole community. On Thursday mornings (10-12) a Chat 'n' Craft session is held to which anyone with an interest in hand crafts is most welcome to attend - as the name suggests, it is an opportunity to share your crafty ideas with others and maybe pick up a few new ideas. There is a small charge of £1.50 which includes a hot drink and a toasted teacake. The Hive is managed by local community group: Ushaw Moor Action Group.



The Hut, formerly Grove Hall - the Age Concern building, next to Silvertree Primary School is a great venue for a special event such as a birthday party or for a club or society to meet regularly. Hire rate is only £8/h or £30 for a 4h session. The Hut is equipped with tables, chairs, a kitchen with serving bar, a toilet, ramp access and about 100 sqm of space. Visit www.umag.org.uk for more details and images. The Hut is also managed by Ushaw Moor Action Group for use by the whole community.

The Parish Council would like to thank the group for their work in the community. Local ward councillors would particularly like to thank the group for organising the Christmas Fun Day at the Community Garden which was a great success and enjoyed by many from our local community.

Broompark WI has been busy planting hundreds of bulbs around the village which were paid for by the Parish Council. Well done to all involved and let's hope for a lovely display in the spring.



Don't fall foul of the law...or pay the penalty!

Dog fouling is a problem all over the parish area and owners can be fined £80 for not cleaning up after their dogs. Please be a responsible dog owner and help tackle dog fouling. You can report offenders in confidence at www.durham.gov.uk/dogfouling, tel: 03000 261 000 or by contacting the Parish Council. Don't forget you can collect free dog pooh bags from the Parish Council offices and various locations throughout the parish.

Keeping to the dog theme, the Cinnamon Trust is looking for dog walking volunteers for an elderly resident in Ushaw Moor who is unable to walk her 5 year old cross breed dog. The Trust is a national charity whose volunteers help pet owners who are unable to care for their pets due to illness, injury or just getting older. If anyone would like to help please telephone 01736 758707 or email volunteer@cinnamon.org.uk.

Finally would you like to eat Fish & Chips while raising money for the Spinal Injuries Association. The Great British Fish & Chip Supper will be held on 16th May 2014. You can get a fundraising pack from Elizabeth Wright on 0845 0714 350 or email fundraising@siafishandchips.co.uk

Citizens Advice Bureau Outreach Sessions

Brandon Community Hall

11 am-12noon- second Thursday of month

11 am-12noon- fourth Thursday

Esh Winning Library

2-3pm-first & third Tuesdays

New Brancepeth Village Hall

10-11am-first Wednesday

Sure Start, Ushaw Moor

11am-12noon-third Thursday

Credit Unions

Every Tuesday 3p.m.-4p.m. in Esh Winning Library

Every Wednesday 10a.m.-11a.m in Ushaw Moor Sure Start Children's Centre

Every Wednesday 9.30a.m-10.30a.m. St. Andrew's Church, Brandon

'Dog Pooh ' bags available free from the Parish Council offices and various locations in the Parish

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Chairman: Councillor John Grantham

This newsletter is also available to view on the council's website.