

Holme Valley Voice

www.holmevalleyparishcouncil.gov.uk



No 15 Winter 2007/8

Holme Valley Parish Council
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Forthcoming meetings

The public are welcome to attend our meetings. These are held in the Council Offices, normally at 7.30 pm.

- **Planning**
9th January
4th February (7.15 pm)
25th February
17th March
7th April
- **Finance & Management**
21st January
10th March
21st April
- **General Purposes**
14th January
3rd March
14th April
- **Publications and Communications**
21st January (6.30pm)
21st April (6.30pm)
- **Strategy and Policy**
17th March (6.30pm)
- **Council**
4th February (7.45pm)
31st March
- **Surgeries: 6.45 pm — 7.15 pm**
9th January - Honley Central & East,
& Upper Holme Valley
4th February - Honley West &
Upperthong
3rd March - Wooldale
& Honley South
31st March - Fulstone
& Netherthong
21st April - Holmfirth Central
& Scholes

Dates and times of meetings may change. Updated information will be posted on the Parish Council website.

Area Committee meetings

The Parish Council has representatives on the Holme Valley Area Committees. The public are welcome to attend these meetings.

- **Holme Valley North Area Committee**
22nd January
4th March
22nd April
- **Holme Valley South Area Committee**
15th January
18th March

The meetings start at 7.00pm and take place in different locations each time. For up-to-date information on locations contact 01484 414783

Winner of the Photography Competition



Winner

Pauline Kaye, New Mill

Where

Hullock Bank, Jackson Bridge, overlooking Meal Hill and Hepworth

Why

This is my favourite view. I count myself fortunate that this view is within walking distance from home.

What the judges had to say

A beautiful view taken when the long shadows added to the interest of the photograph. The balance of foreground and main interest make this a winner.

To see the other competition entries

Visit www.holmevalleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Chairman's New Year message

When I retired from work, little did I know how much time would be taken up by Council matters. However it has been a very interesting and challenging time since becoming Chairman. Getting involved with many other councils, voluntary agencies and at training seminars, has highlighted the strong sense of community in the Holme Valley. Within this community we have a large number of people involved in all types of voluntary work, giving up of their time to help and support others, and helping to build the Holme Valley, a place where we all want to live and prosper.

The Parish Council also tries to play its part, with all the Councillors and the Staff committed to making the Holme Valley a better place for us all. Our priorities for the present are to support those in the valley who most need help, the elderly, the young and the deprived: improve the environment, fight for a better transport infrastructure and rural bus services, and develop an approach to affordable housing. Some of these priorities we can and are acting on now, some will take a further 3 year strategy, which we plan to develop in 2008.

In the interim, we are targeting to reduce the precept by 10% in 2008, and give better value for money. In 2007 we continued to support our key activities such as the minibus services, working with Kirklees Metropolitan Council to sustain our bus services in the valleys; a fight we will continue to wage in 2008. We have

already committed funds to support the transport service for the Doctors' Surgeries in the valleys. Maintenance and provision of bus shelters and seats, and replacement of new seats, an initiative to repair and revive our war memorials, charitable donations to scouts, guides and Wooldale Old Folks amongst others, and the programme of improvements to our play areas for all communities continue to be part of our work. Our support for the Arts and Music in the Valley carries on with activities such as the Arts Trail, Holmfirth Art Week, and the Holme Valley Brass Band Concert.

New initiatives and projects from our priorities are being reviewed for 2008/2009, and include ideas on how to improve communications to all our electors in the Valley, given the demise of the Holme Valley Express. Please contact your local councillor, or call our office, if you have ideas or suggestions.

None of these events could take place without the support, commitment and enthusiasm of so many volunteers, and I thank you all. Long may it continue, and I wish all the people in the Holme Valley a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Charles Kaye, Chairman 2007-08



Meet two new councillors



Tim Dearnley, Netherthong ward

My origins are in far away Almondsbury but I moved into the Holme Valley over 25 years ago when I met and married a Netherthong girl Christine.

Over the years my wife, two children and I have taken full advantage of the Schools and facilities available in the Valley – music club, badminton, swimming, Cubs and Scouts, Brownies and Guides and I felt that

as the brood had flown off to University, I would have the time to put something back into the Valley by becoming a Parish Councillor.

We all know and appreciate the beauty of the Holme Valley and most weekends I enjoy hiking in the local area. I believe that we have a duty of care for our villages and surroundings, to protect them for future generations, whilst maintaining a sense of communal identity and civic pride. This is an increasing challenge as we are put under further pressure for greenbelt developments to support increasing demand for commuter homes and the erosion of community focal points – such as Post Offices, Village shops, meeting places and Pubs.

I hope I can positively influence the way that our community develops and look forward to representing the people of Netherthong for several years to come.

Tom Dixon, Hepworth ward.

I am twenty four years old and have lived in Jackson Bridge for all of my life apart from three years studying History at Lancaster University.

I have had a great interest in local politics from an early age as my father has been a long term member of the Parish Council. I decided to run for the Council as I felt it was time I put something back in to the local community.

I feel it is very important that all areas of the local community are represented on the local council as more opinions will generate more ideas and by being the youngest person on the council I aim to voice the opinion of the younger generation.

I am keen to keep the Holme Valley how it is at the present, 'if it ain't broken, don't fix it.' I feel the local area is a great place to live and does not need any further development.

I am a passionate believer in public transport and I'm fighting cuts to the Holme Valley Bus Services.

STOP PRESS - Watch out for the advert for a job vacancy at the Council. You can get information and an application form from our office or from www.holmevalleyparishcouncil.gov.uk



Remembrance Day 2007



The Parish Council was represented at services throughout the valley. Clockwise from top left, Cllr. Trevor Bellamy at Holmbridge, Cllr. Beryl Smith at Brockholes, Cllr. Charles Kaye at Honley and Cllr. Greg Christofi at Holmfirth Memorial Hospital. At other services were Cllr. Tom Dixon (Hepworth), Cllr. Judith Roberts (Netherthong) and Cllr. Donald Firth (New Mill).



Litter Picking—Direct Action

Note from the Editor: Each year there are comments and complaints about litter. This year was no exception. However this year there was a difference—a small group of people got together to do something about it. Cllr. Beryl Smith has written to tell of their direct action.

After numerous complaints from Honley residents and visitors about the refuse-strewn Peoples' Park, I visited the park myself and decided to do something about it.

"The park was a mess, cans, broken bottles and spent fireworks covered the whole area. Because of my 9 years working at Honley Infant School, I immediately thought of involving children in the project. I visited both schools and spoke to the children about helping me to litter-pick. A time and date was set at 10.00am on Saturday 10th November.

It was a wet and windy morning but 6 children and 8 adults turned up and set to work. My husband spent all his time picking up broken glass in one small area. However, it was all worthwhile, for 2 hours later, we had 14 bin bags full of rubbish and an immaculate Peoples' Park."



How long will it last?! Special thanks to everyone who turned up to help – it was greatly appreciated.

Cllr. Beryl Smith

Note from the Editor: As we reported in our newsletter of Autumn 2006, the Council thought the idea of community action on litter picking a very interesting idea. Would any community groups or organisations like to take this idea forward for their neighbourhood? The Council would be happy to consider grant funding towards the project costs.

New Minibuses for the Holme Valley

Holme Valley Parish Council has been working in partnership with West Yorkshire Metro and Stotts Coaches for over twenty five years to provide a minibus service in the valley and Monday 10 December was "Good News Day" for users of the local Holme Valley Minibus services.

On that day two new, low floor, fully accessible buses entered service on the route and a fully integrated ticketing between the local minibuses and the main services operated by First, began.



The two new Optare Solo buses have been secured through Metro's renegotiation of the existing contract with longstanding operator, Stotts Coaches.

Integrated ticketing will mean passengers can enjoy seamless through-travel to other destinations without the need to pay twice.

"Thanks to these to new buses and the through-ticketing arrangements, both of which provide important improvements for passengers, Metro and the Parish Council are expecting to see a significant increase in numbers of passengers using these already popular services," said Neil Holt, Metro's Assistant Director of Bus and Rail Services.

New Minibus services for Scholes, Hepworth, Jackson Bridge and New Mill H8 'Use it or lose it' H9

These services are on a 6-month trial, running between 8:30 and 17:30, Monday to Saturday. The services will be withdrawn if they are not well used. Timetables are available at the Parish Office or the Tourist information Centre as well as on our website.

Civic Sunday

The Chairman and Lady of Holme Valley Parish Council, Councillor Charles and Mrs. Diane Kaye, welcomed guests to their Civic Sunday celebrations held Autumn 2007 at St. Mary's Church, Honley. The Service was very well attended and guests included Mayors, Chairmen and Escorts from many of the neighbouring Parish and Town Council areas. The Deputy Mayor represented Kirklees Council at the event.

Ladies of Honley Church provided and served refreshments. Cllr. Kaye thanks all those who supported him on the day and for making it a very enjoyable occasion.



Holmbridge WI Information Day

An Information Day was organised by the Women's Institute of Holmbridge to bring together a wide variety of organisations and groups that provide services and leisure opportunities in the valley. The Parish Council took part in the Information Day to promote knowledge of its work within the community. The following report is from Cllr. Judith Roberts.

The WI Information day was a buzz when I arrived at Holmbridge Parish Hall just before 10am along with my colleagues who helped man the stand from the Holme Valley Parish Council. There were many other stands representing a number of organisations ranging from Kirklees Housing, RNID, the Mental Health Trust and the Police. Special interest groups were also present including those promoting the local Photography and Astronomy groups. There was a stall on Will Writing and a spattering of local rural cottage industries, all of which need our support.



The day was an overwhelming success, certainly one that I enjoyed. It gave all who came an opportunity to speak to myself and colleagues about problems they themselves were experiencing. The people who I spoke to said they had benefited from all the stalls they had visited and had enjoyed the freshly prepared sandwiches and buns and the chance to buy home made produce.

I can only say well done to Mrs Barbara Newman the President of the Holmbridge WI. Let's do another one.

Cllr. Judith Roberts

Grant news

The Parish Council is a grant awarding body and can receive applications from groups based in the Holme Valley. Below are listed some of the grants awarded recently.

| Name | Purpose | When | Amount |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|--------|
| Netherthong, All Saints Church | Renovation of Church Clock | July 2007 | £100 |
| Holmfirth Camera Club | Provision of display stands | Oct 2007 | £100 |
| Hade Edge Band | Changes to band room | Oct 2007 | £200 |
| Hepworth Village & Community Assoc. | Chairs and Flooring | Oct 2007 | £200 |
| Wooldale, Old Folks' Treat | Centenary Celebration | Nov 2007 | £200 |

If you would like to find out more about applying for a grant for your group, you can download information and an application form from our website or you can contact the Clerk. We request that successful applicants report to the Council on the use of the grant, either in person at a Council meeting or by a report for our website and newsletter..

Councillor Contacts—Winter 2007/08

| Ward | Name | Telephone | Ward | Name | Telephone |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Brockholes | L. Bailey | 01484 662398 | Netherthong | T. Dearnley | 01484 686034 |
| Fulstone | D. M. Firth | 01484 683735 | Netherthong | J. Roberts | 01484 684930 |
| Fulstone | D. Hall | 01484 686488 | Scholes | R. P. Dixon | 01484 685928 |
| Hepworth | T. Dixon | 01484 685928 | Scholes | M. Walker | 01484 684927 |
| Holmfirth Central | G. Christofi | 01484 682721 | Upper Holme Valley | T. Bellamy | 01484 683147 |
| Holmfirth Central | K. Smith | 01484 687763 | Upper Holme Valley | J. M. Osborn | 01484 685068 |
| Honley Central & East | M. Bower | 01484 661354 | Upperthong | G. Cropper | 07703 314313 |
| Honley Central & East | P.D. Searby | 01484 661980 | Upperthong | A. R. Otterburn | 01484 685437 |
| Honley Central & East | B. Smith | 07922 112712 | Wooldale | R. Bratt | 01484 689122 |
| Honley South | C.M. Kaye | 01484 666424 | Wooldale | J. Greenwood | 01484 222462 |
| Honley West | R. Oldfield | 07909 740021 | Wooldale | B.A. Smith | 07922 112712 |
| Honley West | P. Robinson | 07769 905957 | | | |