

Report from the Chairman of the Publications and Communications Committee – Councillor Rachel Hogley

IT has been a busy year of marking key events in our national history as well as celebrating the wonderful community we live in. In October, we were delighted to unveil a permanent memorial in Honley to mark the centenary of women's suffrage. Local artist, Ross Moore, created the striking image linking the ladies of the past with those of the present day. It shows local girl, Dora Thewlis, known as the 'Baby Suffragette' when she was arrested for protesting outside the Houses of Parliament on 20th March 1907, with the faces of nearly 400 of today's local women behind. This uplifting event of societal change and progress contrasted with the more sombre event of remembrance when we lit a beacon on Holme Moss as part of the nationwide Battle's Over Beacons of Light commemoration of the end of the First World War. We invited representatives of the Royal British Legion, emergency services and Scouts & Guides to join us in very windy conditions whilst Alex Bray played the Last Post and Reveille. It was a very moving occasion and having earlier appreciated the excellent display by our local civic societies about each of nearly 450 men from the valley who lost their lives, it was a poignant reminder of the devastation of war.

We continued to celebrate our excellent local businesses, awarding our Tidy Trader Award to those that take particular pride in their external appearance and contribute to a more attractive and thriving Valley. Gold Award winners were Bengal Spice Restaurant in Holmfirth and The Bridge pub in Holmfirth with Silver Awards given to The Rock Inn in Brockholes, Bloc Café in Holmfirth and Catch Seafood Restaurant in Holmfirth. It is always difficult to choose winners and we really value the contribution of all the businesses across the valley who help make our Valley a great place to live and work.

We were also very pleased to recognise some of the wonderful people who work tirelessly in their local communities through our Community Champions awards. The recipients were: Hugh Allen and Michael Henderson, who have both improved their local environments by litter-picking; Richard Ford, who set up 'Square Peg' Group to bring together socially isolated people in the valley; Honley Graveyard Clean-up Group and Rowan Denton, who has been painstakingly repainting neglected milestones across the valley.

Our website has been refreshed this year with a new provider giving us a better basis to provide readers with more accessible information and keep local people informed about work. We will be reviewing how we can update the website and our Facebook page as we strive to engage better with the community and improve understanding of the Parish Council's role and the ways in which we can support future activities in the Valley. As ever, we welcome feedback on how we can communicate better!

Councillor Rachel Hogley

Report from The Chairman of the Community Asset Support Committee – Councillor Donna Bellamy

2018/19 has been another very busy year for the Community Assets Support Committee (CASC). This year's main work focus has been on Honey library. The friends of Honley library were keen to take over the asset from Kirklees council, however they needed the help and support of the parish council. We have worked alongside each other for the last year and we are now in a position to submit a business plan and hopefully move to complete an asset transfer later this year. This arrangement will work in a similar way to the previous asset transfer of Holmfirth civic hall, where the parish council will take responsibility for the building and the newly formed Honley library trust will take responsibility for the day to day running.

Holmfirth civic hall is going from strength to strength and CASC still continues to work closely with the Holmfirth Civic Hall Community Trust in many aspects as it thrives and becomes more and more of a viable asset.

The work continued with the public toilets and this saw some alterations giving a small area to rent out which should soon be leased helping to keep the toilets open with a hope of it becoming more sustainable.

CASC are happy to discuss any Holme Valley community building which members of the community have concerns over as well as offering support to community groups who are looking at the possibilities of securing community buildings through the asset transfer process.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members of CASC for their valued input this year, plus the Honley library working group, HCHCT and our locum clerk, it's been a pleasure to work with you all as the chair of CASC and I hope CASC continues with the same passion in the future.

Councillor Donna Bellamy

Report from the Chairman of the Service Provision Committee – Councillor Kath Bellamy

THIS has been a very busy year for our Service Provision Committee. We have had members of the public and representatives of local organisations attending and addressing several meetings and the Committee has received and responded to requests for grants for many diverse uses and activities. Officers from Kirklees have also visited us to explain new roles, activities and planned changes within the valley.

Service Provision covers many aspects including the following:

- Maintaining Parish Councils Seats, Shelters and Parish Church Clocks.
- Looking after the closed Graveyard at New Mill Church and the allotment in Holme Village
- Renting out some garage plots.

Maintaining the red phone boxes in Fulstone, Oldfield, Uppertong and Holme.

This year we have taken ownership and refurbished another disused red phone box in Netherthong for community use as a book library and also provided additional dog waste bag dispensers around the Valley.

We were also delighted to part fund two Defibrillators: one at Holmfirth Civic Hall and another in Hinchcliffe Mill.

We continue to support the much valued Minibus Service in conjunction with Stotts and Metro.

Councillor Kath Bellamy

Office contact details

Holme Valley Parish Council
Council Office, Holmfirth Civic Hall, Huddersfield Road, Holmfirth HD9 3AS
Clerk to the Council/ Responsible Financial Officer; Liz Bennett

Telephone 01484 687460 or email clerk@holmevalleyparishcouncil.gov.uk
Website; www.holmevalleyparishcouncil.gov.uk – for Councillor contact details, dates of forthcoming meetings, agendas and minutes, news items and other information about the Parish Council... why not take a look!

The office is usually open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10.00 am to 3.00 pm for you to call in or make contact by phone.

Report from the Chairman of the Publications and Communications Committee – Councillor Tom Dixon

THE Finance and Management committee continues to meet every six to eight weeks to discuss matters such as the Council's banking and audit arrangements, grants and donations, insurance, risk management, general office and administrative arrangements, garage and allotment tenancies and six public clocks, and agreeing any training requirements.

We have been happy to provide grants supporting events such as Honley Feast, Honley Christmas Lights Switch On, Holmfirth Remembers World War One Centenary Event and Holmfirth Arts Festival.

Grants have also been provided for the following projects Friends of Holmfirth Library – Setting up of Walking Room, Thongsbridge Cricket Club clubhouse refurbishment, Honley Cricket Club Kitchen refurb and replacement heavy roller, River Holme Connections new bench, Honley Village Community Trust World War One Centenary Information Boards, 1st Holme Valley Scouts Training Costs for Expedition, Hepworth Brass Band – Repairs to Band Room.

I'd like to thank all members of the committee for their support this year and for contributing in meetings. Special thanks to departing Councillor Stephen Baggott for chairing the committee for the first half of the year.

Councillor Tom Dixon

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Councillor Tom Dixon

Grants to Organisations 2018-19

| Date | Organisation | Nature of Service | Amount |
|----------------|---|--|---------|
| June 2018 | Holy Trinity Church | F and M grant towards external socket | £310.00 |
| September 2018 | Holmfirth Remembers | Grant towards commemorative exhibition | £341.00 |
| September 2018 | Honley Feast | Grant (F&M) towards Honley Feast | £1000 |
| January 2019 | Thongsbridge Cricket Club | Grant towards refurb of clubhouse | £1000 |
| January 2019 | Holmfirth Festival of Folk | Grant for Road Closure | £1000 |
| January 2019 | Honley Cricket Club | Grass Roller | £500 |
| January 2019 | River Holme Connections | Grant for a Bench | £1000 |
| January 2019 | Honley Village Community Trust | Information Boards | £1000 |
| January 2019 | 1 st Holme Valley (Holmfirth) Scouts | Training Costs | £720 |
| January 2019 | Holmfirth Arts Festival | Venue Hire | £500 |
| January 2019 | G and D Enterprise | Bench | £800 |
| July 2018 | Holmfirth Christmas Team | Christmas Tree decorations Dec 2018 | £1000 |
| September 2018 | Honley Business Association | Support Honley Youth Club | £1000 |
| June 2018 | Friends of Cliff Rec | WW 1 commemorations | £100 |
| June 2018 | Brass factor | WW1 Commemorations | £100 |
| October 2018 | St John's Church Uppertong | WW1 grant 'The Men of Uppertong' project | £100 |
| January 2019 | Sue Clay | Felt Banner WW1 Project | £100 |
| February 2019 | Thongsbridge Cricket Club | New Toilet facilities | £2000 |
| November 2018 | Honley Cricket Club | Refurb of Kitchen Facilities | £1000 |
| March 2019 | Hepworth Brass Band | Band Room | £1000 |