

Litter picking volunteers

The councillors at Kimblesworth and Plawsworth Parish Council would like to thank all of the walkers that regularly litter pick on their travels, taking time out of their day to collect discarded rubbish that blows around the parish area. These dedicated volunteers keep our parish tidy for us all to enjoy.

Pictures of our Parish

Do you have any interesting, new or old, pictures of our parish? Would you be happy to share them with us and other members of our parish? Or do you have a photograph from more recent times that can be used to promote the beauty and diversity of our green and beautiful parish? If so please send them to our clerk (see details at the bottom of this page).



A burst pipe, Wood Street, Kimblesworth, 1954

Durham Locate

Durham Locate is Durham County Council's website about care and support in the community. This includes support required due to issues regarding COVID.

Please visit www.durhamlocate.org.uk for info.

Contact your Parish Councillors

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Michael Pierre	michaelpierre.kppc@gmail.com
Heather Rippon	heatherrippon.kppc@gmail.com
Lillian Walker	Lillian.walker240@gmail.com

Nettlesworth Community Centre

The Parish Council do not own the Community Centre but do recognise its importance to the parish. Plawsworth and Kimblesworth Community Association (PKCA) hold the lease for the building.



The Parish Council assisted with grant funding for the purchase of a defibrillator located at the community centre in 2018.

Although currently closed due to the Coronavirus, we hope to see the centre open again soon. They have meetings rooms, halls and kitchens for hire.

www.nettlesworthcommunitycentre.co.uk

Annual Parish Council Meeting

Due to the Coronavirus, new temporary legislation was released which meant there was no requirement to hold an Annual Parish Council Meeting in May 2020 and meetings are currently being held by video conferencing.

The Chair continues to hold their seat but the Council may choose to re-elect these positions later in the year, when meetings can be held again in person. Even if an election does take place, an election will take place again in May 2021 as usual.

Water Spring

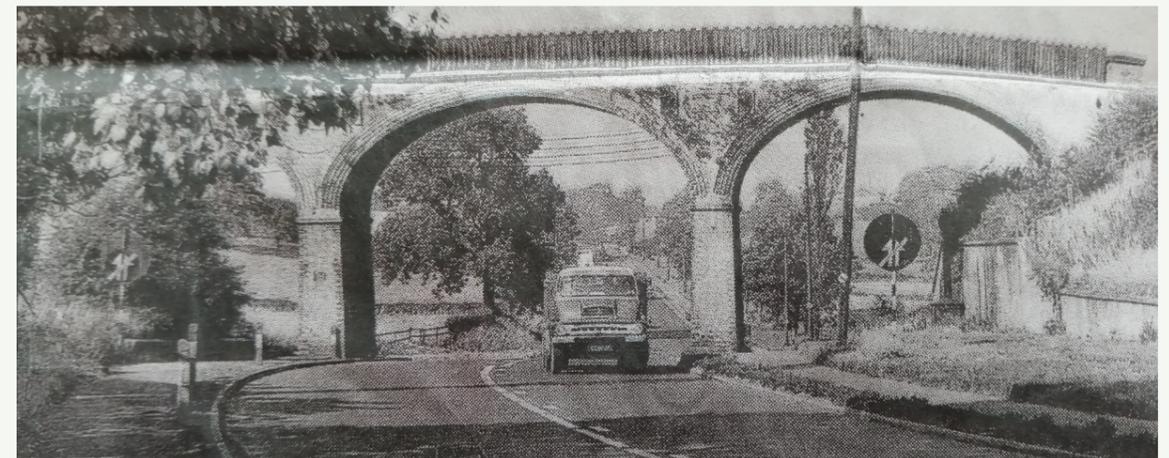
The Council have created a working group and started a new project to restore the old spring at Broadmires. We believe this has historic value and can act as a focal point for the area. Do you have any stories or recollections regarding past use of the spring/fountain? Please contact the Clerk or County Cllr Wilson at swilson@durham.gov.uk

KIMBLESWORTH AND PLAWSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

KPPC NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 17

AUGUST 2020



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Our Parish Council has a new website:

www.kimblesworthandplawsworthparishcouncil.co.uk

Follow us on Facebook [@kppcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/kppcouncil)

Contact us: clerk@kimblesworthandplawsworthparishcouncil.co.uk



The Council would like to thank all our NHS workers and keyworkers during the pandemic. We would also like to thank the volunteers providing hot meals to our parishioners, not just at Nettleworth Community Centre but at The Fulforth Centre too— both have provided meals across the wider area in recent months. And finally, thanks to the Food for Thought project for providing a range of services to local residents including the delivery of essential care packages. The colours of the rainbow run through this issue in praise of all.

What is KPPC?

Local councils are statutory bodies funded principally by an annual precept. The precept is collected through council tax by the county council and is paid to the parish council each year. Parish councils can apply for other funding such as grants but they do not receive funds directly from central government.

If you have a question, suggestion, complaint, request or concern and think your Parish Council may be able to help, please contact our clerk (see back page for details).

Alternatively, please come to one of our monthly meetings held on the second Thursday of each month (excluding August) at 7pm. Meetings are currently being held remotely- contact our clerk for information.

Agendas

If you have an item that you wish to be discussed by KPPC please contact the clerk with details of the issue and, where possible, the decision you would like the council to make.

The agenda for Parish Council meetings is set one week in advance of the meeting. Any item received with less notice will be held over to the following month.

The agenda is displayed by the placing of a public notice in the official Parish Council noticeboards across the parish. These noticeboards are on Wheatleywell Lane, Plawsworth; at the entrance to Tanmeads, Nettleworth; and at the junction of Westhills Close, and Edmondsley Lane (in West Nettleworth).

You asked - we did

Road markings have been added to the roadways at Wheatleywell Lane, Plawsworth and some repairs have been made. A village nameplate will soon be placed at the entrance to Plawsworth, coming off the A167— thank you to County Councillor Simon Wilson for helping with this request. The Parish Council is committed to improving greenspaces and councillors recently filled the planters located across our villages. We will continue to keep these in flower.

What else is being considered by KPPC?

We are currently looking into an issue regarding Public Rights of Way and an unregistered track to the south of Kimblesworth. We will be gathering evidence of use and will make contact with the landowner.

Kimblesworth Miners' Banner

The Parish Council is considering having a new Miners' Banner made for the village. The original one was lost and the replacement (pictured) is now at Beamish Museum.

The cost of the banner could be funded mainly through grant funding and voluntary contributions.

The new Banner would be used each year at the Durham Miners' Gala and throughout the year be displayed in the Community Centre. In order for it to be displayed at the Durham Miners Gala, we are told, it will need 36 volunteers. Many of those who have volunteered are from former mining families.

We also discussed using an image of Kimblesworth pit as the main focus of the Banner.

If you are interested or have any ideas please let us know.



Police and Community Together

July 2020

Plawsworth

Violence against a person: 3 (3 in June)
Criminal damage: 2 (0 in June)
Road related: 1 (0 in June)
Missing persons: 1 (1 in June)
Concerns for safety: 4 (5 in June)
Suspicious activity: 16 (10 in June)

Kimblesworth

Violence against a person: 3 (1 in June)
Theft: 2 (1 in June)
Criminal damage: 1 (0 in June)
Suspicious activity: 3 (0 in June)

Nettleworth

Violence against a person: 5 (2 in June)
Concerns for safety: 1 (0 in June)
Suspicious activity: 2 (1 in June)
Domestic violence: 1 (0 in June)
ASB nuisance: 1 (1 in June)
ASB environmental: 1 (3 in June)
Harassment: 4 (0 in June)

PCSO contacts:

Luke.payne@durham.pnn.police.uk
Mark.Lumsden@durham.pnn.police.uk
Heather.bittlestone@durham.pnn.police.uk

A167 crossing - DCC response

A feasibility study was carried out considering the physical restraints of the site. It was determined that a crossing could not be installed at the roundabout. This was due to the stop line for the crossing being at a point where traffic held on red would obstruct the roundabout circulatory lanes. Therefore, the crossing point would have to be moved away from the current position. Consideration was given to the possibility of moving the location further north. However, the positions of the bus stops, the deceleration lane (in the central reserve and southbound lane) and Wheatleywell Lane, and the petrol station access all compound to the 'desire line' for people to use being at a point where vehicle speeds are going to be highest. Analysis of a location to the south of the roundabout would put the crossing point in the deceleration splay for Mill Lane which is not acceptable and adds to the time to cross the road due to the increased carriageway width. A suitable position then becomes significantly too far away from the desire line to be practical. Full details are available on request to the Clerk.

Woodland Terrace Allotments

The Parish Council has agreed to set up a new Working Group to monitor and look after the care of the allotments. We are aware the area is used for fly tipping and litter dropping in the allotment area and in the woodland area. We recently worked with DCC to have much of this removed.

The Parish Council are keen to be responsible to our tenants and want to encourage all allotments holders to be committed and vigilant in keeping the area clean and tidy.

The working group has also reviewed the current agreement and made some amendments. There are national guidelines on allotments and their size and purpose which we will be taking account of. If you are an allotment holder and no longer have use for your plot, please let the Clerk know (details on last page).

Annual rent will now be collected each September.

Also if you have any ideas how we can improve the allotment area please let us know.

Grants from KPPC

Part of the responsibility of our councillors is to decide on applications made to KPPC for grant funding. Applications are made to benefit the residents and the area.

In 2019-20, we made awards to: Kimblesworth and Nettleworth Task Force for bus trips for locals and to assist with their community café; Kimblesworth Cricket Club for the purchase of new shutter doors following a break in; St Philip and St James Church (Kimblesworth) to assist with the cost of upgrading the entrance of the building; Plawsworth and Kimblesworth Community Association to help with large energy costs at the centre due to the old heating system; and to Sacriston Youth Project (SYP) so a group could be set up in our parish area, at Nettleworth Community Centre. SYP at Nettleworth was in its infancy when Coronavirus struck but will be back at the centre as soon as it re-opens and its activities can be carried out safely.

A donation was also made to the Food for Thought project at the start of the lockdown period.

KPPC is now accepting grant applications for 2020-2021, for the benefit our community. The application form is on our website or contact the clerk for more information.