



CAN YOU HELP?

The Council has four vacancies

- * Do you live or have your main place of work in the parish?
- * Are you 18 or over and a registered elector?
- * Are you interested in helping your local community?

IF THE ANSWER to the above questions is "yes", then we would like to hear from you! Currently, the Council does not have any representatives resident in West Nettlesworth (Daleside and Westhills Close), Plawsworth, Plawsworth Gate or anywhere in the east of the parish.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, contact our locum clerk, Sarah Wilson, on 07961 790990, or speak to any councillor.

To read about the experiences of a (fairly) recently appointed councillor, turn to Page 3.

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1/APR/2019

New Development: it's not all bad news

NEW BUILDING DEVELOPMENT often, perhaps usually, causes problems for those who live or work close by. No exception to this has been the development to the north-east of Cross Lane (see the sketch-map, below right). Here, neighbouring residents have had to put up with noise, dust, too many large vehicles as well as the closure of Cross Lane between 22nd October and 21st December last year. And all this is before the issues which may continue after the development is finished, such as increased local traffic and in some cases, the loss of a view. However, there is a law (known as "Section 106" - see over) which exists to mitigate the impact of such development.

WITH THE CROSS Lane development, it means that Durham County Council has obtained the agreement of Persimmon Homes to provide money which is to be spent on the surrounding area. County Councillor, Heather Liddle says, "The s106 secures £200k towards the provision or enhancement of play and sporting facilities in the Division, with the following instalments:

- *£84,000 of the contribution before 29th occupation of an open market dwelling
- *£142,000 (or another £58k) before 99th occupation of an open market dwelling

* KPPC = Kimbleworth and Plawsworth Parish Council



*All of the money (another £58k) before 149th occupation of an open market dwelling"

WHAT EXACTLY WILL money be spent on?

This has not been decided, but according to Coun. Liddle, "the funding can only be applied for eligible projects that fit the criteria of play and sports facilities that benefit the community." Also, the funding, "is available for suitable projects anywhere in the Sacriston electoral division, therefore KPPC* will most certainly be eligible to apply."

- Continued on Page 2

New Development continued from Page 1

"There is an application and consultation process. Once the application is completed, it is submitted to the s106 manager who will carry out the necessary checks before the application goes before the s106 panel. Approval is required from both county councillors"

This is where you come in!

DO YOU HAVE any ideas about the play or sports facilities the money could be spent on? If so, we want to hear from you, particularly if you live in Daleside or Westhills Close (either via the locum clerk or councillors, see Page 4).

WITH DEVELOPMENTS LIKE this, it is always hoped that they can become part of the local community and the presence of the buildings and those who occupy them will prove eventually to benefit the surrounding area.

Building at the "Monkswood" development at Cross Lane (below) is currently under way.



What is Section 106?

SECTION 106 OF The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 states that, "A local planning authority may enter into an agreement," that, "may contain such consequential provisions (including financial ones) as appear to the local planning authority to be necessary or expedient for the purposes of the agreement."

The Continuing Saga - of parking in the villages

SOME OF THE known parking hotspots around the villages are: 1) on the junction between Tanhills shops and B6312, by Acorn Close. 2) Around Tanhills shops and the turning into Tanmeads, 3) The Green and Ugly Lane at either end of the school day and 4) insufficient parking space in The Crescent. There have also been reports about large numbers of cars of people using the Community Centre at weekends and this has caused problems with residents of Glenmeads and Park View.

HOW ARE THESE issues being addressed? Following discussion with Durham County Council, white lines have been painted either side of the junction into Tanmeads opposite Tanhills shops (pictured). It is understood that a central line will be painted along the road in front of the shops to discourage double-parking, and also white lines, similar to those at the entrance to Tanmeads, at the junction of B6312.

REPORTS SUGGEST THAT the lines either side of the junction into Tanmeads have been reasonably, though not entirely, successful. We will of course have to wait and see whether the other intended changes transpire and, if so, how effective they are. It was noted that a representative of the Police suggested that, if the white (advisory) lines were not successful, they could be replaced by yellow lines for which parking on them carries a fixed penalty.

THE LONGER TERM solutions relating to provision of parking are just that (see also the "Budget" column on Page

3). It will take some time for the Council to build up the reserves to pay for extra provision. There are issues to do with ownership of proposed sites for parking and, in the case of The Crescent, it is reported that Karbon Homes's current policy is not to allow green areas to be allocated for parking. These may not be insurmountable, but the likely outcome on these points is not clear.

IT SHOULD BE pointed out to readers who drop, and pick up, children from the School that the Community Association's position is that people doing this are welcome to use its car parks (at their own risk, of course). It could be a reasonable solution to encourage this, as the Community Centre is rarely used at these times of day and the school gate next to the Crossing Patrol offers close access to them.

FOR RESIDENTS OF Glenmeads and Park View experiencing difficulties with weekend parking at the Centre, it is understood that the group responsible has now ceased its regular meetings and will not be using the Centre again for some months. However, the fact that something similar in the future may happen does raise longer-term questions as far as the Centre's parking capacity is concerned.



Right:

The possibility of painting similar lines on the junction between the B6312 and road past the shops to Kimblesworth has been raised.

Left:
While there have been some complaints about parking on them, the white lines on the turn-in to Tanmeads have been thought reasonably effective so far.



Speed Watch



OVER RECENT YEARS there have been numerous calls for speed control measures, particularly on the B6312 through Nettlesworth. While the Council has has a good deal of correspondence over the question of what form these should take, there has been a recurring problem. That is, according to the Police, a lack of sufficient evidence of speeding to justify such measures.

THIS LACK OF evidence is based on the results of community speed watches in Nettlesworth between 18.04.2016 and 31.08.18*. Close observation of the data, however, shows that the earliest start time of any of the

* For the full set of data, please see Page 4 of 20190110. Available from: <http://www.kpparishcouncil.co.uk/agenda-and-minutes-of-meetings/minutes-2019>

speed watches was 9.05am, and the latest, 1.45pm. These times clearly miss the morning and evening rush hours when speeding is most likely to be an issue. A reason given by police as to why the times speed watches are possible is limited is because there have been only two volunteers to cover twenty eight villages, but they are hoping to train more.



THIS IS AN opportunity for concerned members of the public to do something about speeding. Would you be interested in training to do community speed watches? If so, please call Donna on 07835 565393.

ON ANOTHER FRONT it is understood that, following a complaint from Nettlesworth Primary School pupils, a street sign was to be installed near Church Mews to alert drivers of the junction near the school which accesses The Green.

COUNCIL'S BUDGET FOR 2019/20 - details still to be finalised



THE PARISH PRECEPT is the Council's total income from local tax payers and Central Government. For 2019/20 for this financial year is £19839. The Council's outgoings include items such as financial assistance to the Community Centre and also payment to the County Council for providing extra litter and dog bins.

RESIDENTS SHOULD BE aware that the Council is ring-fencing money for capital projects related to parking, speeding and play equipment. In the last financial year

(2018-19), a total of £8000 was held back for this purpose. A general outline of possible projects was provided in Newsletters 13 (April, 2018) and 14 (July 2018) and may ring-fence slightly more this financial year. However, given the nature of these projects, including dealing with ownership of land, lease agreements, obtaining accurate estimates and also getting the best possible value for Council tax-payers, it will take time for these to bear fruit.

WHILE THE COUNCIL asks for residents to be patient over these matters, your ongoing feedback on such things and their related issues will be much appreciated. To give your views, please feel free to contact any councillor (contact details of members is on Page 4).

On being a new parish councillor. ...

- by Alison Cole

I BECAME A Kimblesworth and Plawsworth Parish Councillor in September 2018.

I HAD NO prior experience but wanted to get involved to support KPPC to do the best for our parish.

I HAVE REALLY enjoyed being a Parish Councillor over my first 6 months. You can commit to undertaking as many or as few tasks as you wish to or can do. I have found it a really rewarding experience.

IF YOU WANT to see what we do, come along to a meeting but be aware of the rules for attendees. We meet at Nettlesworth Community Centre every month (except August) on the second Thursday at 7pm. We deal with

planning applications, requests for grants, allotments, litter bins, suggestions and complaints from parishioners, liaise with County Councillors and local constabulary.

IF YOU'D LIKE us to consider doing something in or for our Parish please let us know.



VACANCY

The Council is currently in need of a new clerk.
For further information, visit our website or contact
Alisoncole.kppc@gmail.com
Completed applications should be sent to Mr George
Kendall, Chairman, at
George.dkendall@hotmail.com
Closing date, 30th April, 2019 @ 5pm

Parish Council Surgeries

TO ENCOURAGE PUBLIC engagement, the Council has decided to hold **surgeries at Nettlesworth Community Centre between 2.30pm and 3.30pm once a month on Thursdays**. The first was on 4th April, 2019, but it is unlikely you will have received this newsletter by then! There will also be surgeries held at the same time and place on the following dates: **Thursday, 9th May, 2019 and Thursday, 13th June, 2019**. Surgeries are also planned for **Westhills Close and Daleside on Friday, 7th June, 2019 (from 10am - 12pm) and Saturday, 8th June, 2019 (from 12pm - 2pm)**, exact location tbd. If you have any issues, complaints or

concerns you think parish councillors might be able to help with, please come along if you can.

THIS IS AN experiment to help local people get their views heard. It is certainly not meant to discourage you from coming along to council meetings or contacting your parish councillors in another way if you find those more convenient.

TO THIS END, if you feel that different dates, times, or a different location might be more convenient for you or, indeed, for others, we want to know this to help the Council decide when and where to hold further surgeries.



Village Green: so near... ... but hopefully not so far

SINCE ISSUE THIRTEEN, a few more statements in

support of a village green have trickled in and we are now up to thirteen. This is only two short of the fifteen it is advised are needed for an application to make land a village green to be taken seriously. But it is nearly three years since collecting the statements began and this could create another difficulty.

SO MANY PEOPLE have said they would like the land between Sycamore Road and Hawthorn Close to become an official village green as this would give the land protection against a number of blights, such as building. If this includes you and you haven't completed a statement, we implore you to do so!

TO THOSE WHO have completed statements, we repeat our thanks. If a few more are collected, you may be asked to sign and date a piece of paper to indicate the statement you made (especially if it was one of the earlier ones) still applies.

FOR STATEMENT FORMS or any help filling them in, please contact Daniel Inman (see bottom of page).

The Community Centre Needs Members

- And this means you

NETTLESWORTH COMMUNITY CENTRE used to have a constitution where any elector living in Sacriston Parish or Kimblesworth and Plawsworth Parish could elect the trustees, including the treasurer and secretary, but under the new constitution (agreed in 2017), an application has to be made to become a member in order to do this.

Why join?

IF YOU HAVE any involvement in the Centre, it will help to give you a say in how it is governed. The Centre is basically for local people and you might be able to help it benefit you in terms of what it has to offer. Also, the trustees need to be held to account and members are an important part of this process. Becoming a member costs nothing, although there is a liability of just £5 if the organisation folds.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
Contact Lisa on 07757 238257

Kimblesworth and Plawsworth Parish Councillors

Councillor	Email or Postal Address	Telephone
Peter Beard	peterbeard@live.co.uk	07739 998370
Donna Bruce	dbruce@live.co.uk	07835 565393
Alison Cole	alisoncole.kppc@gmail.com	
Daniel Inman	dgp.inman@hotmail.co.uk	0191 3711278
George Kendall	george.dkendall@hotmail.co.uk	07557 262161
Lillian Walker	lillianwalker240@gmail.com	07506 457744
Lisa Walker	lisanjo@hotmail.co.uk	07581 330224

Locum Clerk:

Mrs S. Wilson 42 Bowmont Walk, Chester-le-Street DH2 3JB 07961 790990

REMEMBER

The Council meets on 2nd Thursday of each month, 7pm, at Nettlesworth Community Centre (excluding August).

THIS EDITION was published by Daniel Inman.
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