

Kimblesworth and Plawsworth Parish Council

KPPC Newsletter

Issue 22

December 2024



Plawsworth PRow, Christmas 2024

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www.kimblesworthandplawsworthparishcouncil.co.uk

Community Round-up

An update from the school

We stay in regular contact with the local primary school at Nettlesworth and discuss monthly updates at our meetings.

The school recently raised £89 for Children in need. Well done children!

Also, the school has achieved its Rights Respecting Gold School Award again.

Children will return to school after the Christmas break on Tuesday 7th January 2025.

Please continue to visit the school website at www.nettlesworth.durham.sch.uk for diary dates, latest news, celebrations, advice and information.

Additional defibs installed

Kimblesworth and Plawsworth Parish Council has purchased and installed two new defibrillators at the villages of Plawsworth and Kimblesworth, in addition to the existing defibrillator owned at Nettlesworth Community Centre.



The parish council has installed the defibrillators, in secure cabinets, at Plawsworth Red Lion Pub on the A167, and St Philip and St James Church at Oak Crescent, Kimblesworth (picture left).

The defibrillators are placed on external walls so the public can access 24 hours, seven days a week.

Both defibrillators have been registered with The Circuit online, which means the public...

... can search for them on the internet and emergency services can direct callers to their location and provide a code to access.

Planters in the parish area

We have volunteers who help to water the planters at the community centre in Nettlesworth during the summer months but are not so lucky elsewhere.

We also have planters at Westhills Close, Sacriston, just off Edmondsley Lane, and also in Kimblesworth (picture above).



If you live nearby and can spare five minutes during drier weather throughout the year, please help us to keep these community assets colourful by giving them a quick but plentiful drink.

Parking around the parish

With several complaints from residents in recent months, one of the most discussed items at parish council meetings is parking.

The police have recently contacted residents in Tanmeads to ensure residents park safely and respectfully but the problems are reported across all the villages. We have had correspondence in 2024 regarding parking at Boyntons, Tanhills, Daleside (Sacriston), and Wheatleywell Lane (Plawsworth).

Although everyone has the right to park on-street, where no restrictions apply, please be mindful of allowing residents access to their driveways and be conscious of leaving enough room for vans and emergency vehicles to navigate some of our smaller and more congested streets.

KPPC WOULD LIKE TO WISH ALL OUR RESIDENTS A PEACEFUL AND MERRY CHRISTMAS... AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

SUCCESSSES IN 2024

The parish council has campaigned successfully for a number of improvements across the villages in 2024.

In our Spring 2024 newsletter we brought you news of the new playground equipment at Nettlesworth and Kimblesworth; the renewed path for the public right of way at Wheatleywell Lane, Plawsworth; the new miner's seat at Tanhills; new planters at Westhills Close, Sacriston; and the additional paved area and seat at the trough, Nettlesworth, which had been recreated in 2023. An additional step has been added to make access to the seat easier for the public and a lectern advising of the area's history is due to be fitted during December.

These were all big projects for the parish council, working with our county councillors. However, we have achieved and funded several smaller projects with positive feedback from our residents.

We worked in partnership with Waldrige Parish Council to place a **D-Day 80 commemorative flowerbed** at the Red Lion Roundabout (pictured, right and below).



We have since paid for it to be re-planted over the winter period.

Our previously commissioned **soldier silhouettes**, created by students at New College Durham, were placed around the area again for both D-Day and Remembrance Day.



We awarded a significant grant to Plawsworth and Kimblesworth Community Association to provide the **fairground rides at the summer event** in Nettlesworth.

For the fifth year in a row we have placed Christmas trees around the villages, and for the first time (following agreement from Durham County Council) we have been able to place a tree in the middle of Kimblesworth.

We have added extra fairy lights at the Public Right of Way at Plawsworth and Plawsworth Gate, and placed a **Christmas Wreath** (picture right) at our noticeboard at Westhills Close, Sacriston.



THINGS TO LOOK FORWARD TO IN 2025

A new paved area and a **bench is on its way to the top of Cross Lane** in 2025, as the council continues to look at projects across all areas within the parish boundary. **A seat will also be reintroduced to Red Lion bank** to help with tired legs for those walking to and from the A167.

The parish council will approve funding for **further planting across the villages** at their January meeting, when they set the budget for 2025-2026.

Following the success of the Red Lion flowerbed poppy display (picture left), the council wants to add further colour across the parish area. Funding has already been agreed for the **rides at the summer event in 2025**.

We hope to have the **football pitch at Ugly Lane correctly** registered back with us by Land Registry soon, after an administration error by the county council placed it in their name. Once registered, we will be looking to make improvements to the area, including fencing, planting and possibly parking.

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? If so please send them to our clerk (contact details on front page).



The third Kimblesworth banner which replaced 'Ushaw Moor' with 'Kimblesworth', shown at Durham Miners' Gala Day in 1965. Photo courtesy of Durham Mining Museum.

B6312 - Speed Signage Update

Following our meeting with our former MP, Kevan Jones, earlier this year regarding the B6312 at Nettlesworth, we have now contacted his successor, Luke Akehurst MP, to ask for his support in improving road safety. He said: *"As the new Member of Parliament, I am happy to work with the Parish Council as my predecessor the Rt. Hon. Kevan Jones did. As requested I have written to Durham County Council to raise concerns about this and to request an update from them."*

We have worked with County Councillors Emma Waldock and Simon Wilson and the Area Action Partnership at Durham County Council to access their neighbourhood budget for electronic advisory 20mph signage. We hope for installation in 2025.

Village Entrance Signs Delayed

Although we were successful in a grant application for funding to install stone signs at the entrances to Nettlesworth, Kimblesworth, and Plawsworth, obtaining approval from the Highways Team at Durham County Council (DCC) has been difficult.

The stones, which will be carved to show a Davy lamp, pit wheel and wheat to recognise the...

... area's mining and farming heritage, were due to be placed roadside but DCC has not engaged since the request earlier this year.

The stonemason is keen to start, so we are now looking at other locations in the villages that do not require Highways approval, and hope to have the stones in place in the first part of 2025.

Nettlesworth Community Centre

Meeting rooms, halls and kitchens are available for hire. More information is available on their website: www.nettlesworthcommunitycentre.co.uk

Centre timetable

Monday	11am-3pm 6.30-7.30pm 6.30-8.30pm	Community Café Durham HiiT Club Step This Way
Tuesday	9am-5pm 6.30-8.30pm	Eating Distress North East (EDNE) Waldrige Fell dog training
Wednesday	11am-2pm 7-8.30pm	Sugar Craft KPPC Dog Training
Thursday	10am-midday 9.30am-10.15am 6.30-7.30pm	Mona Lisa Art group Mini Melodies Durham HiiT Club
Friday	9.15-10.45am 4-5.30pm 6pm-8pm	SYP Baby and toddlers SYP Inters & Minis/Juniors SYP Senior Youth Group

Other groups meet regularly throughout the year. Durham Musical Theatre group rehearses at the centre and the National Flower Arranging Society hold classes there.

The Community Centre Committee meets the second Tuesday evening of every month at 6pm (members of the public can attend for the first part of the meeting).

For further details please email: enquiries@nettlesworthcommunitycentre.co.uk or call 07757238257.

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