



# One Voice

## Kirkburton Parish Council Newsletter

Issue 16

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## Guidestoops Renovated



The Romans laid good metalled roads to move soldiers and supplies quickly across their empire. They measured distance to aid timing and efficiency, marking every thousandth double-step with a large cylindrical stone. The Latin for thousand was 'mille', hence 'mile'.

After Roman times, roads developed to meet local community needs. In 1555 an Act of Parliament made local parishes responsible for their upkeep and boundary markers became important. In 1667 the Justices were ordered to erect guide stoops at cross highways and on the moors. There are 7 guide stoops in the Kirkburton Parish Council area, and we are seeking to renovate them.

With funding from Kirkburton Parish Council, co-operation from Kirklees Council and the Milestone Society our two oldest guide stoops (both dated 1738) have now been renovated at Thurstonland (left) and Kirkheaton (right)

Guide Stoops are listed ancient buildings and are part of our heritage.

## *Meeting Dates*

Parish Council	6 <sup>th</sup> December, 3 <sup>rd</sup> January, 7 <sup>th</sup> February and 6 <sup>th</sup> March.
Parish Council - Planning/General Purposes	17 <sup>th</sup> January, 21 <sup>st</sup> February and 20 <sup>th</sup> March. There is no meeting in December.

All meetings are held at the Burton Village Hall at 7.30 pm unless otherwise stated. There is an opportunity to address the Council before the above meetings on any issue over which the Council has a power.



## ***Christmas Wishes***

**As this is the last newsletter in 2007, the Councillors would like to send you all their best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.**

## **On the Buses!**

**The long-awaited meeting with Stagecoach and Metro took place on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October. A long list of questions was collated and sent to Stagecoach by the Parish Council, but unfortunately few answers were forthcoming on the evening.**

However, the meeting was very well attended by the public and people had also responded well to requests to notify the Council of their concerns. The questions were taken away, along with a petition signed by several hundred people, and the public were promised answers in due course.

The main concerns revolved around basic reliability and punctuality of the buses, as well as various specific issues where the buses had been taken away completely, or isolated locations which need shelters even though the minimum passenger count is never reached. People also made various suggestions how to provide the service required by the public, but we wait to see if any of these are taken up!

The Council will keep you updated on any answers received from either Stagecoach or Metro on any of these issues.

## **Kirkburton Leads the Way with Energy Policy**

Kirkburton Parish Council is the first in the country to take advantage of the new legislation, the Climate Change and Sustainable Energy Act 2006 which gives powers to promote microgeneration and energy conservation.

A key element of the plan is the annual provision of £10,000 in the Parish Council budget to fund the installation of renewable technology and energy conservation measures in community buildings. This will ensure that a greater proportion of a building's total energy use is served by micro-generation and also demonstrate even greater energy savings, reduced CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and lower fuel bills.

It is possible that the funding will also attract additional financial support from energy utilities, who wish to support community organisations establish small scale renewable energy projects in their area.

Over the next few months, the Council will be working on the details of the policy and organising training for Councillors to ensure that it will work effectively in the future.

# ***Civic Sunday***

The Council's annual Civic Sunday was held on 14<sup>th</sup> October in the Chairman's home village of Flockton. The service at St James' Church was well attended and the Chairmen of Denby Dale, Meltham, Mirfield and Mossley, the Vice Chairmen of Ripponden and Holme Valley as well as several of our past Chairmen joined the congregation.



The reception afterwards was held at Flockton First School, which adjoins the Church. Guests enjoyed the very impressive displays created by the children.

Lin would particularly like to thank the Revs Christine Bullimore, John Marsh and Laurie Brookes for all their thought and consideration in preparing the service, and the Head Teacher of Flockton First School, Mrs Frances Swallow, for all her help in preparing the school for us.

## ***Grants***

The Parish Council has recently awarded £5,900 to the Grange Moor Community Action Group to finance a feasibility study into providing a community centre on Back Lane.

## ***Other News in Brief:***

- ❖ Stocksmoor will receive 10 hanging baskets next year.
- ❖ Christmas trees have been ordered for 9 villages. We have been reassured that the problem with the electricity supply in Lascelles Hall has been resolved.
- ❖ The annual small grants are also currently under consideration by the Committee. Organisations will be notified of the decisions around the middle of January.
- ❖ Parish Councillors recently met with representatives from Kirkheaton Parish Church to discuss issues regarding the churchyard and the wall.
- ❖ Regular meetings are also held with Shelley Community Association. Negotiations are currently taking place on access improvements to both entrances of the village hall.
- ❖ The meeting format has changed slightly. Now there is a full Parish Council meeting on the first Thursday of each month (except May) and a Planning/General Purposes meeting on the third Thursday of most months.



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