

# "O' YEAH"

# PARISH NEWSLETTER



WHISTON  
PARISH COUNCIL

| June 2018 |

## Whiston Brass Band Festival

**T**he Council are pleased to announce that the popular 'Whiston Brass Band Festival', aka 'Brasstonbury', will be held this year on **Saturday 7th July 2018. This is now a Council led event.**

Numerous bands of all standards including several junior bands have entered the contest, which will start around 2pm and end at

approximately 8pm. Bands will be travelling from around the locality and from as far away as Macclesfield and Shirland in Derbyshire.

Stalls are also available. £20 for local residents or £40 for commercial firms.

The fame of the Festival has now spread worldwide! The organisers have received enquires from brass groups in Turkey and Uganda and



also a family of brass enthusiasts from Dallas, Texas, USA who are to visit the festival this year. Whoever visits a warm welcome will be afforded.

### Introduction

**M**ay we welcome readers to the Spring/Summer edition of O'Yeah magazine.

This, the biannual publication by Whiston Parish Council, highlights Council activities and happenings in the hamlet of Whiston and the surrounding locality. In this issue you will note the winter and spring period has been a busy time for the Council with more activities to continue into the summer period.

### Christmas Lights

Given comments by parishioners last year the Parish Council has agreed that the existing Christmas lights are jaded and in need of enhancement. A project has therefore been initiated to make a significant investment in Christmas lights and attractions this year. It is hoped that the Council will then continue to improve the lights around the centre of the village and around the Parish locality in future years.

## Whiston Youth Club

**T**he Council supports the formation of a **Council led Youth Club. A "cinema club" has run at the Parish Hall, historically every Friday night, for the last few years, but this has been operated informally by Council members or mainly by parents of those children who attended. However this is to cease in July of this year with the last event scheduled for the 6th July.**

At its peak the cinema club attracted many young people and children from the parish, where on a Friday night they could meet, collectively watch a current movie, and generally chat, play games and be with friends. However, over time the number of attendees has declined as has

those who are available to volunteer and operate the club. Moreover, current safeguarding requirements for those working with young people and health and safety issues generally have become ever more stringent.

In light of the above and given the request for the formation of a Youth Club by representatives of the Whiston Youth Council, the Council is in the process of setting up a Youth Club. It is currently in consultation with professional youth workers to advise the Council on how best to deliver this service and address any legislative matters that need to be adhered to. The Council nevertheless anticipates that a Youth Club will commence in September if suitable staffing can be recruited in the near future.

# Refurbishment of the Parish Hall

**G**iven increased use of the hall in recent years and the fact that existing parts were aesthetically 'jaded', the Council considered and agreed to the refurbishment of the hall facilities. With this in mind since February, the Hall has undergone a major program of refurbishment works.

The main function room has been renovated with the suspended ceiling and lighting panels replaced. A new lighting system has been installed and the room has been redecorated. New doors have been fitted with an additional disabled access point positioned on the main windowed wall of the room. The brickwork surrounding the bar has been covered adding



**Extension to the conference room**

to the general contemporary look of the room.

The foyer to the Hall has also been redecorated and new floor covering fitted throughout. Old cupboards have been removed and storage space relocated. New double doors have been fitted to the wall adjacent to the entrance to the kitchen, which when open, provides a wide thoroughfare through the hall from front to rear.

The major element of the Hall refurbishment is the addition of a new extension to the former conference room. The new 'function' room is just over double the size of the former and now has bi-fold doors (5 metres in width) leading onto the rear garden, which allows expansion of the room to provide for open-air performances or events such as concerts, BBQ's, or general gatherings in a 'plaza' style, convivial surrounding. It is hoped a new patio area will be developed in the near future as a final enhancement to this part of the hall grounds.



The completed new extension to the former rear conference room with bifold doors. This will provide a second function room allowing easy access to the proposed plaza area.

Finally, given that the washrooms in the Hall had been well used since their installation, these have been replaced with new sanitary ware, cubicles and doors and redecorated throughout to bring them up to a, high quality, modern standard.

The Council are delighted with the refurbishment and hope that the investment made will be reflected in increased use by parishioners, community groups and other social initiatives.

## Doles Lane

**F**or some time much debate has been generated in respect of Doles Lane, a narrow unclassified highway, which connects the village of Whiston (close to the Parish Church) to upper Whiston, and is approximately a mile in length.

Given the remoteness of some part of Doles Lane, and its infrequent

use, the road has become a focus for 'fly tipping' and drug use. As the highway authority, RMBC is responsible for the upkeep of Doles Lane and hence the Parish Council has no jurisdiction over this area or indeed any of the highways in the area.

The Parish Council has nevertheless been approached and heard numerous representations in respect of Doles Lane, the

culmination of which has led to the highway being "stopped up" and reclassified as a bridleway by RMBC. The Parish Council understands gates are planned at either end to prevent use of the road by motor vehicles. However, to date no gates have been erected and it appears uncertain who will take action to supply and erect the same. The debate is ongoing at the time of writing but the Council hopes it will be resolved in the near future.

# Don't dump, donate and support your local Age UK

**N**estled in the Eastwood Trading Estate on the edge of Rotherham town centre **Age UK Rotherham's Furniture Warehouse offers for sale a large selection of pre-loved, quality furniture and household items at affordable prices.**

The Furniture Warehouse relies on donations of good quality, saleable furniture from the public and can collect large items for free. So, if you're having a clear out or downsizing you can donate your unwanted items to the charity.

With ample free parking and a friendly welcome from the staff team, shoppers can call in and browse between 9.30am and 4pm, Monday to Friday (closed on bank holidays) and pick up a bargain, or two! Delivery is also available for an additional charge.

Want to see what's in stock online? Browse the Facebook shop from wherever you are – search for @aukrfurniture and like or follow for regular stock updates and the 'Deal of the Week'. You can also view stock

on the charity's website [www.ageuk.org.uk/rotherham](http://www.ageuk.org.uk/rotherham)

Age UK Rotherham is a local charity and has a long history of working with older people in Rotherham. Following its relocation to the Eastwood Trading Estate in 2013 the charity opened its Furniture Warehouse in 2015. Proceeds raised from sales help the charity to continue its work with and for Rotherham's older people.

Something to donate? To arrange a collection call the Age UK Rotherham Furniture Warehouse on 01709 786 959. Looking for something 'new to you'? Visit online or pop in and browse around the Furniture Warehouse at Galax Business Centre, Eastwood Trading Estate, Fitzwilliam Road, Rotherham S65 1SL.

Age UK Rotherham is a registered charity, number 1039771.



## Whiston Youth Council

**A**n initiative, **autonomous to the Council yet worthy of note, is the formation of a Youth Council, a medium for young people to air their views and concerns about village life and discuss the amenities available to them and what they would like to see in the future.**

Currently the Youth Council has

only met once but those present expressed much enthusiasm for the formation of the said Council, its membership and development

At the first meeting one of the most striking points was the request for the formation of a Youth Club and therefore the Parish Council has been looking at ways to bring this about and offer a service to the young people in the locality.

## Can you help to care for local children in Rotherham?

**W**e urgently need new foster carers to look after our local children in Rotherham. We now have more than 600 children in our care, and that number is still rising.

By becoming a Rotherham foster carer you will be part of a community that is helping to reduce the numbers of Rotherham children who need to move to live with foster families in other towns and cities, sometime hundreds of miles away.

If you can offer a caring, loving home we will offer you competitive rates and an expert support and training package.

Carers must be over 21 and have a spare bedroom, everything else is a conversation.

Whether you've only just started to consider fostering or you're ready to get started we'd love to discuss all the options with you.

To find out more, meet local carers and the council team then please join us at one of our drop-in sessions held throughout the year – details on our website [www.rotherham.gov.uk/fostering](http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/fostering)

You can call to speak to one of our friendly team members on 01709 823976 Monday to Friday.

Message us through Facebook or Twitter.

## Parish Councillors

Robert Brown (Chair)	07976 250624
Dennis Dodson	01709 518299
Tim Stevenson	01709 366115
Nigel Tranmer	via clerk 07712395729
Michael Yarlett	via clerk 07712395729
Genaya Smales	via clerk 07712395729
Kerry Ferris	via clerk 07712395729
David Bridge	07939607352
Rex Carter	07771 737482

## Parish Clerk

Angela Harrison 07712 305729  
 Email: [whistonparish@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:whistonparish@hotmail.co.uk)

## Parish Hall Caretaker

Steve Pearson 01709 518315

## Ward Councillors

A Cowles	01709 255927
<a href="mailto:allen.cowles@rotherham.gov.uk">allen.cowles@rotherham.gov.uk</a>	
Julie Turner	01709 255732
<a href="mailto:julie.turner@rotherham.gov.uk">julie.turner@rotherham.gov.uk</a>	
Peter Short	01709 255950
<a href="mailto:peter.short@rotherham.gov.uk">peter.short@rotherham.gov.uk</a>	

## Member of Parliament

Kevin Barron MP 01909 568611

## Neighbourhood Development Officer

Helen Thorpe 01709 254807

## Useful Contacts

**Streetpride (RMBC): 01709 336003** (Report potholes, dog fouling, flytipping or faulty highways signs and street lights)

**South Yorkshire Police: 101** (Non emergencies)

**RMBC General Enquiries 01709 382121**

## Hall Events

Play Group – Monday & Tuesday 9-11.00am  
(Term time)

Women's Institute – Mondays 1-3.30pm

Womens Institute (evenings) – Thursday 7-10.00pm  
(2nd Tuesday of the month)

Girl Guides – Monday 7- 8.00pm (Term time)

Rainbows – Tuesdays 6-7.00pm (Term time)

Brownies – Wednesday 6-7.15pm (Term time)

Natter Group - 10-12pm (2nd Thursday of the month)

Wine Club Thursday 7-9.30pm (3rd Thursday of the month)

Mini Kicks Friday 9.15-10.00am

Noodles Ballet – Friday 4-4.45pm (Term time)

## Parish Hall Hire

The Parish Hall is bookable for all different types of engagement. Indeed all of the community groups meet within the hall. The hall has two rooms, a large room which acts as a function room. This has an adjacent bar and alcove area. Additionally, the hall has a smaller, recently extended room, which is suitable for smaller events and classes. The hall also has a large kitchen where food preparation for events can be undertaken.

Whiston Parish Council Hall can provide a great venue for birthday parties, meetings, conferences etc. Please Contact us for more details or to make a booking

The hall fees are as follows:

Regular Users £15.00 per hour (weekly/monthly classes etc)

Functions £20.00 per hour

Bar Facility £25.00

Conference Room £10.00 per hour

## Calendar

**Saturday 7th July 2018**

Whiston Festival of Brass

**Christmas switch on date of  
1st December 2018**

**We're on the Web**

**[www.whistonparishcouncil.com](http://www.whistonparishcouncil.com)**