

“O’ YEAH”

PARISH NEWSLETTER



WHISTON
PARISH COUNCIL

November 2017

Introduction

Welcome to this the November issue of Whiston Parish Council’s bi-annual ‘O’Yeah’ newsletter.

This is dedicated to Council and community activities and happenings in and around the village of Whiston. As you will read and comprehend much is happening in the village and the Council continues to encourage parishioners to ‘get involved’.

Whiston Festival of Lights

This years ‘switching on’ of the Christmas lights will be held on Saturday 2nd December 2017 from 2pm.

The event will be centred in the village with Christmas fayre and food stalls. A ‘Polar Express’ train will run from the centre of the village to the grounds of the Parish Church. Further stalls will be located around the cricket club pavilion and of course at the “North Pole”, Santa will greet children and parents in his grotto. Around 5.30pm Santa will finally board the ‘Polar Express’ to come and switch on the Christmas



lights in the centre of the village which, this year, will include some new additions to enhance the current array of lights.

Crucible Sales and Lettings Sponsors Whiston Switch-on

We are an independent estate agent based locally in Sheffield and Rotherham, and we love helping you get the best possible price when selling your home.

Since our start in 2008 we’ve already become one of the largest agencies in the area, with offices in Chapeltown, Wickersley and Hillsborough. What we have built in this time is trust – our customers know that they can expect a fair and honest service at Crucible whether they are buyers, sellers, landlords or tenants.

Our team is made up of passionate people with expert



local knowledge and years of experience working within the industry. We can help sell your property, find you a new dream home, and match your rented property with people searching for somewhere lovely to live.

Best of all, choosing Crucible also improves the lives of real people in your local area. We give 100% of our profits to provide housing for



vulnerable people and support for those who need a little extra help to settle at home.

We also care about the community you live in which is why we sponsor a number of sports teams, support our local schools and organise a range of charity events throughout the year.

Talk to us today about your plans, and choose the estate agent who does it right – right for you, right for your community.

Crucible Sales and Lettings are proud to sponsor the Whiston Light Switch on. Look out for our stall selling yummy Christmas treats!



Remembrance Concert

A concert of Remembrance and a little bit of 'pomp' was held on armistice day in the village hall. Inspiring and reflective music was provided by the Rockingham Brass Band to a very appreciative audience who also enjoyed a pie and pea supper along with refreshments served by Parish Councillors.

Hall extension

The start of construction work and refurbishment of the Parish Hall located on Well Lane, Whiston, is now quickly approaching. The work has been subdivided into three projects which are:

- To extend the conference room of the hall to provide a second function space,
- The upgrading of the wash room facilities
- To refurbish peripheral elements of the hall, such as the ceiling/lighting in the main room and the entrance/foyer of the hall.

When complete the Council anticipate that the hall will provide an aesthetically much improved and comfortable space to hold events and functions.

Whiston Youth Forum/Council

October saw the first formal Youth Council meeting. This was a great success with 8 attendees ranging from Age 11-17. They spent their time discussing what they enjoy about the village they live in or go to school in and what they are proud of. They were really excited to discuss the future and what benefits Whiston Youth Council could bring to the area. One of our junior councillors kindly summarised her thoughts below:

On Monday 23rd of October 2017, we had the first Youth Council meeting in Whiston. I really enjoyed it because it was an opportunity to tell the Parish Council what is important to young people in our beautiful village. We discussed with the Councillors what we think children of Whiston

would like to see improved and the features we appreciate and value. A suggestion that all of us agreed on was trying to encourage teenagers/tweens to respect the park more. I suggested a more age appropriate place for these teenagers such as a skate park, although this was just the first time it was considered. I'm excited about what we could achieve. It was also great to learn more about the critical role of the Parish Council in maintaining such a pretty little village. Personally, I think the Whiston Youth Council is a brilliant idea that gives the local children a bigger voice to communicate with adults about what's important to them. I would recommend children come and pay us a visit and see what it's all about.

**Junior Councillor,
Imogen Penny**

There will be another youth council meeting soon. look out on the village notice boards for details.

Natter

The Council are pleased to inform local residents that a new community group has been formed titled 'Natter'. The group, part funded by the Council, is aimed at individuals who may feel isolated or simply want the benefit of being able to get together with other people

for some good conversation, i.e. 'natter!'. The sessions take place on the second Thursday of the month from 10-12pm at the village hall on Well Lane. Please contact either the Clerk to the Parish Council or Anthea Goodman 07849 424354 for further information.

Community Pantomime

Work has now started on the production of a community pantomime to be presented early in the new-year. The focus of the pantomime is to work alongside some of the village

community groups. So, to all budding pantomime dames, prince charming's and potential two-part pantomime horse volunteers please contact Robert on 07976250624 for information.

Friends of Whiston Green

Friends of Whiston Green and Brook organised a litter pick/ tidy up day in the village on 15th October 2017. Fifteen volunteers took part and this was one of many successful tidy up days that have taken place throughout 2017.

Local residents kindly gave their time and energy to produce and distribute posters & leaflets for the event and it was supported and attended by RMBC 'Love Where You Live' staff. A big thank you to all those who took part!

The group have tried to plan the litter pick/ tidy up days around village events such as Easter, the Brass Band Festival, Remembrance Sunday and the Christmas lights.

Volunteers are always warmly welcomed and equipment is provided. It is also an opportunity to meet with neighbours and have fun along the way!

The next planned date is Sunday 26th November (when the group might even be spotted



wearing red Santa hats!) and then on Sunday 25th February to prepare for Easter. We always meet at 10am at the bridge by the village sign and light refreshments are provided.

Residents are encouraged to report anything the volunteers are not able to deal with such as dog fouling, glass or fly tipping, defective street lighting, pot holes and street weeds. Reports can be made via email: lovewhereyoulive@rotherham.gov.uk and remember photographic evidence is particularly useful

A dedicated website is planned for the Friends of Whiston Green who will also be making bids for additional funding for

improvements to the village. The group are always looking at innovative ideas to improve the look and feel of the village and welcome suggestions from local residents. These can be sent to debbiedavis62@icloud.com.

Thank you Deborah.

Doles Lane

Through the efforts and financial support of Doles Lane Action Group and Friends of Whiston Green & Brook, Rotherham Borough Council have recently changed the status of the right of way at Doles Lane from a 'minor road' to that of a bridleway. Consequently, at either end of Doles Lane suitable barriers will be installed to prevent the use of Doles Lane by road vehicles and hence stop the nuisance of 'fly tipping'. The barriers will of course still provide for free access to those who want to either ride bicycles or horses or walk the lane.

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
- Cinema Club- Friday 6-8.30pm (Fortnightly)
- Noodles Ballet – Friday 4-4.45pm (Term time)

Telephone Box

As previously reported the red telephone box located outside the Sitwell Arms public house has been granted a preservation



order. The Council would like to hear from anyone who has ideas as to what could be placed within the box to promote the village or highlight local activities. Please contact Councillor Tim Stevenson via the Clerk to the Parish Council

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

Parish Hall Caretaker

Steve Pearson 01709 518315

Ward Councillors

A Cowles allen.cowles@rotherham.gov.uk	01709 255927
Julie Turner julie.turner@rotherham.gov.uk	01709 255732
Peter Short peter.short@rotherham.gov.uk	01709 255950

Member of Parliament

Kevin Barron MP 01909 568611

Neighbourhood Development Officer

Helen Thorpe 01709 254807

Calendar

Saturday 2nd December 2017

Whiston Christmas Lights Switch-on at 5.00pm

Saturday 24th March 2018

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday 7th July 2018

Whiston Festival of Brass

We're on the Web

www.whistonparishcouncil.com

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

Neighbourhood Development Officer

Following a review of neighbourhood working RMBC has a vision of putting communities at the heart of everything they do. They value the contributions that people make within their local area, through volunteering and getting involved in decision making, to really making a difference for everyone who lives there. Each electoral ward in the borough now has a dedicated Neighbourhood Development Officer who is working, alongside your ward Councillors, to support what is already being done by you and your local community groups. Whiston is part of Sitwell Ward and the Neighbourhood Development Officer for this area is Helen Thorpe. Helen is available to support groups and individuals with projects, funding, advice and any other local issues which may arise. You can contact Helen on 01709 254807 or helen.thorpe@rotherham.gov.uk

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 room which is where the council meets (i.e the Council Chamber). 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