



Barwick-in-Elmet and Scholes Parish Council December 2020 Newsletter



Message from the Chair

Chair of the Parish Council – Councillor Phil Maude

The Christmas season is almost upon us, I hope you and your families are well as you read this newsletter. For many of us in the Parish this has been a very difficult year and as 2020 draws to an end we hope for better things to come. In the meantime, let us look forward to the Christmas holiday as a festive period.



When this pandemic hit us, we were confined to our homes. The confinement was new to us, but it presented each of us with a unique chance to see our lives in a different light and from an alternative perspective. For many of us, gone was the early commute, gone was the hectic lifestyle, and gone were the social rounds. Instead, we found ourselves with time on our hands to allow us to think and reflect. So, when faced with a calamity like Covid-19, what is it that really, really matters most to us? Does the welfare of our fellow beings matter the most? Do we wish that we had a less divided society? Do we wish that people were not losing their jobs and livelihoods - OR - that our childrens' futures were more certain?

Without any shadow of doubt the wellbeing of ourselves and our families has become increasingly important.

In the past we may have taken for granted that we could see our family members whenever we wanted to. Perhaps we've reflected on whether we really made the effort to see them as often as we would have liked? Since the first lockdown many members of our community have been unable to see family members except perhaps only through a window or from afar, or even via a video link. Suddenly for many the sense of belonging to our parish seems much stronger than before because some simple pleasures in life have been denied to us.

Are we afraid we will catch Covid-19 and succumb to it even though we know that, statistically the risks are very low? Perhaps we worry about this same fate facing our loved ones. Whilst some of us look forward with hope, others look forward with despair. Each one of us will deal with this crisis in our own way and none of us really know what it is like for everyone else, we can only experience our own emotions at this time.

Those of us on the Parish Council are very much aware that many of us will be subjected to difficulties over the coming months and we do not underestimate that there will be consequences that affect life in our Parish. Whilst we cannot know how you really feel and what it is that really really matters to you. What we can offer, along with the other organisations in the village is support and help if you need it. Where we cannot help, we will try and direct you in the direction of someone who can help you. A Parish such as ours is a combination of villages and is one big community. In dark times community spirit really really does matter. Community spirit is a thing that all of us must engender to see us through to better times.

The distribution of this newsletter will be on or around mid-winter, after which we can all look forward to increasingly lighter nights. In the meantime, I wish you all a Merry and Happy Christmas. Here's to a happy, healthy and prosperous 2021. Keep safe and keep helping one another.

Phil Maude - Chair

Community Groups – support for residents by residents

Your Scholes. Still working for you

Over the summer, as society emerged from lockdown and people started to get used to the restrictions, YourScholes volunteers were used less and less. We saw this as a good sign that people were becoming able to get around and do things more easily.

Once we entered the second lockdown, we became aware that some people were feeling nervous and uncertain about what they couldn't and couldn't do. Our message to Scholes Village was, and remains, that we are still here and if you are in need of a volunteer to help with anything from shopping to putting out bins or collecting prescriptions to a regular friendly chat, we are here to help.

If you need help please contact Andy Nicholson on 0113 2892437 and he will take your details.

Alternatively you can go to our web page at <https://your-scholes.co.uk/> and fill in the 'request support' form.

Barwick Cares

Barwick Cares is an informal group linking local volunteers and local agencies with those in need, especially the Elderly and those at risk of the Coronavirus.

We are offering a friendly phone call each day to see how you are and have someone to talk to. We offer to collect shopping from Barwick Village Stores and collect prescriptions for those who are self-isolating.

For help contact us at barwickcares@gmail.com or telephone Leslye 0113 281 2488, Clare 07886 372851 or Revd Bob 0113 260 7721. Thank you for showing that Barwick Cares!

Glad tidings of Comfort & Joy! - Christmas events and support in Barwick

Supported by Barwick-in-Elmet Church of England Primary School, Barwick Methodist Church and All Saints' Church.

Barwick Angel Trail Saturday 19th December, 4pm - 8pm.

Bring some sparkle to Barwick this Christmas! Create an angel on any theme you like (remembering children will be taking the trail). It can be funny, political, spiritual or a work of art. Create it in your window or garden. If you wish, add your angel to the trail either using the link below or phone/email/write to Bob with the name of your Angel and your address (these details will be made public). The official trail is 4pm - 8pm on Saturday 19th December but feel free to create your angel anytime! At the end of the trail a special parcel will be available from All Saints' Church (depending on Covid-19 restrictions) to help families tell the Christmas story at home. Please share the sparkle by donating to The Children's Society.

Donate to the Children's Society <https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk>

Signup form <https://forms.gle/na3iVdVt4EPzJAAZ7>

or contact Bob with the name of your Angel and your address (these details will be made public) at 07885 386932, 3 Scholes Lodge Lane, Scholes, Leeds, West Yorkshire LS15 4BZ. rev.bob.bailey@gmail.com

See the latest map using this link at: <https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1O6jfVD-gP2y-kN7c7Hn50a9JxTrb6aY7&usp=sharing>

Barwick in Elmet and Scholes Parish Remembrance Sunday 2020

Despite Coronavirus restrictions Remembrance Day 2020 was marked in the Parish with the same dignity as in previous years.

The wreath laying was carried out on Sunday 8th November, ahead of Armistice Day 11th November. Reverend Andy Nicholson and his team made good use of technology and online services were recorded and made available, these included the Act of Remembrance, and the calling of the names of the fallen and the laying of wreaths.



Also, on Sunday 8th November, residents paid their respects in both villages. The Deputy Lord Lieutenant Stan Hardy, laid wreaths at both Cenotaphs on behalf of the Queen.

Wreaths were laid by Sam Jones, Steve Smith, Steve Wright, 1st Scholes Scouts, Rebecca Russell and Robin Tomlinson, Garforth and District Lions Club. Mr Leslie Goddard, Chair of Barwick and Scholes Royal British Legion, called the names of the fallen and laid wreaths on behalf of the Legion.

Robert Simpson was the Standard Bearer. Cllr Sam Firth laid wreaths on behalf of the City of Leeds. Claire Hassell (Vice Chair) laid wreaths on behalf of the Parish Council and all residents at the Cenotaph and The Tommy in Barwick. The names were called again on November 11th.

Prior to this the children from Scholes (Elmet) Primary School laid crosses at Scholes Cenotaph with the names of the fallen from Scholes. Imogen Barnsley read the names of the soldiers as the other children from the school placed the remembrance crosses on the memorial. Poppy Horsfall and Ellie Akhtar read aloud. Whilst Scholes Nursery provided an interesting display of poppies made by the children. In Barwick the children from Barwick in Elmet C of E Primary School planted the crosses for all the names on the Memorial with Rev. Andy Nicholson attending.

Ted Stuart received the Legion d'Honneur, the highest French order of merit for military and civil merits. It was established in 1802 by Napoleon Bonaparte and retained by all later French governments and regimes.

Lest We Forget

They shall grow not old, as **we** that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn;
At the going down of the sun, and in the morning,
We will remember them.

The Sports Pavilion, Scholes

Following the upgrades to the heating, lighting and hot water system the Pavilion building is increasingly being used as a community facility. The list of users is growing, and currently includes personal fitness trainer sessions, The Tribe Youth Group (for 7 to 11-year olds), children's parties, a sewing group that meets every other month and, most recently, The Wendel Singers who have used Pavilion for a committee meeting.



5 Star football is using the sports field on Saturday mornings and, until the end of October, ran an after-school session one day each week. We have also welcomed Shadwell Junior FC to the sports field on Sundays. If you want information about any of the activities or for details of hiring either the sports field or the pavilion, please contact the Parish Council via scholessprtspavilion@gmail.com

Scholes Sports - Vision for the future progress

Your Parish Council has some powers in its constitution to create better places within the Parish through community investment.

As the lockdowns have clearly highlighted, where we live affects our health and wellbeing too. This year has demonstrated that we all need usable resources and facilities close to our homes.

The need to provide a local facility - in the heart of the parish – has become of increased importance. Furthermore, the Parish Council wants to provide local facilities that will enable residents improve their cardiovascular systems, strengthen **muscles**, help maintain your weight, boost mental health activity and decrease the possibility of health conditions occurring.

Your Parish Council is not competing with commercial gymnasias or fitness clubs but simply seeking to offer a resource to help with daily exercise whether it be individual exercise or team sports.

To this end the Parish Council recognised that the existing Tennis Courts and Sports Pavilion in Scholes is in dire need investment having been starved of funds to maintain any level of standards and so the 'Vision for the Future' scheme came into being.

The 8-page "Vision" booklet that was distributed to most houses in the parish was designed to be informative but also sought residents' views. Importantly it asked whether residents wanted such a facility, and if so whether they'd use it.



Our vision is that the site needs a new tennis court complete with a non-slip surface plus a Multiuser Games Area (“MUGA”) to enable Netball, Basketball, 5-a-side football and cricket practice all within the existing 37metre x 17metre area.

The Open Consultation event, held on Saturday 22nd August, was a great success as new suggestions were put forward by those who attended and, importantly, the fears of many concerning possible anti-social behaviour and noise were allayed.

Over 99% of the returned questionnaires wanted to keep the area as a sports facility. Many residents stated in their returned questionnaires that their families would use the area on a weekly basis.

As at the time of distribution of this December Newsletter we would still like you to send your opinions of the scheme, or your ideas for the area, to the Parish Council either with the online form at <http://www.123formbuilder.com/form-5555826/> or handing in the paper form.

At present we are preparing a planning application for the new facility as well as submitting grant funding to a number of organisations.



Scholes World Peace Flame

Scholes World Peace Flame was highlighted in November 2020 on the World Peace Flame Walk Project. The website is viewed internationally and work by children at Scholes (Elmet) Primary school was showcased on the website. The work in schools is an important part of the Peace Flame Project and was led by Janet Horkan and Christine Tall, Scholes WI Climate Change Ambassador.

Details for residents can be found here.

<https://www.worldpeaceflame.co.uk/blog/2020/08/31/world-peace-walk-project/>

Mud, grit and dirt sticks to the ELOR Statement of Construction Practice

At the Plans Panel Meeting at Leeds Civic Hall on 23rd November 2017 your Parish Council made a representation speech raising concerns that the budget for the construction of ELOR is constrained by its reliance on property tax. Our chief concern was that this financial constraint will reduce the quality of the design and implementation of the road.

Leeds City Council (“LCC”) in its generosity, allowed us 2 minutes to deliver our messages; we rushed through the 120 seconds expressing fears about ELOR’s enormous environmental impact, the prospect of increased pollution levels and the fact that our residents will be surrounded by traffic generated noise.

Our speech made the point that LCC was unlikely to look at its own ELOR project with all round objectivity, nor was it likely to take into consideration residents’ concerns.

Whilst the Plans Panel seemingly ignored the representation, your Parish Council was pleased that the Conditions for granting planning permission were increased in number from 36 to 43. These conditions are required to be met by the successful contractor, and failure to do so would mean that Planning Permission would not be granted.

According to the LCC document Grant of Full Planning Permission, signed by Chief Planning Officer Tim Hill, Planning Permission was granted subject to the contractor fulfilling the 43 conditions listed in the document.

Condition 3 is No works shall begin on any phase of the development until a Statement of Construction Practice for that phase has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.” This Planning Condition requires in 3a that the statement must contain full details of “The methods to be employed to prevent mud, grit and dirt being carried onto the public highway from the development hereby approved.”

The Planning Condition is clear, that no works shall begin on any phase of the development until a Statement of Construction Practice has been submitted to, and approved in writing by, the Local Planning Authority. The statement has to include the full details of methods to be employed to prevent mud, grit and dirt being carried onto the public highway from the development.

Planning Condition 3g is “How this Statement of Construction Practice will be made publicly available by the developer.”

The Barwick and Scholes ELOR Working Party (“Working Party”) was formed on Wednesday 17 April 2019 at the Manor House Scholes and comprises parish residents, parish councillors and Ward Councillors. Its formation was an important event for everyone because the Working Party provides your Parish with its own group looking after the interests of the villages. The Working Party is not a Barwick and Scholes sub-committee or working group and therefore does not report to the Parish Council - it is a communications channel facilitated via the use of some of the Parish Council’s resources enabling residents to organise themselves, attend meetings and formulate questions and push the ELOR Delivery Team (“Delivery Team” comprising key members of Leeds City Council’s and Balfour Beatty’s delivery teams) to be accountable when things go awry.

Although residents expressed concern about the mud on Leeds Road as early as March 2020, in late Autumn 2020 things certainly did began to go awry, with deepening concern over the mud, grit and dirt being carried onto Leeds Road. Deposits from the construction vehicles quickly became a hazard to motor vehicle users, non-motor vehicle users and pedestrians alike.

As the weather conditions deteriorated, the Working Party questioned the Delivery team on why it was not aligning itself with the Leeds City Council’s conditions of Planning Permission.

Parish residents recognise that the ELOR earthworks, particularly on either side of Leeds Road, are enormous. There is no naivety on our part about the difficulty there is in moving

000s of cubic metres of earth from the north side of Leeds Road to the South side and on towards Manston Lane. However, the magnitude of the works, combined with poor and unfavourable weather conditions are not excuses for the Delivery Team to fail to adhere to Planning Conditions.

The Contractor Balfour Beatty has devised a Construction and Environmental Management Plan (“CEMP”) for the ELOR Project. The CEMP’s wording includes “This CEMP is a live document and will be updated as the Scheme moves through construction”. In November 2020 we (the ELOR Working Party) requested a copy of the CEMP and were, after a delay of 3 weeks, presented with a CEMP dated 17th April 2020 – the document was well out of date. An up-to-date CEMP document should be easily accessible to anyone in Leeds but, for some as yet unknown reason, this appears not to be the case.

The Working Party has requested sight (and copies) of the up-to-date CEMP and will study it to understand how the Contractor will prevent mud, grit and dirt from being dumped on Leeds Road.

In our most recent meeting with the Delivery Team (held via Microsoft Team Virtual Meeting Application) on Wednesday 9th December 2020 the Working Party asked how the Planning Conditions were being adhered to and pursued this line by asking the Delivery Team members to explain their failure to adhere to these Planning Conditions.

Immediately after the meeting the Delivery Team issued the statement below to us. Please note that where the Delivery Team mentions the Parish Council, it should refer to the Working Party.

The ELOR delivery team acknowledge the issues that the local community and the construction team have had over recent months.

We had a constructive meeting with the Parish Council and discussed a number of methods and options tried and considered. There was an appreciation from both sides about the challenges with both mud on the highway and the intermittent waiting times at the temporary traffic signals on Leeds Road.

As discussed with the Parish Council, of all of the junctions on the ELOR project, the Leeds Road/Barwick Road junction is subject to the highest number of site vehicle movements due to the nature of the cutting material to the north of the junction to help with the general screening of the scheme from the village and then the movement of this material south to naturally increase the ground levels as we tie the scheme into Manston Lane.

The delivery team continue to be committed to keeping the local network safe and will continue to review and challenge processes to collect any material prior to vehicles leaving site and from the highway as soon as it has been deposited in a safe and practicable manner.

There is also an ongoing review of the traffic signal sequencing. There will be occasions where there are elongated periods of holding time at the signals to allow the cleaning of the highway throughout the day, but we will look to keep these to a minimum.

Please continue to engage with the team via elor@leeds.gov.uk and hopefully we can soon meet in person again to look at the environmental enhancements the scheme will bring and hope that as many of you as possible will help us plant up the scheme when the right season is upon us and Covid restrictions allow. Stay safe and we hope you have a happy Christmas.

The Working Party is now awaiting formal response to its questions regarding the above and will report on these via social media and the next Parish Council Newsletter.

Leeds Country Way

Did you know the Leeds Country Way ("LCW") is a 62-mile circular path around Leeds, and it runs for a few miles through our parish from the A64 near the Red Bus Café, on through Barwick, past the Coronation Tree to Bog Lane? You can find full details of the walk and the route on Leeds City Council's website.



The walk is divided into 4 parts of approximately 15 miles each, with each part containing 3 linear walks of around 5 miles each. So, you can complete the walk over a 4-day period or take a more relaxed approach over 12 days or mix and match to suit. There are some hardy souls who have done the walk in one go, the fastest time is just over 12 hours!!

When I did the walk recently my wife very kindly picked me up and dropped me off at the start and end of the day which was very helpful, although there is good access via public transport. Of course, as the LCP runs through the Parish you can start and finish one section from home!

LCP is an officially recognised long distance footpath and signposted accordingly. Look for the Owl.

I found the walk delightful and I saw parts of rural Leeds I never knew existed. A few of the highlights include

- Part of the Linesway path between Garforth and Allerton Bywater;
- Lemonroyd Marina beside the River Aire;
- The woods and views around Howley Hall near Morley;
- The woods around Cockersdale and Fulneck;
- The walk beside the River Aire from Apperley Bridge;
- The views from Hunger Hills
- The walk through Breary Marsh and Golden Acre Park
- The walk through the Harewood Estate
- The walk back to Barwick through Kiddal Wood

And there's lots more for you to discover for yourself. Why not give it a try - I guarantee you will enjoy it and it is all within the Leeds City boundary.



Sports Clubs updates

Football in the Parish: Update for Mount St Mary's FC. Season 2019/20

Due to the 2nd lockdown no football was played up to the 2nd December 2020.

The 1st team is currently 2nd in the Premier Division of the Yorkshire Amateur League having played 7 League games so far winning 5, drawing 1 and losing 1.

The Reserves team is currently 2nd in Division 4 of the Yorkshire Amateur League having played 6 League games so far winning 5 and drawing 1 (still unbeaten).

Over the last month or so the football club applied online to the FA Foundation for a grant towards the required works to purchase and install a new septic for the Barwick Clubhouse/changing rooms. After many hours of emails, phone calls and stress, we finally received acknowledgment from the FA Foundation on Tuesday 13th October 2020 that Mount St Marys Fc had been successful with regards the online application and the FA Foundation offered £7,965 towards the overall cost of the purchase and installation of the new Septic tank. So, with the £3,500 (Funding grant from the Festival application from October 2019) and £7,965 (FA Foundation application) we have contributed £11,465 towards the £12,500 plus VAT required for the works carried and now completed.

This season (2020/21) is our fifth year playing at Barwick and Mount St Marys Fc committee/players have thoroughly enjoyed the facilities and surrounding area although at the beginning of our 1st Licence agreement the clubhouse/changing facilities needed major refurbishment and many hours of volunteer work and labour.

We have signed a further 10-year Licence with the Barwick and Scholes Parish Council and we are looking forward to making further clubhouse and ground improvements and hopefully bring some success on the football pitch.

Organised Football at Scholes Sports Field.

There is now junior football available at Scholes Sports field. After a lengthy gap without the opportunity to play organised football in the village your Parish Council has been pro-active in ensuring the sports field is being used again for junior football. We are also hoping that this coming summer the issues with poor drainage of the field can be addressed so that wet weather does not turn the area into a mud bath.

On Saturday mornings from 10:00 am 5-Star Sports runs its football skills classes for youngsters from 4 to 12 years old.

For many years 5-Star ran these sessions at the school playing field but moved to the sports field last summer so that all facilities are now available.

See their website for details of times and restrictions under Covid regulations.

<https://www.five-star-sports.co.uk/saturday-football>

We have also had football (sports) themed children's parties using the pavilion and the sports field. Contact: grahamslater@mpcsl.com for booking details.

On Sundays we are pleased with the arrival of Shadwell United FC juniors onto the sports field. Shadwell plays in the Garforth Junior Football league and runs several junior teams for boys and girls at locations throughout north east Leeds. The organisers are keen to attract more youngsters from our villages into their squads. Matches in Scholes usually kick off around lunch time. Contact Phil Hardaker at phil@hitsplc.com for further information.

Scholes Village Hall

The Scholes Village Hall Committee is currently seeking to change the legal structure of the Village Hall to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). This resolution was passed at the Annual General Meeting held 29th October 2020.

Scholes Village Hall Committee welcomes the involvement of any member of the village in helping to sustain and enhance the future of our valuable community facility. If you have any queries, or for further information please email scholesvillagehall@gmail.com

Parish Council update

We will continue to stream the Parish Council's meetings using Zoom, and everyone is invited to attend via Zoom.

Parish Council contact information

Clerk to Parish Council: Keith Langley:
email: clerkLS154@btinternet.com, Telephone: 0113 393 5861

Parish Council Surgery: Surgeries are cancelled until further notice.

The Planning Committee: Meetings continue to be held via Zoom. Planning applications can be found on the website and village notice boards.

Parish Council Accounts: Community Grants information and full Parish Council accounts are available to view online. Copies are also available upon request to the Clerk of the Parish Council.

The Parish Councillors, working for you.

Barwick Ward		Scholes Ward	
Glyn Davies	glynatpc@gmail.com	Paul Remmer	paulremmerbspc@gmail.com
Vacant		Karen Dales	karen.dalesparishcouncil@talktalk.net
Howard Bedford	howard@howardbedford.com	Graham Slater	GrahamSlater@mpcsl.com
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Note: All information provided in this newsletter was accurate as at 16th December 2020