

ARTHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWS



Severe Flooding Hits Arthington

Storm Eva brought terrible flooding to the local area and several properties in Arthington were badly affected. A farm and its house and cottage were flooded and animals were in danger from the deep water. Houses near the Village Hall were affected and the Village Hall was saved in the nick of time by residents clearing blocked gullies nearby. The A659 was badly flooded in at least 2 places in Arthington and there was a deep flood at the top corner of Creskeld Lane. This has been a wakeup call for Leeds City Council who have responded well considering the situation. Details of Leeds' flood recovery support schemes are given below and it is not too late to contact them if you were affected by the floods.

6th January 2016 - Council Reveals Full Details of Flood Recovery Support Schemes In Leeds

Leeds City Council has released additional details of the financial support being made available to help households and businesses recover from the recent floods:

In terms of households, the council is offering two schemes to help domestic properties affected by flooding:

- **£500 Compensation Scheme** to help householders recover from the floods. This may, for instance, help with rental costs at a temporary home.

The £500 compensation will be a cash payment to householders affected. For details of the qualifying criteria for properties as well as additional support and guidance on flood recovery visit the council's website at www.leeds.gov.uk/council/Pages/Council-support-for-flood-hit-homes-and-businesses.aspx.

- **Council Tax Relief** scheme to aid longer-term issues caused to residential properties by the flood, with 100 per cent discount on council tax for a minimum of three months.

In terms of businesses affected by Storm Eva the council is offering a range of measures including:

- **£2,500 Cash Grant Scheme** to aid immediate clean-up and recovery costs.
- **Full Business Rates Relief** for a minimum period of three months
- **Recovery Advice** on including visits to affected properties to assess damage.
- **Environment Health Advice**
- **Alternative Premises** assistance for firms needing to relocate
- **Up to £5,000 Flood Resilience Grant** is available to help make commercial premises more resilient to any future flooding - further details on this will be published at a later date.

The council is looking to make payments as quickly as possible and expects the first payments to be issued today directly into householders' bank accounts where it has got all the information needed to make a decision.

The financial schemes are available to eligible businesses only. To see the full criteria visit www.leeds.gov.uk/council/Pages/Council-support-for-flood-hit-homes-and-businesses.aspx

Tour de Yorkshire Returns

Day 2 of this year's tour is set to blaze through Arthington on **Saturday 30th April 2016**. Make a note in your diary and look out for further information.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SUPPORTING YOUR COMMUNITY? HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT BECOMING A COUNCILLOR?

The Parish Council now has a vacancy for a councillor to join the team. If you want to have a say on what goes on in your community, then this is the perfect opportunity for you. The position will be filled by election if any ten local government electors submit a written request by no later than Monday 15th February to the Returning Office:
Leeds City Council, Electoral Services, Level 2, The Town Hall, The Headrow, Leeds, LS1 3AD

If you would like any more information about becoming a councillor, please email the clerk at arthingtonparish@live.co.uk

Site Allocations For Housing.

What Next?

As part of the Core Strategy, the planning framework for Leeds up to 2028, the city council is planning to provide 66,000 new homes. The outer north west area, which includes Otley, Pool, Arthington, Bramhope and the northern end of Adel, is expected to provide some 2,000 of these homes. Three housing sites are proposed in Bramhope, one of which is in Arthington Parish, at the rear of 45 Creskeld Lane (23 houses). Another site is adjacent to the parish boundary on Breary Lane East (376 houses). Both sites are allocated to the third and final phase of land release.

The last stage of public consultation on the site allocations ended in November. Leeds can, if they wish, modify their plans which would lead to another phase of consultation. The plans will then be submitted to the Secretary of State and a Planning Inspector will hold an Examination in Public. The Inspector can make further modifications, on which there would have to be more consultation. The final stages are the publication of the Inspector's Report and the adoption of the plans.

Arthington Parish Council submitted a detailed response to the Site Allocations

Plan stating that the sites should not be developed and the Plan was unsound because it failed to conform with the Core Strategy and the National Planning Policy Framework

Regarding the Breary Lane East allocation Leeds state that the site *"should only come forward after the delivery of a mitigating transport scheme such as the NGT."* The NGT is the trolley bus scheme which would terminate at Holt Park with a park & ride for 850 cars at Bodington. There is still no decision as to whether the NGT will be constructed and when. This appears to be an admission by Leeds that we do not have the transport infrastructure to cope with developments of this size especially when over 1,000 new houses are also planned for Otley. All this indicates that if the Breary Lane East Site is ever to be developed it will be much later than Miller Homes, the potential developer, would want. However there is also the possibility that the planning inspector could be persuaded to drop the proviso of a *"mitigating transport scheme"* from the site requirements. It could also be argued that the overcrowding problems on the A660 cannot be solved by any transport scheme and as such these are not sound plans.

Leeds have already rejected the application by Miller Homes on the grounds that it was premature. The appeal by Miller Homes against this decision will be heard in April.

Farewell Jim

Councillor Jim Hemingway has decided to call it a day, after more than 6 years as a Parish Councillor and will leave after the March meeting. Jim has been hardworking and diligent and a valuable asset to the Parish Council. Thanks Jim, and best wishes for the future.

Val Steps Down

After 5 years of hard work and dedication, Val Butcher has decided to leave her post as Clerk to the Arthington Parish Council. Val put a lot of time and energy into providing a comprehensive administration and financial support to the council and she will be missed. We wish her all the best.

Warren Lane local Hannah Hay took over from Val in the New Year and hopes to be as good as her predecessor.

Should you have any issues you'd like to bring to the Parish Council's attention, please email Hannah at arthingtonparish@live.co.uk or telephone **07497 602283**.

Parish Precept

The Parish Council get funding by receiving a certain amount of the local Council tax and as the new financial year approaches, the councillors have had to decide on the amount of the 2016/17 Parish Precept. As a result of January's meeting, they have agreed that no increase is necessary and so the precept will remain at the same level it has been for many years now.

Your parish councillors are; Chairman; Ian Lister, Neil O'Brien, Diane Fox and Barbara Shepherd. Hannah Hay is clerk to the council.

The Parish Council meet in the parish rooms (Village Hall) on Arthington Lane.

The next meeting is in **March 2016** and all local residents are invited.

Please look for details on notice boards closer to the time.

Arthington Village Hall Committee & the Village Green Association
invite you to a concert with a full afternoon tea included.

"AFTERNOON TEA with CAROLINE FIELDS" Sunday 20th March 2016

'Caroline Fields is a local lass and well established singer and actress. She has had many radio and TV appearances from BBC's 'Friday Night is Music Night' to 'All Creatures Great and Small'. She has appeared many, many times at The City Varieties Music Hall in Leeds and frequently appears in Paris. Also, she has recently completed a nationwide tour starring in 'The Best of Joyce Grenfell'.

For tickets and more information, please contact Val Butcher on 0113 284 2065

