



# Sprotbrough & Cusworth Parish Council News

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Autumn 2023

## Five-year plan for local play areas and parks

CREATING quality play areas and parks where you and your family can relax and enjoy time together is one of our key priorities as a parish council.

In recent years we have been able to make some improvements to the four sites we own in Sprotbrough and Cusworth - at New Lane, Newlands Park, Goldsmith Centre and Anchorage Park - but we want to do more.

We have set out our ambitions in the chart below, which also lists some of the challenges we face. Next year, for example, for safety reasons we will have to replace the wooden structures at the New Lane adventure play area as they are coming to the end of their lifespan. The play area at the Goldsmith Centre also needs refurbishing, we've heard the comments of local people about how tired it looks and we agree with you.

In the coming weeks we will be organising a consultation programme for our residents, inviting you to tell us what you would like to see on the four sites. Your thoughts will be factored into a 'wish list' for future project plans.

Let us know. Please email:

[clerk@sprotbroughandcusworthparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@sprotbroughandcusworthparishcouncil.gov.uk) with your ideas. Information about the public consultation will be available soon on our website: [www.sprotbroughandcusworthparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.sprotbroughandcusworthparishcouncil.gov.uk) and on our facebook page.

New Lane



Anchorage Park

Newlands Park



The Goldsmith Centre

Site	Time frame	Sources of funding	Notes
<b>New Lane, Sprotbrough</b>			
Replace wooden play equipment/ update play area	1-2 years	Section 106 funding from the new adjacent housing development	Wooden play equipment coming to the end of lifespan - requires replacement for safety
New benches/ picnic tables	1-5 years	Parish Council reserves	
Maintenance costs (last three years)	Footpath - £5,478, Play area repairs - £10,273, Trees - £1,849		
<b>Newlands Park, Cusworth</b>			
Manage woodland copses/ hedges	On-going	Parish Council reserves	
Create seating areas	1-5 years	Grants	
Bulb/ wildflower planting	Annually	Parish Council reserves	
New bin at Fernlea Close entrance	1-2 years	Parish Council reserves	
Maintenance costs (last 3 years)	Culvert work on the site - £19,510, Repairs - £3,758, Trees - £10,228		
<b>Goldsmith Centre, Sprotbrough</b>			
Upgrade toilet facilities in centre	Complete	Grant from FCC Communities Foundation	
Upgrade fire doors in centre	Complete	Grant from National Lottery	
Bike rack/shelter & repair station	Complete	Provided by Active Travel (CDC)	
Upgrade kitchen in centre	1-5 years	Grant	
Replace children's play area	1-5 years	Section 106 and grant funding	
Maintenance costs (last 3 years)	Play area repairs - £595, Building repairs - £18,767		
<b>Anchorage Park, Sprotbrough</b>			
Tree planting	Annually	Provided by Woodland Trust	
Bulb/ wildflower planting	Annually	Parish Council reserves	
New benches/ picnic tables	1-5 years	Parish Council reserves	
New double bin at the outside gym	1-2 years	Parish Council reserves	
Maintenance costs (last 3 years)	Play area repairs - £1,265, Building repairs - £11,113		

# CHARITY BOOST FROM SUCCESSFUL FESTIVAL

A DONCASTER good cause, which provides essential items for new mums in need, is **£3,222.46** better off thanks to the creative skills of Sprotbrough folk.



This year's Sprotbrough Scarecrow Festival proved to be a big money-spinner for Baby Basics, the charity chosen to benefit from this year's fund-raising event. Helen Furniss, one of the festival's dedicated band of organisers, said: "It's a charity that is dear to our hearts and we feel incredibly proud that we have raised so much for them in a two day event."

Sprotbrough & Cusworth Parish Council sponsored the event, with Chair, Councillor Tony Nicholson, adding: "This is a fantastic annual event which brings the community together. Well done everybody who took part and thank you to the organisers."

There were two sets of 'awards'. A team of judges went out on the first day and awarded six gold, six silver and six bronze. Over the weekend the public voted for their favourite - a people's vote and a children's vote. The children's vote went to 'Spiderman and the Green Goblin, on Copley Gardens, and the people's vote - the overall winner - went to the Ukrainian Goats on Folder Lane.



## ECO FEST 2023

THE parish council's ground-breaking Eco Fest in June - the first in Doncaster - brought together local groups and organisations to provide practical climate change advice for our residents.

Our Climate Change Working Group is looking at how the parish council can support residents to reduce their carbon footprint. The group regularly review our activities in line with an action plan and we're making good progress.

### Projects undertaken so far include:

- Subsidised water butts for local residents - over 70 purchased so far.
- Subsidised fruit trees for local residents to support the Queen's Jubilee Green Canopy initiative.
- Three fruit trees planted at the Goldsmith Centre and 40 trees at Anchorage Park.
- Identified wildflower areas and planted seeds on all our recreation sites.
- Planted over 300 bulbs on our recreation sites.
- Hosted an event with Better Buses for South Yorkshire in April 2023 to discuss how we can improve bus services within the parish
- Restored two ponds at Newlands Park as part of a project with Natural England to promote habitats for Great Crested Newts

### Projects coming up:

- Electric bike charging point at the Goldsmith Centre.
- Carbon literacy training for parish council staff and councillors.

For more information visit the Climate Change section of our website and download two leaflets - one giving practical tips on saving money, energy and reducing the impact on the environment and the other an A - Z guide to reducing food waste.

- THANKS to our friends at the Don Catchment Rivers Trust for donating this superb bug hotel, which now has pride of place in the Goldsmith Centre garden. **ECO FEST** visitors helped to fill it with various bug-friendly items.



- Installing bird boxes/ bug houses at Newlands Park.
- Installed additional recycling facilities in the Goldsmith Community Centre.
- Parish Clerk Emma Garner was a key speaker at the South Yorkshire Climate Change Alliance meeting in June 2022, showcasing the work we're undertaking.
- Registered the Goldsmith Centre as a free water refill station.
- Installed a new bike rack/ shelter and bike repair station at the Goldsmith Centre.
- Installed solar panels at the Goldsmith Centre.
- Providing litter-picking equipment for local residents/ groups to reduce litter within the Parish.
- Created leaflets with handy tips on food waste and reducing the impact on the environment.
- Monthly litter picks.
- 2024 In Bloom competition.



## Remembering the fallen

A BIG thank you to local residents and businesses who donated to the lamp post poppy appeal we have organised.

Some **£1,000** was raised for the Royal British Legion's annual poppy appeal by purchasing 200 large poppies, which will be fastened to street lights in Sprotbrough and Cusworth ahead of Remembrance Day on 11 November. Our friends at the Don Gorge Community Group have volunteered to attach the poppies to the posts, so grateful thanks to them.



# What's on and when?



THERE'S a lot to choose from at The Goldsmith Centre, Sprotbrough, and Scawsby Community Centre. Check the activities' calendars below to see if anything interests you.

## The Goldsmith Centre

	Activity	Time
<b>MONDAY</b>	Boogie Bounce	6pm - 7pm
	Scottish Dancing	7.15pm - 9.45pm
<b>TUESDAY</b>	Painting Group	2pm - 4pm
	Nellie Stables School of Theatre Dance	4.30pm - 7pm
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	Little Movers	9am - 11.15am
	Pilates	6.30pm - 7.30pm
<b>THURSDAY</b>	Community Coffee Morning	10.15am - 1.45am
	Thursday Club	1.30pm - 4pm
	Ridgeway School of Dance	4.45pm - 8pm
	Ladies' Circle (fortnightly)	7pm - 9.30pm
<b>FRIDAY</b>	National Childbirth Trust Playgroup	9am - 12.30pm
<b>SATURDAY</b>	Ridgeway School of Dance	9am - 2.45pm
<b>SUNDAY</b>	Community Church	10am - 12 noon

Recent improvements to the Goldsmith Centre include refurbishment of the toilets, thanks to a **£32,000** grant from FCC Communities Foundation, plus improvements to the kitchen.

A bicycle repair and maintenance unit has been installed near the centre's new cycle shelter, both paid for by Active Doncaster.



## Scawsby Community Centre

	Main Hall			New Hall	
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening	Room 1	Room 2
<b>MONDAY</b>			<b>Dance Fitness Mix</b> 6.00pm-7.00pm	<b>Art Group:</b> 1.00pm-3.00pm <b>Diabetes Prevention Programme</b> (once a fortnight): 16.00pm-17.30pm	
<b>TUESDAY</b>			<b>Yoga</b> 6.00pm-7.00pm	<b>Get together</b> 7.30pm-9.30pm	
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>			<b>Taekwondo</b> 6.00pm-7.00pm	<b>DonMentia</b> (2nd Wed): 12.30pm-3.00pm <b>Scawsby Independent Women</b> (1st Wed): 3.00pm-4.30pm	
<b>THURSDAY</b>		<b>Scawsby Independent Women</b> (2nd Thurs): 1.00pm-3.30pm	<b>Specialist Fitness</b> 16.30pm-17.30pm	<b>AG Family Support</b> (fortnightly): 3.00pm-6.00pm	
<b>FRIDAY</b>					
<b>SATURDAY</b>					
<b>SUNDAY</b>			<b>Bowling</b> 7.00pm-9.00pm		

- BOTH community centres are offering a Warm Welcome to everyone through the winter months. This community initiative is a follow-up to last winter's successful Hot Spots campaign, involving local partners who this year will be promoting each others' activities and encouraging residents to join in. Taking part are Sprotbrough Methodist Church, St Mary's Church, Goldsmith Centre, Sprotbrough Road Community Church, Sprotbrough Community Library, and Scawsby Community Centre

## SPA call it a day

TWO community organisations have benefited following the winding up of a long-established interest group. Members of Sprotbrough Preservation Association (SPA) - which used to comment on local planning issues - voted to call it a day and share their remaining funds of £616.89 between the Don Gorge Community Group (£416.89) and Sprotbrough History Group (£200). Both groups were chosen for their commitment to maintaining the local heritage and their links with former SPA secretary, the late Bernard Pearson.

## New volunteer group starts

SUSTRANS, the charity making it easier to walk, wheel, and cycle, has partnered with Doncaster Council to launch a new volunteer group on the Trans Pennine Trail (TPT). The group will look after the section from Sprotbrough Road/Melton Road to York Road. Tasks will include litter picking, creating wildflower areas, and vegetation management. The task days will take place monthly. For more information, or to register your interest, email Sarah Bradbury at [volunteers-north@sustrans.org.uk](mailto:volunteers-north@sustrans.org.uk)

The section of the TPT between Sprotbrough Road and York Road is being improved. There will be a new smooth surface laid. There will also be access improvements made to enable everyone to use this section of trail, whether they are using a mobility scooter or adapted bike, pushing a pram, or riding a horse. Funding for the improvements has been secured by Sustrans and Doncaster Council.

For more information, see: [www.doncaster.gov.uk/services/get-involved/trans-pennine-trail-improvements-consultation-york-road-to-melton-road](http://www.doncaster.gov.uk/services/get-involved/trans-pennine-trail-improvements-consultation-york-road-to-melton-road)

**sustrans**

JOIN THE MOVEMENT

## Apple picking time

THE Friends of Cusworth Park voluntary group raised nearly £600 by opening up the Hall's orchard to a 'pick your own' session, which saw scores of people heading home laden with many different varieties. At just a £3 donation to fill a carrier bag it proved great value, spilling over to a second day's session when the fruit pickers benefited from a bargain £2 a bag as they worked their way through many different varieties of apple.



Visitors also had a rare chance to see the restored two storey Bowling Pavilion, a stone building which stands alongside the bowling green. Scottish artist Bill Scott was commissioned to complete the trompe l'oeil painting, recreating on all eight wall panels, views from each window as they would have appeared in the 1730s.

## COMMUNITY GRANTS CHECK IF YOUR GROUP IS ELIGIBLE

SECTION 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 allows local councils like ours to spend a limited amount of money for purposes which they have no other specific statutory expenditure.

This year we have already awarded community grants to these local activities and voluntary groups:

Sprotbrough Scarecrow Festival	<b>£400</b>
Don Gorge Community Group	<b>£400</b>
Sprotbrough Library	<b>£500</b>

If your group needs some financial support, check out your eligibility for receiving a grant from us by visiting [www.sprotbroughandcusworthparishcouncil.gov.uk/grants](http://www.sprotbroughandcusworthparishcouncil.gov.uk/grants)

It's your parish council

Future meetings of Sprotbrough & Cusworth Parish Council in 2023

**Thursday 16 November** at 7pm, Goldsmith centre

**Thursday 21 December** at 7pm, Goldsmith Centre

You are very welcome to attend.

Further information, including documents relating to each monthly meeting, can be found on our website:

[www.sprotbroughandcusworthparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.sprotbroughandcusworthparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter to keep in touch with our activities.



Sprotbrough & Cusworth Parish Council: Parish Council Office, Goldsmith Centre, Sprotbrough Rd, Sprotbrough, Doncaster, DN5 8BP. Tel: 01302 788093 • [www.sprotbroughandcusworthparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.sprotbroughandcusworthparishcouncil.gov.uk)

## WHO'S WHO ON YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

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### PARK WARD COUNCILLORS

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### STADIUM WARD COUNCILLORS

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### STONECROSS WARD COUNCILLORS

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