

Sprotbrough & Cusworth Parish News

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Summer 2015

New look Parish Council

THIS year's local elections brought changes to the composition of the parish council. Some 21 candidates stood for the 13 vacant seats, including the one in the newly introduced Danum Ward.

Nearly 6,900 votes were cast across the candidates by parishioners with four seats in Central and Stadium wards being uncontested.

Labour is now the majority party with 10 seats, followed by the Green Party with four and Conservatives with three.

Seven of the parish council's 17 councillors were newly elected in May.

Coun Pat Haith is the new chair of the parish council and Coun Judith Rodgers is vice chair. The members include three husband and wife couples - councillors Judith and Kevin Rodgers, Sandra and David Holland, and Sue and Phil Amson.

Meetings of the parish council take place on the third Thursday of the month at the Goldsmith Centre, Sprotbrough Road, Sprotbrough, starting at 7pm, with the exception of March and September when they meet at Scawsby Community Centre. No meeting is held in August.

Members of the public are very welcome to attend the meetings. The agenda and minutes are placed on our website: www.sc-pc.co.uk.

Voting figures for the 2015 parish council elections:

Cusworth Ward

Fiona CAHILL, Green, **423 votes**, ELECTED
Pat HAITH, Labour, **688 votes**, ELECTED
Shirley HUTTER, Labour, **392**
Allison MORRELL, Labour, **306**
Stephen PLATT, Green, **496**, ELECTED
Michelle THOMPSON, Labour, **405**, ELECTED

East Ward

Philip AMSON, Labour, **363**, ELECTED
Susan AMSON, Labour, **358**, ELECTED
Lynette CHIPP, Green, **434**, ELECTED
Sarah GALLACHER, Labour, **493**, ELECTED
Tim KNOWLES, Labour, **307**
Kerry WOOD, Independent, **354**



Getting down to business at the first meeting of the new parish council.

Danum Ward

Tony BRYAN, Labour, **119**
Dawn LONGLEY, Green, **123**, ELECTED

Park Ward

Peter GALLACHER, Labour, **402**
Martin GREENHALGH, Conservative, **713**, ELECTED
Cynthia RANSOME, Conservative, **418**, ELECTED
Pat THOMPSON, Labour, **341**

Stonecross Ward

Sandra HOLLAND, Labour, **329**, ELECTED
Allan JONES, Conservative, **415**, ELECTED
Craig SAHMAN, Labour, **164**

Commissioner visits Sprotbrough

SOUTH Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner Dr Alan Billings attended a public meeting in the parish to discuss Putting Safety First - his 2015/16 Police and Crime Plan.

The plan has three strategic priorities - Protecting vulnerable people; Tackling crime and anti-social behaviour; and Enabling fair treatment - and can be viewed at www.southyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk.

Dr Billings said the title stems from the message that South Yorkshire people are giving him that they want to feel safe.

The Commissioner said South Yorkshire Police are facing tough financial issues, with 80 per cent of the Force's funding coming from central government and only 20 per cent from locally raised taxes. He said further cuts in government funding will have a major effect on policing, particularly as the Force is having to stand the cost of legal fees for the Hillsborough Inquiry at Warrington which, as Sprotbrough & Cusworth Parish News went to press, had already reached £16 million.

He said the Force is trying to offset the impact on front-line policing by sharing back-office services, like Human Resources and Finance, with neighbouring Humberside Police.

New 'toughbook' mobile computers are being issued to enable officers to complete their reports in situ rather than having to return to a police station. He said this should save round 150,000 hours a year of police time, being spent on travelling and administration.

With the Commissioner at the meeting at Sprotbrough's Goldsmith Community Centre was Inspector Richard Collingwood who heads the new Doncaster West Local Policing Team (LPT), which covers the Cusworth and Sprotbrough areas.



Commissioner Billings

Insp Collinwood said there are between 15 and 17 police officers on duty in West LPT on every one of the five daily shifts. He said Sprotbrough and Cusworth are relatively crime and anti-social behaviour free compared to other parts of the West district.

The chart below shows that in the 12 months to the end of June 2015, more than one crime a day was reported in the parish, ranging from assaults to burglaries and cycle thefts.

Crime Incidents in the Parish: 26 June 2014 - 26 June 2015

Cusworth

Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	10
Burglary in a building other than a dwelling	24
Attempted burglary in a building other than a dwelling	5
Burglary in a dwelling	21
Attempted burglary in a dwelling	4
Common assault	12
Criminal damage	22
Other miscellaneous thefts	34
Theft from a motor vehicle	24
Other offences	17
Total	173

Sprotbrough

Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	17
Burglary in a building other than a dwelling	19
Attempted burglary in a building other than a dwelling	5
Burglary in a dwelling	53
Attempted burglary in a dwelling	16
Common assault	15
Criminal damage	13
Other miscellaneous thefts	22
Theft from a motor vehicle	22
Other offences	20
Total	202

DONCASTER WEST LPT

SOUTH Yorkshire Police say Local Policing Teams 'ensure that all communities have a visible, dedicated policing service'.

They combine response police with safer neighbourhood police and PCSOs to give every officer a community focus, equipped with mobile technology to keep them in local areas as long as possible.

Officers at Doncaster West LPT are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to deal with local crime and anti-social behaviour issues.

Assisting them is a local support unit that focuses on the proactive investigation of crime, anti-social behaviour, children and schools related matters and offender management.

Contact details:

Tel: Ring **101** or **999** in an emergency

Email: DoncasterWestLPT@southyorks.pnn.police.uk • Facebook: Doncaster West LPT • Twitter: @DoncWestLPT

WORK STARTS ON PARISH'S NEW OUTDOOR GYM

AS Sprotbrough & Cusworth Parish news went to press, work had started on the area's new outdoor gym, with completion set for August this year.

The gym which is being installed alongside the Anchorage Lane playing field car park, is spearheading what will be a three-pronged exercise project developed by the parish council.

Stage 2 of the project will see a three-quarters of a kilometre long exercise trail installed on the Anchorage lane playing field. Work is set to start as soon as the outdoor gym is completed.

This will be closely followed by stage 3 of the scheme, which involves linking the Anchorage Lane trail to a new one-kilometre long trail at Newlands Park.

A new quarter of a kilometre long path will join up the two trails, which will be way marked.

Work is expected to start on the Newland Park section in late August after the bird-nesting season is finished, as some of the sites copses will have to be thinned out to enable the new pathway to be constructed. The Newlands Park trail is

being specially designed to make it more accessible to walkers and to combat the effects of flooding during the winter months.

The project's designers are confident they have developed two distinctly different open spaces, with quiet relaxing walking opportunities at Newlands Park and social exercise sessions at Anchorage Lane.

Parish Chair Coun Pat Haith said: "There has never been a more important time to introduce ways for local people to keep fit or enjoy relaxing gentle exercise. Hopefully, parishioners will make good use of the facilities as part of a regular exercise programme".

The outdoor gym will comprise robust equipment designed to be weather resistant and feature a ski machine; pull-down shoulder press; chest press/ seated rower; cross trainer and bench press. A new cycle rack will also be installed for bikers.



Considering the new local plan

THE parish council has been asked for its thoughts on Doncaster's new local plan, which will be the new planning strategy for the borough.

It will guide development across the borough for the next 15-20 years and will replace the Local Development Framework Core Strategy.

Once adopted it will be used to make decisions on future development such as determining planning applications, provide certainty for infrastructure and public

service providers on their investment decisions and secure government funding.

The plan will be prepared in consultation with the public, businesses and organisations and parish councils.

A local plans officer from Doncaster Council is expected to attend a future parish council meeting to discuss the document in more detail.

MISSING STEPS

OBSERVANT readers may have noticed that a long-standing feature of Sprotbrough's local history has been destroyed.

A local resident drew the parish council's attention to the missing stone steps that used to allow public access along the public footpath which crosses from Thorpe Lane to the Ivanhoe cricket field.

Further enquiries by the parish council to Doncaster Council prompted a reply from one of the authority's Public Rights of Way team, who said the steps were damaged just before Christmas and were very dangerous to use.

They had to be closed until the landowner made them safe. But the landowner, rather than repair the steps, decided to remove them and this has made the footpath more accessible."

• Following a complaint from a member of the public, the parish council has reported the shabby state of the phone box on main street, Sprotbrough, to owner BT Openreach.



please clean up

PARISH councillors are urging dog owners to clean up after their pets. Their plea follows a rise in the level of dog fouling on the Anchorage Lane, Newlands and Goldsmith Centre playing fields which is causing a potential health hazard to those who enjoy playing there.

All public waste bins can now be used to deposit bagged dog faeces, including this one on the New Lane playing field.



Georgina is good

GEORGINA Goode is one in a million according to members of the Doncaster 67th (Sprotbrough) Scouts.

Parish council Chair Coun Pat Haith presented Georgina with the Parish Council Cup at this year's Sprotbrough Gala and Fun Run.

The cup is presented every year to a member of the scout group who, in the opinion of colleagues, has made an outstanding contribution to the 67th in the past year.



Georgina with Coun Haith

A sunny day at this year's gala, which is held on the parish council's New Lane playing field, helped the 67th make a healthy profit of around £4,000.

Bus Travel Update !

SOUTH Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive has announced new and improved ways of purchasing tickets and travel passes following the closure of the Information Centre at Doncaster Interchange.

PAYZONE

Use Payzone to purchase smart tickets from around South Yorkshire. Over 300 shops, many in local and rural areas, are now selling a range of 7 and 28 day Travel Master tickets. This means you can get unlimited bus, tram and train travel tickets without having to travel to an Interchange.

You can find out where your nearest shop is by visiting <http://www.payzone.co.uk/store-locator>

Once there, simply go to the counter and request the ticket you want to purchase through Payzone. There is a 50p

additional charge if a Smartcard needs to be purchased. If you already have one then this can be topped up free of charge.

SMART KIOSKS

Smart ticketing kiosks at Interchanges have been popular with passengers who enjoy a quick and easy way to purchase and top-up their Smartcards with a range of Travel Master tickets. Additional machines have now been installed meaning you can pay by cash as well as debit or credit card.

SMARTPHONES

First bus tickets can be purchased through an mTicket App on a smartphone.

PASSES

Ring Traveline on (01709) 515151 or visit www.sypte.co.uk

News in Brief ...

- Sprotbrough & Cusworth Parish council's precept for the 2015/16 financial year is £164,099.
- The two football pitches on the Newlands Park playing field will be repositioned in time for kick-off of the 2015/16 football season following a complaint from a farmer who said his hedge and crops were being damaged by players retrieving the ball during matches.
- Coun Fiona Cahill will represent the parish council on the Don Gorge Community Group.
- Coun Pat Haith has been appointed vice chair of the Scawsby

Community Centre Joint Management Committee. Councillors Cynthia Ransome, Tony Rawlings, Judith Rodgers and Michele Thompson are committee members.

- Doncaster Council is currently investigating the possibility of placing a Christmas tree in Sprotbrough.
- A new Scottish Country Dancing class starts at the Goldsmith Centre on Monday 7th September, 7:45pm- 9:45pm. Beginners are welcome, and no partner is required. Cost £3 each session with the first one free. Ring Pat Dixon on 01302 851746 for more details or just turn up on the night.

USE YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY

There's lots happening at Sprotbrough Community Library, whatever your interest.

Courses are available on philosophy (Mondays or Thursdays 10am-12.30pm; French conversation (Mondays 6-8pm); family history for beginners (Tuesdays 12.30pm - 2.30pm).

There is also a Readers' Group (Second Tuesday of the month 2-3pm) and an Art Group - new artists welcome - (Mondays 1-3pm).

- Plus computer classes for beginners coming soon.
- For more information please ring the library on 01302 782436.
- VOLUNTEERS are also urgently needed at Scawthorpe Library. Can you spare some time to help? Please ring **01302 781786** if you can.



National Plant Monitoring Scheme - volunteers needed

THE New National Plant Monitoring Scheme (NPMS), which launched in Spring this year, will for the first time enable scientists to take an annual stock take of the UK's wild plants and their habitats.



But to do this they need the public's help. Organisers are looking for volunteers to carry out surveys of wildflowers and their habitats that will provide robust evidence of which

widespread plants are increasing or declining, as well as indicating the changing state of our most valued habitats such as grassland, fenland and even road verges.

Plants are nature's building blocks and this new monitoring scheme will sit alongside existing schemes for the UK's birds and butterflies to help us understand more about how the countryside is changing.

The search is now on to find 2000 volunteers to take part in the NPMS who will play a vital role in gathering information. Together the volunteers will monitor wild plants in 28 important habitats, ranging from hedgerows and meadows to salt marsh and scree slopes.

Hayley New, from Plantlife says: "The NPMS is hugely enjoyable and over 400 volunteers have helped us set up

the new scheme. It's easy to do and everyone will receive free training and guidance plus support from the partnership for volunteers who have queries, as well as web support and illustrated guidance notes - so volunteers will have the perfect survey tool kit to get them started!"



How does the NPMS work?

- Volunteers will be able to choose from three options depending on their level of expertise: recording from a short or extended list of target species in each habitat or recording all species they find in their plots.
- Volunteers will be given a 1 kilometre square with a grid showing up to 25 locations. Surveyors will be asked to visit three of those locations and carry out surveys in square plots and then identify two linear features such as hedgerows, rivers and road verges and survey these locations too.
- The squares have been randomly chosen, but with a focus on squares containing habitats of interest.

For more information on the NPMS and how to take part please visit www.npms.org.uk

Get Doncaster Walking programme 2015

HERE are three organised walks for you to take part in within easy reach of Sprotbrough and Cusworth:

Sat 12 Sept - 4 miles - 10.30am - Stroller Hexthorpe Riverside Walk

Meet at Hexthorpe Park entrance, DN4 0HY. Come and join us on an interesting riverside walk, with many features including: wading birds, butterflies, river craft. Bring your camera.

Sun 1 Nov - 5 miles - 10:30am - Stroller Doncaster Ramblers Melton Wood & Barnburgh Crags Walk

Meet at Melton Wood car park, DN5 7ED. A brief circular walk through Melton Wood and on to Barnburgh Crags and Barnburgh village. Bring a drink for 'elevenses'.
For more information, please call: 07796 206376

Sat 14 Nov - 6.5 miles - 10:30am - Stroller Cusworth Circular Walk

Meet at Cusworth Hall (main doors), off Cusworth Lane DN5 7TU. Come and join us for a beautiful 6.5 mile walk taking in the surrounding areas of Cusworth and Sprotbrough before returning back to Cusworth Hall. Car park charges apply.

Why walking is good for you:

- Good for bones and muscles: walking is good for bone density and posture and helps keep bodies lean and supple.
- Builds up stamina: walking gets your whole body used to being healthy.
- Burns calories: a brisk walk can help keep you trim. The brisker the better but you should still be able to hold a conversation.
- Helps beat stress: walking can make you feel good, especially if you're out and about in surroundings that you love.
- Sociable: take a friend or family and have a natter while you walk.

Book A Fire Safety Visit

SOUTH Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service offer home safety checks, including free smoke alarms if needed, to residents of Sprotbrough and Cusworth.

During a visit, firefighters or community safety staff will give you advice on how to make your home safer, what to do in the event of a fire and what to do if you are trapped in a fire. They will also fit free smoke alarms if your home is without one and explain how to keep them working.

For more information visit www.syfire.gov.uk or ring (0114) 253 2314

BEWARE OF BOGUS POLICE OFFICERS

THE Yorkshire and Humber Region has seen a significant increase in reports of vulnerable people being 'cold called' by bogus police officers over the telephone.

Victims are told their bank account has been compromised and they need to transfer money to another account or hand it directly to a 'Police Officer'. During the conversation the fraudsters will 'connect' the victim to their bank to confirm what they are saying but this conversation will be false.

The police are encouraging victims to hang up and wait five minutes to ensure the connection has been cleared and then contact their bank(s) or use a mobile phone to make the call.

The police will never 'cold call' and ask personal details about bank accounts.

If anyone is worried or has been contacted by these bogus police officers please contact South Yorkshire Police on 101 or, if it's happening at the time, 999.

All About Our Grant Awards Scheme

EACH year the parish council sets a small budget in order to provide grants to constituted community groups or registered charities. Any application is considered on the basis of whether the grant will either benefit the area or its inhabitants.

Applicants will need to provide information on the group's financial circumstances, the number of local residents who are members of their organisation, or the number of residents within the Parish that their organization has either assisted or expects to assist.

Grants for such purposes can only be made once in any financial year.

Further information can be obtained from the parish council office:

Sprotbrough & Cusworth Parish Council
Goldsmith Centre, Sprotbrough Road
Sprotbrough, Doncaster DN5 8BP

Telephone: (01302) 788093 or via email sprotcuspc@btconnect.com

A great local venue

THE Goldsmith Centre makes a great venue if you're planning a social event in Sprotbrough. The hire charges take some beating - see below - and there's a special discount rate for those who live in the parish.

	Hall £	Committee Room £
Parishoners: Private Functions	14.00	12.00
Non Profit making clubs/ societies	14.00	12.00
Voluntary Groups	14.00	12.00
Non-Parishoners: Private Functions	22.00	18.00
Block Bookings for adult classes Run as a commercial Venture	15.00	13.00
Children's Parties-Minimum 3 Hours	15.50	N/A
Comercial Hire for Personal gain	25.00	20.00
Charity Events (<i>Referred to Parish Council for consideration</i>)		
Retired Groups (10+ attending)	5.00	5.00
Retired Groups (under 10 attending)	NIL	NIL

Additions

Performing Rights Fees: where music is played
add **£1.60** per booking (not applicable to private parties)

Sprotbrough & Cusworth Parish News

IF you have a friend, neighbour or relative who lives in the Sprotbrough and Cusworth area but does not receive a copy of Sprotbrough and Cusworth Parish News please let them know they can pick one up from Sprotbrough Library, The Goldsmith Centre, Scawsby Community Centre or from your local parish councillor. Past copies can be viewed on our website: www.sc-pc.co.uk.

Public welcome

SPROTBROUGH & Cusworth Parish Council meet on the third Thursday of the month at The Goldsmith Centre, with the exception of March and September, when the meeting is held at Scawsby Community Centre. No meeting is held in August. For more information visit : www.sc-pc.co.uk

WHO'S WHO ON YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

CENTRAL WARD COUNCILLORS

Coun David Holland (Labour)
2 Shires Close, Sprotbrough, Doncaster
DN5 7RG • Tel: 01302 854212



Coun Kevin Rodgers (Labour)
46 Petersgate, Scawthorpe, Doncaster
DN5 9JE • Tel: 01302 786331



CUSWORTH WARD COUNCILLORS

Coun Fiona Cahill (Green)
2 Kempton Park Rd, Cusworth, Doncaster
DN5 8TU • Tel: 01302 391088



Coun Pat Haith Chair (Labour)
43 St. Pauls Parade, Cusworth, Doncaster
DN5 8LJ • Tel: 01302 562015



Coun Steve Platt (Green)
39 Cusworth Lane, Cusworth, Doncaster
DN5 8JJ • Tel: 01302 782928



Coun Michelle Thompson (Labour)
5 Bewicke Ave, Scawsby, Doncaster DN5 8QT
Email: michelle_thompson1968@yahoo.com



DANUM WARD COUNCILLOR

Coun Dawn Longley (Green)
43 Northfield Rd, Sprotbrough, Doncaster
DN5 8AY • Tel: 01302 788304



EAST WARD COUNCILLORS

Coun Phillip Amson (Labour)
27 Malton Rd, Scawsby, Doncaster
DN5 8SN • Tel: 01302 786453



Coun Susan Amson (Labour)
27 Malton Rd, Scawsby, Doncaster
DN5 8SN • Tel: 01302 786453



Coun Lynette Chipp (Green)
250 Sprotbrough Rd, Sprotbrough, Doncaster
DN5 8BY • Tel: 01302 785866



Coun Sarah Gallacher (Labour)
12 Chesnut Grove, Sprotbrough, Doncaster
DN5 7RW • Tel: 01302 311186



PARK WARD COUNCILLORS

Coun Martin Greenhalgh (Conservative)
16 Park Avenue, Sprotbrough, Doncaster
DN5 7LW • Tel: 01302 564672



Coun Cynthia Ransome
Cotswold House, Green Lane,
Scawthorpe, Doncaster DN5 7UT
Tel: 01302 782310



STADIUM WARD COUNCILLOR

Coun Tony Rawlings (Labour)
21 Perran Grove, Cusworth, Doncaster
DN5 8UJ • Tel: 01302 786387



Coun Judith Rodgers Vice Chair (Labour)
46 Petersgate, Scawthorpe, Doncaster
DN5 9JE • Tel: 01302 788864



STONECROSS WARD COUNCILLORS

Coun Sandra Holland (Labour)
2 Shires Close, Sprotbrough, Doncaster
DN5 7RW • Tel: 01302 854212



Coun Allan Jones (Conservative)
38 Spring Lane, Sprotbrough, Doncaster
DN5 7QG • Tel: 01302 858075



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