

The Pelton Parish Newsletter

Produced by Pelton Parish Council



Chair's Message



On behalf of Pelton Parish Council I would like to thank all NHS workers, carers and keyworkers for the work they have done throughout the pandemic. It is important that we continue to fight the coronavirus and save lives. Thoughts are with the family of the retired litter picker, David Parr who recently passed away. He worked for the Parish Council for over 20 years and will be missed.

As a Parish Council we have had to work very differently and in line with government guidance all of our meetings are being held virtually on zoom. The details to join are advertised on our agenda- so please do get involved- or contact us if there are issues you want the Parish Council to follow up.

Over the past few weeks, work has continued on improving Pelton's War Memorial and we will have bespoke Memorial Seats installed. The back of the seat features a design by Jade Mitchenson (see below article) but we would like to thank all of the children that entered our competition. Please read on for other work we have undertaken recently.

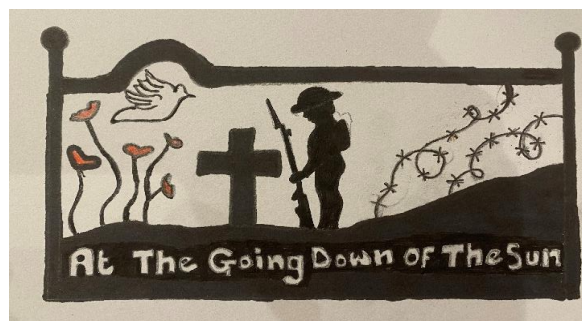
As a Parish Council we work hard to support and improve the area, please take a moment to contact us with any feedback on the details below.

Thank you, Cllr Danny Wood, Chair of Pelton Parish Council.

If you have any feedback, suggestions, or would like to volunteer time to help your community then please contact our Clerk, Joanne Dickinson, on 0191 3701969 or by email on clerk@peltonparishcouncil.gov.uk

MEMORIAL BENCH DESIGN COMPETITION WINNER- JADE MITCHENSON

Thank you to all the local children who entered the Memorial Bench Design Competition for three benches that will be installed next to the War Memorial, Holy Trinity Church to create a Memorial Reflection Area. We were impressed with the standard of entries for the competition. The winner of the competition, Jade Mitchenson impressed the Councillors with her artistic talent to create a contemplative design befitting the Memorial Reflection Area. Jade has received a £20.00 The Works gift card and her name is included on the plaque engraving that will be installed on one of the three benches. The Parish Council have also provided £10.00 The Works gift cards to each of the sixteen children who entered the competition which were presented to them during their school assembly at Roseberry Primary School. A big thank you to everyone who entered the competition.



Jade receiving a certificate and gift card for her winning design (above) and a few of the talented designers from Years 3 & 4 at Roseberry Primary School. Well done to you all.

LOCAL INITIATIVES SUPPORTED BY YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

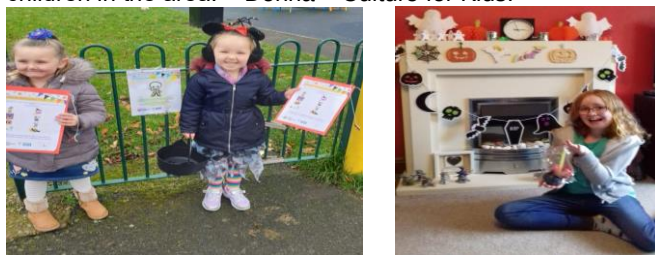
HEEL AND TOE CHARITY- We have provided a donation of £2000 towards the local Heel and Toe Charity who are raising much needed funds towards their projects which have been affected due to Covid-19. If you would like to read more about the charity and their fundraising projects then details are on their webpage <https://heelandtoe.org.uk/>

PERSONALISED SANTA LETTER- Heel and Toe have spoken to Santa Claus and he would love to send your little angels a personalised Christmas Letter direct from the North Pole. Simply click or copy the link below to request your letter (Please Note: Deadline for all letter requests is 18th December) <https://heelandtoe.org.uk/events/santa-letter/>



Personalised Santa Letter & Cllr Gerry Walker presenting a donation

CULTURE FOR KIDS- Due to restrictions, Trick or Treating as we know it was off the table so over the October Half term period Culture for Kids, Pelton Parish Council and Pelton Community Centre teamed up to offer the community something a little special! I designed a Pelton Halloween Trail and got local businesses involved in displaying pictures for families to find throughout the village! Once they were all marked off on the trail sheet the children collected their mini cauldrons full of treats from the community centre. Thanks to all the families who took part, we handed out over 50 prizes to children in the area! - Donna – Culture for Kids.



Local children following the Pelton Halloween Trail and enjoying their mini cauldron full of treats.

ALLOTMENT Plots are fully subscribed throughout the Parish area. We fully support the positive effects that tending an allotment plot brings to many of our local residents. It's a great opportunity to get out into the fresh air, grow your own vegetables and help you stay fit and active. Many memories are made with children and grandchildren sharing the pleasure of watching seeds that you have planted grow into healthy vegetables for your family to enjoy. If you would like to add your name to the waiting list, contact the Parish Clerk.

RESIDENTS ASSOCIATIONS in Perkinsville (PRA), Newfield and Pelton Lane Ends (N&PLERA) are working hard to improve your local area in partnership with the Parish Council and would like to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers and residents for their continued support during 2020. We wish you all the Best for Christmas and the New Year. Stay Safe & Well.

Perkinsville Residents Association (PRA)- PRA held a "Spooky House" Halloween competition, and we had some great entries. Well done to all of you who took part – sadly though we can only give to our three placed winning entries: Picture of 1st Prize for £30 went to the Brown family who have donated the prize to Heel & Toe Children's Charity. Our 2nd and 3rd prizes each received £20 and £10. Congratulations to you all. We also managed to add a new flower bed in front of our Field of Hope sign – adding heathers & spring bulbs.



Winning 'Spooky House' & Flower bed in front of Field of Hope Sign

CHRISTMAS COMPETITION- PRA would like to end 2020 on a positive & will be running a Christmas competition too: Best Decorated Christmas garden/house. Open to Residents of Perkinsville from Tuesday 1st of December – Closing Friday 18th December (judging will be Saturday 19th December) winners will be announced by Monday 21st December. **Prizes will be for vouchers to the value of £100 - 1st £50, 2nd £30 and 3rd £20.** Email entries to perkinsvilleresidentsassoc@gmail.com or message us via our FB page - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1921778211404752/>

Newfield and Pelton Lane Ends Residents Association (N&PLERA)- The Parish Council and the Residents Association jointly supported a competition in Roseberry Primary and Nursery School related to "The Pumpkin Trail". The children involved wrote about the event- "At Roseberry Primary and Nursery School we have all took part in an optional competition. This competition is a drawing competition to see who has drawn the best Halloween pumpkin design. We will be having an in-class reward to see who won. Not only will it be a school challenge but it will be an exciting event for everyone who wants to take part. Due to the unfortunate event that has come upon us we are unfortunately not allowed to trick or treat. This is an alternative thing for people of all ages to complete. Parents or guardians that are taking their child around will have to take some yummy treats with them for when their child spots a drawing." by Chloe King and Joel Mewes-Reed, Year 6



Halloween Competition entries from Reese, Year 6 (L) and Brodie Year 5

VJ DAY COMMEMORATION on 15th August 2020

Pelton Parish Council held a service for the 75th VJ Day on 15th August 2020. Reverend John Lintern and Cllr Miriam Lonsdale-Cope (who co-designed the War Memorial along with the retired Parish Clerk, Maxine Robinson) carried out a short service to honour the occasion. It was poignant and provided the opportunity for the Parish Council to honour all of the military personnel and civilians who died during World War 2. A two-minute silence was then held followed by the laying of a Wreath and Commemoration Flowers on behalf of the Parish Council and the local residents by the Chairman, Cllr Gerry Walker and Cllr Stephen Hann.

Throughout the brief Commemoration Event all current guidelines on social distancing were adhered to and of course this is why the Parish Council were unable to inform our local residents that this event was taking place. I am sure you all understand our need to keep to the government guidelines.



Chair, Cllr Walker



Commemoration Flowers



VJ Day Wreath

What have your Parish Council supported this financial year? In addition to the local initiatives we have supported by working in partnership with the local organisations detailed in this newsletter we have also carried out the following additions and improvements for the benefit of our residents.

- A Parish Council Noticeboard at High Handenhold has been installed on the wall at the Fire Station.
- Donated funding of £1300 for Pelton Community Centre to provide food donations for one year to local families from November 2020.
- Funding for bedding plants and bulbs to be planted in Grange Villa by local volunteers. Thank you to Heather Thompson, Jimmy Steele and Ray McDermott for your hard work improving your local community.

BUDGET PLANNING- The feedback we have received from the questionnaire in the newsletter distributed in early March 2020 has been considered as part of the budget planning preparation for 2021/2022. Thank you for taking part in the questionnaire. The winner of the Beamish Museum Unlimited Family Pass is Elaine Graham. Elaine and her husband, Henry were delighted to receive the pass which they will be using to take their grandchildren for regular visits. Elaine loves the new War Memorial but requested as did several more residents about the former Fleece Public House land to be converted into a car park. The Parish Council have previously contacted the Co-Operative Head Office to ask them if they would consider this suggestion. This request was unable to be pursued by the Co-op due to the cost of the project. Further feedback and the Parish Council's response-

1.We would like to see a litter picker in West Pelton- From week commencing 2nd November 2020 a new litter picker will be working regularly in West Pelton. Thank you to local resident Mrs Cora Kerswell Oliver for making this suggestion to the Parish Council.

2.We would like more dog bins or more regular collections in Newfield & Pelton Lane Ends- Parish Council have asked the new litter picker to review the current location of dog bins and the frequency of collections and suggest areas of improvements for 2021 onwards.

COMMENTS and SUGGESTIONS for the 2021-2024 Parish Council Business Plan?

We are still in the process of planning our budget for 2021/2022 which will be agreed during January 2021. In addition, we are compiling the Parish Council Business Plan for the next three years. If you have any comments, requests or suggestions that you would like us to consider for improvements to your local area please contact the Parish Clerk via email, telephone, in writing or by completing the online feedback form on the Parish Council website.

We look forward to hearing from you.



Elaine and Henry Graham
at Beamish Museum

We are always pleased to work with local groups and organisations to help bring about the best possible community in which to live. These are some of the groups we regularly work with.

PELTON COMMUNITY CENTRE-

Pelton Community Centre is slowly getting back on its feet. It has not been easy, but we would like to thank all those who have helped and are supporting us. We are slowly introducing our groups back into the building, ensuring they are safe to do so.

Social groups such as our Bingo Sessions are back on, things look a little different when you attend and you have to book in advance, but you can still enjoy a good few games and see your friends.

Get Fit North East, YogaPupz, Activate Theatre, Rouse School of Dance (To name a few) have also returned and we have seen many smiley faces coming back through our doors. Doing activities for our health, fitness and wellbeing is the best medicine during these troubling times and we would like to think of ourselves as a very safe and welcoming venue to do so.

So with that in mind, why not get in touch to see if something we have on is right up your street?

Get in touch if you wish to use one of our rooms for something, such as dance practice etc. Give us a shout if you have a great idea for a new group or event?

We are working hard behind the scenes trying to allow more groups to attend, applying for funding to help this happen, to support the centre moving forward and to cover additional costs.

We also have our Community Gym back open, again it looks a little different, but still the great equipment you are used to, just spread over two rooms now. You book slots in advance, cleaning before and after your workout, but we have seen people attending daily and it is great to see.

Long may it continue, we will hopefully see you in our building again soon.

GRANGE VILLA ENTERPRISE CENTRE (GVEC)-

Due to the current situation we are all experiencing we have still been providing our meals on Tuesday and Thursdays these are still as popular with mainly take away services.

We received some funding which we are greatly thankful for and with this funding we were able to offer everyone a discount on their meals for several weeks this is still ongoing.

We have started our annual Christmas raffle so all donations are welcome. Tickets can be bought from the Community Centre.

We have cancelled our annual Christmas Dinners due to the current situation, but we have decided that we will do a mini Christmas Dinner these being mostly take outs, our menu will be displayed in due course.

PELTON YOUTH PROJECT UPDATE

from Thomas Jones, Youth Project Manager –

I'm pleased to be reporting, that since the beginning of September 2020, we have been able to re-start some of our youth provision in Pelton. Before the Covid-19 pandemic and lock-down, Pelton Youth Project were delivering twelve structured youth work sessions across Chester-le-Street. Since the beginning of September 2020 we have been able to re-start five of those twelve youth work sessions. We are working four sessions on outreach in Pelton, engaging with local young people out in the community, to offer any support that we can. We have re-integrated the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Group back into the youth centre, supporting young people to complete their awards. We will look to continue to re-establish our programme, bringing young people back into the youth centre when it is safe to do so. In the meantime, we will be thinking of new ways to work and support young people."

Covid-19 INFORMATION- These are the main contact details if you have any concerns/queries about Covid-19 related matters. Durham County Council regularly update their Facebook and twitter feeds with relevant information. They have a dedicated webpage <https://www.durham.gov.uk/coronavirus> and a dedicated telephone line for covid questions on 03000 260 260. The current government guidelines and updates can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

USEFUL CONTACTS – Pelton Parish Council Office- 0191 3701969, email clerk@peltonparishcouncil.gov.uk, our website can be found on www.peltonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Police, Fire or Ambulance – Dial 999 if it is an emergency.

Local Police 101 Durham Constabulary – report anti-social behaviour, or other incidents not classed as an emergency, and get advice about crime prevention and household security by calling 101.

Fire and Rescue- County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service- get advice about household fire safety, including installation of smoke alarms, by calling 08454 305 8383

NHS 111- telephone 111 when you need health advice fast, but it's not a 999 emergency.

Council Services – The following services provide out of hours support:

Call 03000 267679 – for emergency social care and child welfare concerns

Call 03000 262195- for Care Connect (community alarm service)

Call 01388 722538 – if you are homeless or facing homelessness

Call 03000266000 – for our births, deaths and marriage service

Household Emergencies-

Electricity- if your power supply is interrupted call 0800 668 877

Gas- If you smell gas contact the National Grid on 0800 111 999

Water – call 0800 393 084 for burst water mains or 0800 328 7648 for sewer issues