Broomhaugh & Riding Parish Council

Caring about where you live

NEWSLETTER

Issue 1 July 2015

Parish Council Information

Your local parish councillors are:

Bill Cairns
Eileen Carew
Andy Dunhill (Chair)
Jill Mills
Malcolm Reid
Brian Singer

Contact details for Catherine Harrison, Parish Clerk 01434 682348 (office-hours only please) or email ridingmillclerk@gmail.com

Dates for forthcoming Parish Council Meetings held in the Supper Room, Parish Hall
7.45 pm
(public questions from 7.15 pm)

6th July 2015
14th September 2015
9th November 2015
14th December 2015
8th February 2016
14th March 2016
9th May 2016

Annual Parish Meeting
April 2016 – date to be confirmed

Contact Details for County Councillor Anne Dale, 01434 673326 or email anne.dale@northumberland.gov.uk

Have you read Riding Mill's own website?
Check out www.ridingmill.org

Previous Chairman's Notes

Two things have characterised the Parish Council's direction over the last two years. One has been to make the work of the PC more accessible. To this end we now produce regular notes for the Parish News. All County Council consultations are put onto our website swiftly so that interested villagers have a chance to comment on them. And this Newsletter is a further development.

The second has been to delegate responsibilities to individual councillors to take the lead in their own areas of interest. This is to reduce the workload on any particular councillor and to encourage villagers with ideas of things that could be improved in the village to join the PC, without necessarily having to be involved in the details of all aspects of the Council, other than using good judgement when issues are presented, debated and decided in council meetings.

Please come forward if you are one of these constructive people. The PC is three short of its full complement.

Recent developments in the village, many involving the PC, appear in different parts of this newsletter and our thanks go to the Clerk for bringing it all together.

Cllr. Malcolm Reid

Play Park Plans

This excellent facility sees a lot of use. Last summer we arranged for the grass to be cut on a more regular basis making it better for the children and this will continue. We are also looking into providing one or two more play facilities and costs are currently being sought.



Ideas include - a climbing boulder for older children, wooden stilts and balance items to link the current equipment and removing the low spinning wheel and replacing it with a tall spinning pole.



The moles continue to be a problem but being so close to water there is not that much we can do. The trees and hedging around the park are kept cut back and one tree adjacent to the Burn was rotten so has been removed.



If you have any ideas for improvement please let us know.



Cricket Club has big plans



Many thanks to those residents who helped with this year's litter pick – over 20 people turned out to help and what a terrific difference they made!

From this



to this



Riding Mill Cricket Club has been established as part of village life since 1880, originally playing matches on what is now Oaklands Rise, the development of which prompted a move to our current facilities at Broomhaugh 27 years ago.

During the cricket season we play a full fixture list of home and away friendly matches on a Sunday, which will continue. However, the 2015 season promises to be an exciting time as we have amalgamated with Corbridge Cricket Club to play Saturday games in the West Tyne League, the team name being Corbridge Millers with 50/50 representation of players, home games being played at Riding Mill.

This decision has been taken for a number of reasons.

- To keep the Club financially viable- the high cost of purchase and maintenance of equipment particularly for field and wicket preparation means that we need to maximise income by making full use of the ground during the cricket season.
- Opportunity for RMCC players to play League cricket- we have a number of players who welcome this opportunity for both League and friendly matches. This should also help attract new players.
- Use Corbridge experience to access grants - we have recently been successful in obtaining a grant from the ECB towards the purchase of wicket covers, the next target being sight screens, with the ultimate aim being grants towards a new pavilion, which could be used for the benefit of the village.
- Promotion of both male and female younger players - improved facilities and increased volume of cricket will hopefully in the future attract younger players. Corbridge currently have a number of female players, with women's cricket increasing in popularity.

Anyone wishing to play or be involved please contact:

Peter Nitsch, Vice Chairman
01434 682200
p.nitsch@btinternet.com

Bill Law, President
01434 682397



FOOTBALL FIELD

The PC has been active in supporting the Cricket Club with its plans and has promised to provide £5000 match funding to help towards the redevelopment of the Pavilion.

We have also been successful in securing S106 funding to enable us to reinstate the football field. Hopefully a village side and junior team might soon be playing here. The facility will also help the Cricket Club as the number of wickets can be increased.

SUPERFAST BROADBAND

Do you run a business in Riding Mill?

Check out iNorthumberland Business Support Programme and you may be eligible for FREE superfast broadband if you complete just 12 hours of free Online Digital Training.

Register at: inorthumberlandbusiness.co.uk

Public Access Defibrillator





At the meeting in December the PC was quickly convinced of the merits of installing our own community defibrillator. In just a few weeks, with the help of the Stephen Carey Fund, we were able to arrange our first life-saving training session and take delivery of the defibrillator.

The Fund was set up following the death of Stephen Carey, a young man who collapsed whilst playing football and who sadly died from an undiagnosed heart condition. Having a defibrillator not far away could have helped and his friends began to fundraise to help install this equipment throughout Northumberland.

You will have seen the defibrillator in its housing cabinet on the side of the Parish Hall. If there is an emergency now in Riding Mill the 999 operator will ask if anyone is available to go and get the defibrillator from the cabinet and will issue the access code. Having the confidence to use the defibrillator is so important, as is knowing CPR skills. Representatives from the Stephen Carey Fund will be back early next year to ensure even more members of our community know what to do in an emergency.

Also, if you have an idea of how we could raise extra funds for the Stephen Carey Fund please get in touch.

Eventually we have light!

After many requests over the years, the PC is happy to report that there is now an extra light to help negotiate the difficult bend on the path linking Broomhaugh to the Station at night.

This is an important path as it is the only means of access for disabled passengers to the east bound platform.

This street light is one of the new LED ones being rolled out by NCC and at some point in the future all lights in Riding Mill will be replaced by these energy saving ones.



Changes to emergency care across Northumberland and North Tyneside

From June 2015, emergency care is changing across Northumberland and North Tyneside.

Serious or life threatening emergencies will be cared for at the new Northumbria Specialist Emergency Care Hospital in Cramlington.

Urgent but less serious conditions will be cared for at 24 hour walk-in services at Hexham, North Tyneside and Wansbeck general hospitals.

Your GP can treat the majority of healthcare needs and is the first point of contact for most medical problems for you and your family.

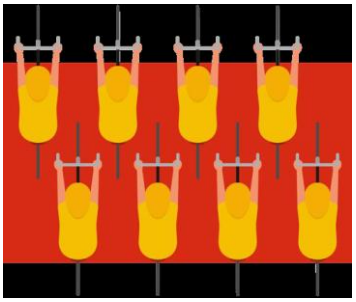
- See more at: https://www.northumbria.nhs.uk/emergency/where-go-help#sthash.vmsnaBV5.dpuf

Northumbria Specialist Emergency Care Hospital
Northumbria Way
Cramlington
Northumberland
NE23 6NZ

At the **Annual General Meeting** of the Parish Council, Councillor Andy Dunhill was elected Chair of the Parish Council and Councillor Brian Singer as the Vice-Chair.

All Parish Councillors are happy to be contacted and their phone numbers can be found on the PC noticeboard or on the website: www.ridingmill.org

If you care about where you live and feel that you have something to contribute please consider joining the Parish Council. We currently have three vacancies. Perhaps come along to a future meeting of the Council and see what is discussed or contact the Chair or Clerk for more information.



Tour of Britain Cycle Race comes to Riding Mill

On Thursday 10th September, Riding Mill will play host to the Tour of Britain cycle race, albeit only for a few minutes.

Times are still to be confirmed but it is likely the Tour will set off from Prudhoe at 11.15 am.

The cyclists will ride in procession until just after the Broomhaugh roundabout when the true race will start.

As ever the Village Hall Trust will be laying on refreshments and children from Broomhaugh First School have lots of fun activities planned.

If you would like to be involved please get in touch with Pam Pryor, Chair of the VHT.

We are also hoping to hold a competition for the best decorated bicycle (well it makes a change from scarecrows!). Further details will be circulated in the Parish News or see http://www.tourofbritain.co.uk/



To book the Parish Hall or Millennium Hall for a meeting or an event, please contact Mrs Pam Pryor on 01434 682927 or email pampryor@btinternet.com

IMPROVING ACCESS TO THE PLAY PARK & MUGA COURT

At a recent meeting, following much debate, the Parish Council approved plans to install a ramp running adjacent to the current path and steps leading to the Play Park and MUGA court to improve access for those in wheelchairs or pushing prams.

After checking with the Planning Department, the PC has been advised that planning permission is not required, nor does it have to obtain building regulations approval. The work will therefore commence as soon as final quotes have been approved.

On completion, the surrounding area will be landscaped and may allow opportunities for planting to support the Edible Riding Mill initiative.



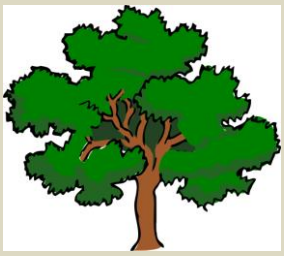
GRASS CUTTING

The Parish Council decided to contract out the grass cutting this year to a private contractor. Northumberland County Council still cuts areas adjacent to the highway or land that they have adopted but other areas such as the Play Park and by the double tennis court will be cut by Trevor Bell, who has maintained the cricket field for some time.

There were initially some areas of uncertainty in the village and our apologies to some residents whose verges were very unkempt until these issues were resolved.

TREES

There are a lot of trees on the land owned by the PC and these need to be looked after on a proactive basis. A few that have started to fail will be felled, especially near the Weir. One problem is that a large proportion of the trees have significant ivy growth which does eventually harm and kill the trees so we are slowly cutting this ivy growth back.



Missed bin collection? Street light not working?

Report these problems on the Northumberland County Council website with just a few clicks

Go to http://www.northumberland.gov.uk/ and click on REPORT on the header bar



Local Footpaths Group: Recently a footpaths group was formed to survey the local rights of way and ensure that they are properly marked and maintained.

If you notice a problem with a right of way please inform the Clerk who will pass your concerns on to the Group.

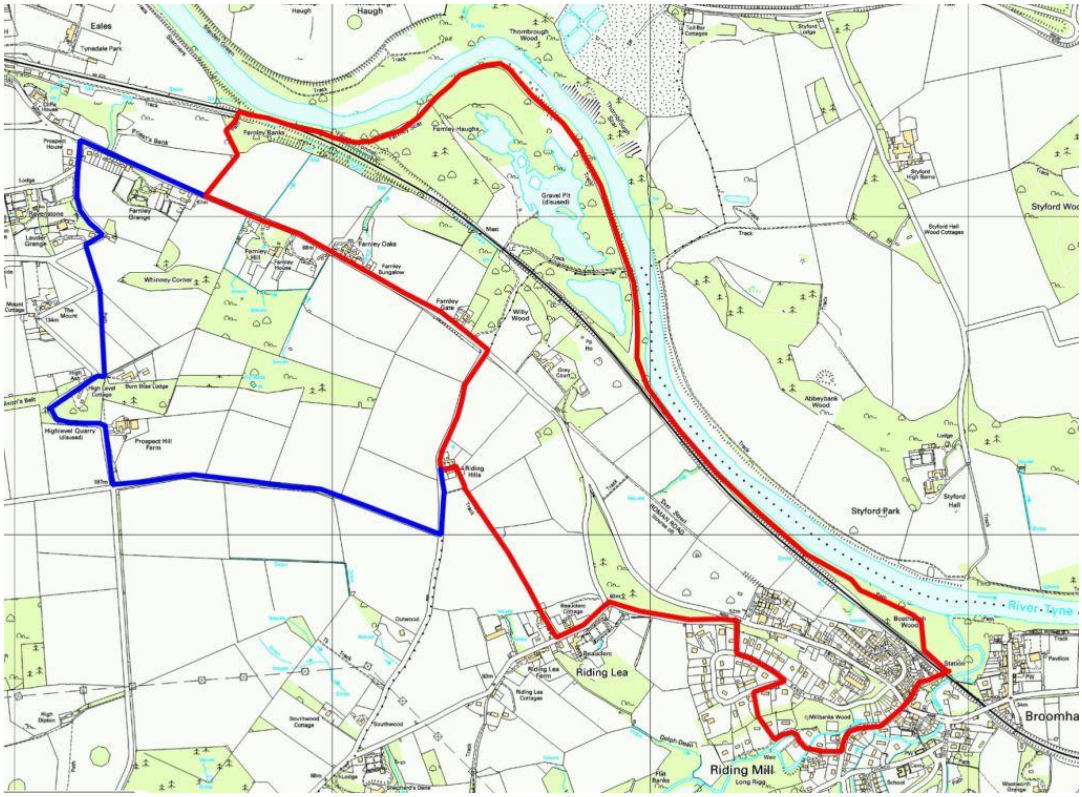
The Parish Council is often asked if a footpath could be installed along the A695 west of the village to connect with Farnley and so allowing a circular walk including the river path. This is not possible at the current time but a possible walk has been suggested.

Follow the river path as far as Farnley Banks then take a marked path leading to Farnley Grange. Once on the A695 head east until the turning for Riding Hills. Follow this road until Riding Hills and then the marked footpath to Beauclerc. Follow the Slaley Road back to the village or cut along The Nick to Sandy Bank and the footpath to Marchburn Lane.

For a slightly longer walk turn right instead of left when reaching the A695 then take the first left signposted Prospect Hill – further details of this walk can be found on our website (WALK 3).

Our website lists a number of different walks both in Riding Mill and neighbouring Stocksfield. For further details see: http://www.ridingmill.org/category/walks/

Riding Mill Walks



Neighbourhood Plan

At the annual Parish Meeting we discussed whether we need a Neighbourhood Plan. This is a community-led framework setting out a vision for the future development, regeneration and conservation of an area. Communities such as ours are being encouraged to produce a Plan allowing the community to help shape the future of the village.

The Plan can cover any matter important to the community. Sometimes there might only be one issue such as Planning. A Neighbourhood Plan would provide vision, objectives and strategy for the community covering at least a 15-year period. However, it is a major task to undertake and we would therefore like your views to help decide whether this is something you would support.

WRVS
positive about age
practical about life

Royal Voluntary Service can help older people maintain their independence and stay involved in the local community.

We have volunteers across Northumberland who offer help and support so older people can stay independent at home. This may include:

- A lift to an appointment at the doctors or hospital
- Someone to take you to the shops or to visit friends
- Help with your shopping
- Some company and a chat with regular visits from a Royal Voluntary Service volunteer
- Befriending including Good Neighbours
- Collecting a prescription
- Help with the garden or a little bit of practical help around the house
- Lunch clubs and social activities including trips and days out

To find out more call the WRVS Getabout Service Manager on **0783 475 3387** or **0845 266 8906**

Alternatively, if you think you could help and become a volunteer driver then make contact using the numbers above.

Riding Mill Drama Club is a friendly, busy group. It currently has about 65 members and is always happy to welcome new people. Younger members are particularly welcome.

We were established 60 years ago and usually perform plays twice a year (in March and November) as well as holding acting workshops, play readings and other social events.

There really is no limit to the kind of play we tackle – if somebody has a play they want to direct, we will consider it. Not everybody who is part of the Club wants to act – there are opportunities for all kinds of backstage roles from something as simple as organising props to as complex as 'doing the lighting'. All you need is enthusiasm and a team spirit.

If you would like to find out more, please contact the Secretary, **Judith Wilthew on 01434 682590**





Warm Up North is brought to you by your local Council and British Gas for energy efficiency, created to help households throughout the North East save money and stay warm.

We offer a range of energy efficiency measures including boilers, loft and cavity wall insulation and Solar PV.

To find out more, call 0800 294 8073 (Free from BT landline only) or visit www.warmupnorth.com

EDIBLE RIDING MILL

Have you noticed the tubs at the station? These have been planted as part of the Edible Riding Mill initiative and anyone is welcome to help themselves to the vegetables and herbs when they are ready to pick.





Riding Mill Art Group is an informal, friendly group which is open to adults of all ages, abilities and levels of artistic experience! We meet in the Millennium Hall on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7pm (until about 9pm) from September through to the end of May (and sometimes a little longer, depending on demand).

We have several demonstrations a year from a variety of local artists, when we try our hands at new techniques, get to grips with new materials and benefit from some (constructive) criticism along the way. At other times members bring along their own materials, items for a still life, photographs etc. with which to create their own masterpieces and we always break for a well-earned cuppa and a biscuit at "half time". We hold a well-attended exhibition in the Parish Hall every 2 years.

Art Group membership fees currently stand at a very reasonable £25 per year. Members bring their own materials to use. We always welcome new members.

If you are interested in joining the group please contact Janet Bennett, club secretary, on 01434 682478 - or just pop along on the first or third Wednesday of the month.

Do you know the difference between Zumba, Nia Dance, Pilates or Yoga?

Opportunities are available to experience all in Riding Mill – see the listings on the following pages for times of classes and who to contact but below is a quick guide:

Zumba is an aerobic fitness programme featuring movements inspired by various styles of Latin American dance and performed primarily to Latin American dance music

Nia is a holistic form of movement; drawing from dance, martial and healing arts. Follow fun, simple moves and express yourself in your own unique way.

Pilates is a system of retaining the body with a balance of strength, flexibility and posture alignment work. It's about working from the inside out, retaining deep stabilising muscles.

Each Yoga class consists of breathing techniques, stretching and strengthening postures and relaxation helping to improve flexibility, strength and tone in the body and a calm, peaceful mind.

If you would like your club to feature in our next edition please contact the Clerk.

The Riding Mill website is a useful tool in promoting all clubs and societies – please check your current listing and the Clerk will be happy to update the information if required.

Clubs & Societies

Riding Mill has so many things going on – the following guide gives a flavour of what you could do …



Allotment Society
Please contact: Eddie Nickson – 01434 682395



Angling Association
Please contact Peter Howe – 01434 682946



Art Club
Art Club meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7 pm in the Millennium Hall.
Please contact Janet Bennett – 01434 682478



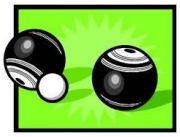
Baby Group
This friendly group meets on a Thursday morning in Church Cottage to share a coffee and a chat.
Please contact: Victoria Leigh – 07906 202394



Badminton Club
Badminton Club meets on a Thursday morning in the Parish Hall.
Please contact Evelyn Downs - 01434 682536



Bridge Club
This club meets on a Friday afternoon in the Parish Hall.
Please contact Pam Niven – 01434 682394



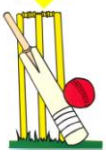
Carpet Bowls Club
This group meets on a Monday afternoon.
Please contact Alan Armstrong – 01434 298823



Choral Society
The Choral Society normally performs two concerts a year.
Please contact Val Barnes – 01661 843787 or see the society's website: http://ridingmillchoral.org.uk/



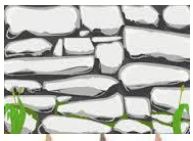
Craft Class
Held on a Thursday afternoon in the Parish Hall.
Please contact Linda Shepherd – 01434 682069



Cricket Club
Please contact Peter Nitsch – 01434 682200



Drama Club
Please contact Judy Wilthew – 01434 682590 or see the website: http://www.ridingmilldramaclub.com/



Dry Stone Walling
Please contact Derek Blair - 01434 682434



Exercise Class for the over 50s to over 90s
This class is held on a Friday morning.
Please contact Linda Shepherd – 01434 682069



Golf
Please contact Rob Archer – 01434 682689



Gym Club
This club has recently restarted on a Wednesday after school.
Please contact Jill Tan – 07909 991351



IT Self Help Group
Please contact Ian Thompson – 01434 682308 or email ianthompson93@btinternet.com



Karate Class
Held on a Monday evening in the Parish Hall.
Please contact Sensei Peter Atkinson – 07912 533164



Lunch Club
Riding Mill is fortunate in being able to provide a Lunch Club and Meals on Wheels service twice a week. Every Tuesday and Thursday volunteer cooks and helpers prepare and serve lunch in the Parish Hall and other volunteers deliver meals around the village.
At the moment it caters for around 10 people but has the capacity to cook for more. Those "who lunch" would welcome more company.
The Club is always looking for volunteers to help continue this service.
Please contact Christine Andersen – 01434 682535

Mothers' Union
Please contact Anne Foster – 01434 682437

Nia Dance Class
Please contact Allison Austick - 01434 676957

Northumbria Healers
This group meets on the last Saturday of the month in the Parish Hall. No appointment is necessary and further information about energy healing can be found on their website:
http://northumbriahealers.co.uk/



Photographic Society
This group meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Please contact Bill Cairns – 01434 682404 or see the website:
http://www.ridingmillphotographicsociety.co.uk/



Pilates Class
These classes are held on a Tuesday morning in the Parish Hall. Please contact Paula – 07990 774069. New beginners class hopefully commencing in September



Pre School
Pre-School offers education and care to children from the age of two years until school age. It is based in the Millennium Hall and offers sessions each morning and some afternoons.
Please contact Suzanne Barker – 07754 395572 or see the website
http://www.ridingmillpreschool.btck.co.uk/



St James' Church of England Sunday School and Crèche
Held in the Millennium Hall following the Sunday Service. Please contact Paula Steinlet – 01434 634719



Table Tennis Club
This group meets at the Millennium hall on a Monday evening.
Please contact Linden Furness – 01434 682282



Tennis Club
For membership enquiries please contact Rob Archer – 01434 682689.
Also see the website:
http://ridingmilltennis.co.uk/

Tyne Valley Youth Theatre
TVYT is a youth theatre group for young people aged 8 to 19 living in the Tyne Valley and surrounding area. Please contact 07779 579558 or see the website
http://www.tvyt.org.uk/

Women's Institute
This group meets on the 1st Thursday of the month at the Parish Hall at 7.30 pm.
Please contact Barbara Nelson – 01434 682739



Yoga Class
Held on a Wednesday evening in the Parish Hall.
Please contact Rose on 0191 413 7653 or email Rose@yogawithRose.co.uk



Zumba Class
Please contact Pam Pryor – 01434 682927

Useful Contacts

Northumberland County Council
0345 600 6400
01434 400388
Remember you can report problems via the website
www.northumberland.gov.uk

Member of Parliament
Mr Guy Opperman
01434 603777 email:
hexham@tory.org
020 7219 7227 email:
guy.opperman.mp@parliament.uk

Hospitals/Doctors
Corbridge Medical Group
01434 632011

Branch End Surgery
01661 842626

Hexham General Hospital
0344 811 8111
Northumbria Specialist Emergency Care Hospital
0344 811 8111
Newcastle RVI / Newcastle General Hospital
0191 233 6161

Emergency 999, Urgent 111

Police – 999 or 101 for non emergency

Utility Services
Gas Emergency
0800 111 999
Electricity – loss of power
0800 66 88 77
Northumbrian Water – report a leak 0800 393 084
report water and sewerage flooding 0800 328 7648

Schools
Broomhaugh First School
01434 682374
Corbridge Middle School
01434 632191
Queen Elizabeth High School, Hexham
01434 610300

Squirrels Breakfast & After-School Club
Yvonne Stokoe – 07944 243078

Travel
Go North East
0191 420 5050
Northern Rail
0333 222 0125
National Rail Enquiries
08457 48 49 50
Newcastle Airport
0871 882 1121

Check out this website showing real time train information for Riding Mill showing all passenger, freight and charter trains

http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/advanced/RDM?stp=WVS&show=all&order=wtt