



KYLOE PARISH NEWS

March 2020

THE PARISH COUNCIL'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



**MEETING
NOTICE!**

will be held in

Lowick Village Hall

on

Tuesday, 5th May, starting at 7 pm

to consider the Chairman's Report and Annual Statement of Accounts, as well as electing officers for the forthcoming year.

It will be followed by a regular meeting of the Council.

Members of the public are welcome at this, or any other meeting, and can put questions to the Council in person or in writing.

If you want to raise an issue, it would be helpful if you could let our Clerk, Sheila Henderson, know beforehand

NOTE: if the meeting has to be postponed as a result of health advice, details will be posted on the Parish Website

The Parish Council Budget has been held at the same level as last year; your Council Tax notice suggests a percentage increase in the amount you will be expected to pay because the number of properties actually paying the tax varies from year to year. While the County Council annual charge on a Band D property will be £1606.46 this coming year, with an additional £154.50 levied to cover Adult Social Care and £137.00 for policing, the Parish Council element will be £6.76p.



Police and Crime Commissioner
Northumbria

The Police & Crime Commissioner Election due to be held on Thursday 7th May has been postponed for a year.

Contacts

Clerk: Sheila Henderson: 4 West Kyloe Farm Cottages, Beal, Berwick-upon-Tweed, TD15 2PG: 4westkyloe@gmail.com

Newsletter: colin@itswakeling.com

Website: www.northumberlandparishes.uk/kyloe



A Glass Recycling Bin for Fenwick?

The last meeting of your Parish Council considered a suggestion that such a bin be installed somewhere in Fenwick, and agreed that residents should have an opportunity to make their views known before any decision is made.

It was recognised that glass recycling is good for the environment and a bin would help reduce unsightly and hazardous litter in the village as well as saving journeys to alternative recycling sites. On the other hand, do residents actually want this facility, and if so, is there an acceptable site in the village? Are there other locations in the Parish, apart from Fenwick, where a bin might also be useful?

The County Council are prepared to work with us to help assess the suitability of potential sites and provide costings, if there is support from local residents.

Would you welcome such a bin? If so, where might it be located? Please let our Clerk, Sheila, know as soon as possible by e-mail: 4westkyloe@gmail.com

BROADBAND: We are pleased that there has been progress on the broadband front since the last Newsletter was published. All the residents who wanted an improved service then have reported a successful switch to the AlnCom wireless-based system, and increased speeds delivered with satisfactory reliability.



Much of the **Berrington** area should be able to obtain faster broadband thanks to the installation of fibre cabling. To access this residents will need to contact a supplier of their choice and order a fibre broadband package, but not all of them will offer a service to every property, so you may have to switch supplier.

Further information on upgrading: www.inorthumberland.org.uk

We are aware that some areas of the Parish will still not have access to superfast broadband. It has recently become apparent that a limited number of options and sources of funding are becoming available.

We would like to hear from anyone wanting to further explore the options for improved broadband.



BUSES: At the beginning of February the Government announced funding for its bus strategy. However it seems that Northumberland will only qualify for very limited extra support. The County had looked at an electric bus scheme for Blyth, but the air there isn't polluted enough; there are no towns large enough to qualify for high use services money; having already bid unsuccessfully for money in previous years it does not qualify for rural mobility cash. That leaves about £¼ million spread over 2 years to extend or restore tendered services. Don't expect any local improvements any time soon!



KEEPING OUR AREA CONNECTED: A group, centred on Lowick, has recently been established, aiming to reinforce a local sense of community, reduce isolation and loneliness and make ours a friendly and welcoming place in which to live, work and visit.

They are planning to produce a **directory** which can be distributed to residents, especially incomers, available in hard copy at key places in the area, and which accommodation providers might include with bedroom browser packs. They are also collecting information to **support and offer help** to local people when they need it, when they are discharged from hospital, for instance.

Would you be interested in helping locally in this way?

The County are also able to provide support for a local **Snow Wardens** who are registered with them, who would not be expected to clear a whole neighbourhood, but who would be supplied with gloves, hats with head torches, shovels, grit and hi-vis jackets. Could you volunteer for such a role?



Your Parish Council supports this community initiative which, even though the snow may not have been a great problem so far this year, may become all the more relevant if the current Coronavirus situation develops as many fear.

Let us know of any contribution you can make, no matter how small

SCAM ALERT

Inevitably **fraudsters** have got in on the Coronavirus scare, already scamming some £1 million from unwitting victims who may have tried to purchase protective face masks from bogus sellers, or opened up e-mails claiming to be from Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) or the World Health Organisation, offering to provide a list of infected people in the area.

Do not click on links or attachments in suspicious e-mails; if you are purchasing from a company or person you don't know, do some research first. Do not respond to unsolicited messages or calls asking for personal or financial details.

What 3 Words is a new way to identify locations; each 3 metre square in the world has been assigned a unique 3 word 'address' which is easy to say and share, and as accurate as GPS co-ordinates. It is recognised by the emergency services and the AA amongst many, and is potentially very useful for those 'off the beaten track'. To obtain more information & install the app on your smart phone, go to:



www.what3words.com



Wooler U3A offers a varied programme throughout the year. More information: www.u3asites.org.uk/wooler



Captain C D Leyland Fund: Early last November a range of novice curlers assembled at Kelso Ice Rink for a taster session sponsored by the Fund. Despite some slips, no one came away with any injuries – just healthy glows and prizes awarded to high achieving teams.

Glendale Curling Club anticipates running a similar session this coming November. The curling ‘season’ runs from September to the end of March. For more information or to express interest please e-mail: rmkentstone@gmail.com

If you think you or your organisation might be eligible to receive a grant from the Fund, please get in touch with our Clerk, Sheila Henderson (individuals) or the Community Foundation (organisations).



Community Foundation

jq@communityfoundation.org.uk



BERWICK INFIRMARY: Work is continuing to prepare for the new hospital, which will still provide all existing services while introducing the latest technology to the site. Subject to the necessary permissions, it is anticipated that work will begin this coming September with completion in the Spring of 2022. Meantime, departments are being moved within the Infirmary (e.g. Physiotherapy has relocated to Maternity), although for a while oral surgery will be re-located to Alwick, but initial appointments will still take place in Berwick – transport will be provided if required.



Enforcement Action relating to a holiday property in Fenwick Village, where late night activities associated with a hot tub on the front patio have been causing local disturbances, is on-going.

KYLOE WAR MEMORIAL is now located in Lowick Parish Church. Thanks to Tony Brown’s work we have biographies of those who gave their lives in the First World War. One of these was **Lance-Corporal William Athey**, 1/7 Northumberland Fusiliers, a former forester on the Haggerston Estate whose parents lived at Beal Station. Aged 22, he was a Territorial before the War and was killed when a shell hit his dugout on 17th November 1916. Behind every name is a story.



“His warfare over, his battle fought,
His victory won, though dearly bought,
His fresh young life he nobly gave,
He slumbers now in a soldier’s grave.

He sleeps beside his comrades.”

Gone but not forgotten.