

Joint Neighbourhood Planning in Norham and Islandshire Some progress at last, connected with the appointment of a consultant to assist in the process. Draft Outline objectives have been circulated There was to be a public consultation involving drop in sessions at 4 parishes in the district in late January so the public could find out more. The draft outline objectives are deliberately non-specific to cover issues which will apply to all the parishes. The intention is then to have more specific issues covered in the plan for each parish if appropriate. The consultant will design and issue leaflets and emails where possible. It is important to emphasise to all that this is a planning exercise, related to planning issues only.

Play Areas (incl posts and chains) JU has sourced and priced the required replacement seats, at a total cost of c£440.

Public Conveniences JB was thanked for all the work he had done in upgrading the public toilets. If found in an unsatisfactory condition that should be reported to VLC.

Mobile Mast/BT Phone box VLC reported that our MP had written on 18<sup>th</sup> October to the Minister of State for Policing and the Fire Service asking for updates on any progress. No response received as yet.

Northumberland LED street lighting/Undergrounding of cables Re LED lighting Cllr Lawrie confirmed the sub contractor involved in this programme had gone into liquidation, and hence all work had ceased for the time being.

Proposed Village Community Trust The plan is to set up Coordination Group, hopefully in place by January, which will be tasked with coordinating the various working groups, with a view to general improvement of the village for residents and visitors alike. It was proposed at this stage to have representation from the Parish Council, the Parochial Church Council and the village.

New Speed signs/30mph reminders A meeting has been held with NCC to discuss a possible crossing at the School, and the extension of 30mph speed limit from the bottom to the top of Castle Bank. Indications are that the speed limit outside the school will go down to 20mph during the course of next year and that vehicle/speed surveys would have to be carried out. It has also been suggested that the entire village should go down to 20mph limit throughout. This will be considered. The council still wishes to retain the purchase of two more speed camera as a special project.

Complaint re Parking in Church Lane An email has been received relating to the state of pavements in Church Lane and also perceived inconsiderate parking by others-principally church-goers and those attending concerts in the church. VLC will respond on behalf of the council, and raise the matter with the vicar/PCC.

Community Website - Funding The Community Web Association is running low on funds. The parish council uses the website to fulfil its statutory obligations, and would have set up its own website with considerable initial and running costs. It was agreed to contribute £250 this year to the association.

Internal Auditor for 2017-2018 Roseanne Bennett had supplied the letter as requested by BDO confirming that she had found no issues to report during the most recent internal audit. She had indicated that she would be happy to continue as internal auditor. She proposed a much-reduced fee of £150 ex VAT to carry out the service.

To set a Budget and Precept for 2018-2019 The precept will increase to £4500.

To look at Planning Application decisions There was some discussion of the planning application by the Masons Arms. It was agreed that an increase in the number of available rooms would be an asset to the village.

Roads and Pavements JB requested reporting of potholes on Castle Bank (2), Morris Hall and Galagate. There had also been a letter of complaint from Horncliffe Parish Council re the state of Footpath No 1, along the river.

Dates of meetings 29<sup>th</sup> January, 26<sup>th</sup> March, 21<sup>st</sup> May, 23 July, 24<sup>th</sup> Sept and 26<sup>th</sup> Nov.

AOB The two seats on either side of the gauging station should be moved to the top of the hillock. The seats are currently unusable due to their position under trees. GS will contact David Foreman to discuss, including to ensure if they are moved, they are still on common land. The existence of 3 skips in the village were causing some damage. Thanks to the Gibson family for their upkeep of the war memorial.

Date of next meeting 29<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30pm in Village Hall

# NORHAM NEWSROUND

## FEBRUARY 2018

### Forthcoming Events.

Thursday 1st February : **Blessing of the Salmon Fishing**; 8am; Pedwell  
**W.I. meeting**; 2pm in the Village Hall.

Wednesday 7th : **W.I. Craft Club**; Village Hall 1-4pm; see below.

Thursday 8th : **Parish Walk**. Meet on the Green; 9.30am

Monday 12th : **M.U. Meeting**; 2pm; Branxton Village Hall

Sincere **CONDOLENCES** to the family and friends of Herbert Mole, who died on 14th January. Herbert was a loyal and committed member of St Cuthbert's, Norham, and All Saints, Duddo, and was churchwarden for most of the past 70+ years.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Jock and Margaret Russell who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 2nd December;

also to Francesca Hall and Dean Cockburn who celebrated their 18th birthdays on 22nd and 25th January respectively.

**W.I.** At the February meeting Jim Herbert will talk on 'History'.

**MOTHERS' UNION** At the February meeting Linda Benneworth will talk on 'MU Action in the UK'.

**ADVENT WINDOWS** The competition was won by Eve Johnson for children and Heather Barnes for adults

**NORHAM SCHOOL** With Mrs O'Donnell having left her post as Headteacher, the Governing Body has been working very hard to ensure that the children's well-being and education are paramount in any decisions taken. Consequently, after consultation, we have finalised arrangements for 2018. Miss Jones will take up the post of Acting Headteacher and will also teach Nursery, Reception, Y1 and Y2 pupils. Mr Richardson will teach Y3 and Y4.

As ever, we thank all of our Parents for their continued support, and welcome any comments or opinions.

*Dougie Watkins (Chair of Governors)*

**NORHAM & LADYKIRK ANGLING ASSOCIATION** At our AGM Mark Straughen was congratulated on coming 3rd in the Scottish Team in the International in Wales, and also coming 3rd in the 2017 River Championship. He thereby becomes a member of the Scottish team for 2018. Results for 2017 were:

Junior Trophy: Shaun Nevins (with 51 points)

Henderson Trophy: Dean Cockburn (with 23lbs 14 oz)

Club Championship: Jim Cameron (with 196 points).

We have 5 river and 5 stillwater competitions each year. New members welcome.

*Jim Cameron (Secretary)*

**PETANQUE CLUB** An EGM : Village Hall at 6pm on January 31st

### **W.I. CRAFT \_ OPEN TO ALL \_ MEMBERS & NON-MEMBERS**

Join us every other Wednesday in Norham Village Hall 1—4pm; £2  
We are non-profit making, your £2 covers the hall rent and the heating in the winter, PAT testing of extension cables and irons and occasionally we purchase a craft accessory; last year we purchased a small light box for tracing embroidery designs, doll faces etc. On your own for the afternoon? Don't craft? Fancy a chat? Just come along for a cuppa.  
Details from Jan L'Argent 01289 382897

**OICAN** - The next order date is Friday 9 February with that last delivery expected to be on Friday 23 February. If you wish to order contact Jan L'Argent on 01289 382897 or by email, as a scheme member you will have that address

**CRAFT AND BAKING STALLS IN AID OF HORSES FOR FORCES and THE CHURCH FLOWER FUND** Our stalls in church on 10th December were a great success thanks to the generosity of all those who came to support us in every way; the hard work of Jennie and David Corbridge, Lynne Chapman and Jane Bannister is greatly appreciated.

We were all fascinated to hear the talk by Sue Brewis on the aims - and tireless work - she and her team commit to her Horse Time Charity. Together with last year's car boot sale on August Bank Holiday Monday, we are well on our way to funding workshop places for two veterans this year. In the summertime, Sue will be holding a craft workshop for the veterans' wives and partners and I am looking for fabric bits and pieces. If any of you have any to spare it would be very welcome. Please call me on 382099 and I will collect.

And thank you so much for the over-whelming number of jam jars many of you donated.

*Elizabeth Thoday*

### **ADVANCE NOTICE - ST ABBS POP-UP MARKET IN NORHAM**

The St Abbs Market stalls (plus additional stallholders) will be at Norham Village Hall on Saturday 31st March from 11am to 3pm with refreshments being served in the meeting room of the hall by the ladies of the Norham W.I. And a car boot sale will be taking place on the village green at the same time. Lots of shopping opportunities and time for socialising!  
Any enquiries about a pitch at the car boot sale please contact Joe Dunn on 07521 412949

**A MASSIVE THANK YOU** to everyone who supported Smile for Christmas this year by donating gifts into the boxes in the Masons Arms and the Church. This is a great way to show community spirit. We have received a lot of great feedback and thank you cards, which means a lot.

**ST CUTHBERT'S SUMMER FAIR!** A date for your diary - Saturday 23rd June!

### **ITEMS FOR MARCH NEWSROUND**

Any contributions should be given to Josephine Harris (382363) **before** Thursday 22nd February.

**CASTLE OPENING** - I have now taken over this rota from David Foreman. Please could you let me know if you are still willing to be part of this group OR if you would like to join the group. Please ring me or email me, thank you.  
Janet Young - 382736 - [Janetyoung.lazda@gmail.com](mailto:Janetyoung.lazda@gmail.com)

**WANTED** Volunteers to help with the village clean up.

Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th February. Both days 12.30—4pm.  
All or part of the time; all help much appreciated. Meet at the Castle Bank.

**NORHAM WI SOUP & SANDWICH LUNCH CHARITY FUNDRAISER** is going ahead again this year on Thursday 8th February, 12 for 12:30p.m. at Norham Village Hall. There will be a variety of lovely, warming homemade soups and various sandwiches all available for a donation. Last year thanks to those who attended, your donations helped the following local charities: Berwick Animal Rescue Kennel, Berwick Swan & Wildlife Trust and The Northstar Centre for disabled adults, all local charities. In the past we have been able to help North Northumberland Hospice Care and The Great North Air Ambulance to name just two. We will again be supporting local charities with your help, Norham WI looks forward to welcoming you.

**2018 CENTENARY ARMISTICE DAY** - This year it is 100 years since World War One came to an end, there will be many families in the village with family members whose name will be on our War Memorial. Linda Dowdall of The Mason's Arms suggested that Norham WI consider planning a 'Weeping Window' of poppies to commemorate the end of WW1 and to recognise those who fought and died or were injured in the conflict. To that end we propose to place our 'window' on the west wall of the village hall. We heard that others in the village were thinking along similar lines so we thought of other places we could create a poppy display and came up with the weather vane on the village green and, with the agreement of Reverend Kelsey, the churchyard gates opposite the war memorial. However, it is a large task and Norham WI is small, we don't all craft and are therefore seeking your help, if you could make poppies in any medium we would be very grateful and assistance in bringing all those poppies together would also be very welcome. Although it would be easy to assume that we are looking for ladies with knitting/sewing skills we'd be very interested to learn of other ideas that we could use. Please register your interest with Jan L'Argent, Secretary, Norham WI on 01289 382897 to find out more.

**LEARNING TOGETHER ABOUT THE BIBLE** The Local Ministry Development Group at Norham Church is looking to organise one or two groups for those who would like to learn more about the Christian faith, and grow in the knowledge and love of God. We'll be using the Book 3 of the Follow Stage of *Pilgrim: A Course for the Christian Journey* ([www.pilgrimcourse.org](http://www.pilgrimcourse.org)). Each session will probably finish with either afternoon tea or a simple shared meal. The venues are to be decided, but lifts can be arranged.

Each group will meet six times for about 1½ hours on the following Wednesdays in Lent: **21<sup>st</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> Feb and 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> March**. Please contact Rob Kelsey 382325 or [robert.josephkelsey@live.com](mailto:robert.josephkelsey@live.com) for more details or to register interest.