

BICKERSTAFFE PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER MAY 2007

ELECTION NEWS

The seats on Bickerstaffe Parish Council were contested for the first time since 1999. Nine candidates were nominated for eight seats and the election held on Thursday 3rd resulted in the following councillors being elected:-

- Jennifer Currie, 34 Barrow Nook Lane, Bickerstaffe L39 OET
- Kathleen Fairhurst, 31 Skelmersdale Road, Bickerstaffe L39 OEZ
- Gladys Gardiner, 3 Heyes Croft, Bickerstaffe L39 OHB
- Hilary Rosbotham, Lyelake Farm, Lylake Lane, Bickerstaffe L39 OEY
- Margaret Sumner, 15 Heyes Croft, Bickerstaffe L39 OHB
- Philippa Tubb, 2 Moss Side Cottages, Sineacre Lane, Bickerstaffe L39 OHR
- Albert Webster, 6 Liverpool Road, Aughton L39 OHF
- Linda Webster, Wash Farm House, Rainford Road, Bickerstaffe L39 OHF

The non-elected candidate was Josephine O'Neill. The two retiring councillors who did not seek re-election were Pat Taylor and Paula Webster.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council held on 14th May 2007, Hilary Rosbotham was elected to continue as Chairman and Albert Webster was elected as Vice Chairman.

Also at the Annual General Meeting the Parish Councillors requested that the Parish Clerk should write to each of the three Councillors who were not continuing to convey their collective thanks for the considerable contribution they have made to the affairs of Bickerstaffe Parish Council.

PARISH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

The following parishioners have agreed to continue their important representative/liaison roles:-

Owen Taylor – Pond Warden

Bryan Marshall – Public Rights of Way Co-Ordinator

John Mercer - liaison with Bickerstaffe School

Paul Andrews – liaison with Bickerstaffe Association Football Club

The Chairman thanked all the representatives for undertaking their respective roles in the interests of the parish and parishioners.

In addition Parish Councillors have agreed to undertake the following representative roles:-

- (i) Philippa Tubb and Jennifer Currie are to be the representatives attending the Lancashire Association of Parish and Town Council's Area Committee.
- (ii) Hilary Rosbotham and Albert Webster are to be the representatives attending the West Lancashire District Council's Liaison Committee.

PARISH FIELD MATTERS

As mentioned in the Chairman's Annual Report there has been and will continue to be a continued strong focus on the Parish Field. A major development in relation to the Parish Field was the securing of a grant of £1,800 from West Lancashire District Council's Capital Project Scheme. The grant will be used to undertake remedial drainage work and the 'sand slitting' of 3600 square metres of the Parish Field which has been regularly waterlogged and consequently restricting usage. The overall project will cost £3600 and is being undertaken by J & R Alker, Sportsground Construction Ltd. The project will be completed by the end of May 07 and will not interfere with any of the planned activities scheduled to be held on the Parish Field.

The balance of the funding will be met by a £900 contribution from both the Parish Council and Bickerstaffe Association Football Club. This is an excellent example of partnership funding which has embraced a local community organisation, a parish council and a district council.

PARISH FIELD ACTIVITIES

The Parish Field will be the venue for the following events over the next three months:-

- Annual Treat Day 9th June 2007
- Summer Fair 14th July 2007
- Bickerstaffe Football Club's Five –a Side Competition 2nd June 2007
- Bickerstaffe Music Festival 28th July 2007

QUALITY STATUS

The Parish Councillors and the Parish Clerk are continuing the council's progression towards quality status. The latest development are:-

- (i) the setting up of a Parish Council Website in conjunction with Holy Trinity Church.
- (ii) the establishment of surgeries by parish Councillors. The next surgery will be held on Monday 11th June 2007 and will be attended by Councillors Philippa Tubb and Jennifer Currie and will be held in the Stockley Crescent Meeting Room between 7.30pm – 8.30pm.
- (iii) The Parish Clerk is in the final stages of completing his portfolio for submission to Gloucestershire University in relation to the Certificate in Local Council Administration.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Cllrs have approved the programme of Parish Council Meetings for 2007/2008 as follows :-

9th July 2007, 10th September 2007, 12th November 2007, 14th January 2008, 10th March 2008

The meetings will commence at 7.45pm and will be held in the Four Lane Ends Mission, Skelmersdale Road, Bickerstaffe. Members of the public are cordially invited to attend.

This Newsletter has been produced by Arthur Gore, Clerk to the Parish Council.
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