

KIRK LANGLEY PARISH COUNCIL
NEWSLETTER
SPRING 2024

Information for the community from the community

Welcome to the KLPC newsletter for spring 2024. You are welcome to contribute with news, events and anything of local interest. Just contact our chair at:

brenda.whittaker@kirklangleyparishcouncil.gov.uk



The Big Lunch (put it in your diary)

“...is an annual event which connects people and encourages friendlier, safer neighbourhoods”

This year it will be held on **Saturday 1st June at 12:30 for a 1pm start**. Bring food to share with your neighbours and gather at the Community Orchard (off Flagshaw Lane). Bring a chair, if you can. If the weather is unkind, it will be held at St Michael's.

Biodiversity in Kirk Langley

We all have a responsibility to look after our wildlife. This includes our native plants and insects. So, with this mind, and with the support of the Derbyshire Wildlife Trust, plans have been drawn up by the wardens of St Michael's Church to enhance biodiversity in the Churchyard. In general terms it means dividing up the churchyard into sections and managing each section differently, in order to encourage biodiversity. Our local primary school is also involved and will help to create and look after a small area near the kissing gate, which will be planted with wildflowers and house a bug hotel. The older parts of the churchyard will alternate between being largely left alone and being mowed. This gives a chance for wildflowers and grasses to get a foothold. The area with newer graves and around footpaths will be regularly mowed. Areas left alone will also have nesting sites for bees.

Whilst reorganising the churchyard and making plans, the work party uncovered about 40 oak saplings which have been saved for planting elsewhere in and around Kirk Langley. Godfrey Meynell and Michael Heap are trying to distribute them amongst farmers and landowners in order to enhance native tree cover in the Parish.



Village Hall Update...The Kirk Langley Village Hall is registered as a charity, run by local volunteers as a management committee and therefore needs to be self-sufficient financially. Income from regular hiring has increased recently and with the extra donations at our First Saturday of the Month sessions the hall finances are looking a little healthier.

So much so that the committee took the decision to lay out over £4000 on new, more user-friendly furniture. All the old wooden tables have gone to be recycled, we believe. All the old plastic chairs have gone to a new home, although some have been taken over by the church. With the upholstered chairs we are delighted to report that these are now on their way to a primary school in Zimbabwe. Through Facebook's Marketplace we identified a group of Zimbabweans who regularly find items for recycling, commission a container and ship them off for good use in and around their country of birth. Amazing, hey?



All 56 new chairs folded and stacked on a trolley

So, we are now better placed to accommodate different hire groups. Some, like the mother and toddler group, 'Moo Music', and the new yoga group 'Balance and Bloom with Emily' require the main hall to be a clear space. Whereas Monday's Art Class needs almost all the tables and many of the chairs spread out across the hall. And then there's the drama group that benefits from having the stage completely clear. Manoeuvring the old furniture was a nightmare but now with the lighter folding chairs and the new folding tables life will be much easier for all.

The Management Committee is always on the lookout for new members so if you would like to play a part in helping us look after this valuable asset then please contact Ben on 07563531811.

The village has very few amenities apart from the church and the playing field so your community hall can be more than just a place to hire for selected activities. It can be developed more as a community hub, a place for regular gatherings. Whilst most evenings are booked up, most days and all weekends are free. So, if you can come up with a cunning plan to increase the hall's use then please let us know.

We still have a lot to do though. Future plans include improvement to the lighting in the main hall. We're exploring the use of new LED lights to give greater flexibility in how the hall is lit. We also need to get the roof repaired. Our committee is looking at various grants to make that happen.

For more information visit the hall's website... <https://kirklangley.chessck.co.uk/>, where you will find all sorts of useful info and references for activities in the hall.

All are welcome at St Michael's Church.

St Michael's regularly welcomes a congregation of between 30 and 40 people who share in the weekly service at 9.30am. They are drawn from the village and the new development of Flagshaw Pastures as well as surrounding villages and suburbs of Derby. The service is always followed by tea and biscuits and a lengthy and friendly chat between attendees.

The church is open every Wednesday afternoon starting at 1pm and is hosted by Peter who welcomes you and your children and/or pooches with tea and cake/biscuits and dog biscuits respectively! You are encouraged to drop in and have a look at our well-maintained Grade 1 Listed building for a chat, a look or for a quiet period of reflection.

The advert for a new Vicar should go out in early March with interviews taking place in late April. Once appointed the new Vicar will be expected to take up their new post in early September.

Services for Easter are advertised on the Notice Board on Church Lane. Further information can be found on our website – www.lkmm-parishes.org.uk or follow us on facebook – www.facebook.com/klmmparishes or direct contact can be made with either of the Church wardens – Michael on 07760 266361 or Godfrey on 07792 268609

KLDG -KIRK LANGLEY DRAMA GROUP

welcomes people of all ages to help out backstage / front of house / on stage with their productions. Our next production will be in the autumn. In the meantime we will be meeting regularly to carry out some AmDram training in order to improve how we do things. Such as learning lines, interpreting scripts, better staging, production management etc etc. All newcomers would be most welcome to join in.



some members of KLDG

Taking a welcome break from rehearsals...we think?

For more information about our history, membership, previous and future productions, times of meetings etc. please contact one of us on any of the following numbers:-
Jennie: 07813 116864, Ben: 07563 53181, Paul: 07857 191834
Or go to the drama group page on the hall website:
<https://kirklangley.chessck.co.uk/DramaGroup>

And now for something completely different....

Annual Parish Meeting 2024 Thursday 18th April 2024 in Kirk Langley Village Hall

The Annual Parish Meeting is to take place on **Thursday 18th April 2024 at 7.00pm** in Kirk Langley Village Hall.

What is a Parish Meeting?

Every English Parish must have a Parish Meeting (Local Government Act 1972, s13(1)) This meeting consists of the local government electors registered for the area for which it is held i.e. all those who have a right to vote. The meeting must be held each year between 1st March and 1st June (incl.) and must be after 6pm in the evening! So that's the law.....

What is a Parish Meeting Like?

It is an opportunity for the Parish Council and organisations and charities within the village to report on their activities during the year and to work together to improve the community in which they live and work. It has also been an opportunity for residents to ask questions and provide feedback to all those groups. Anyone who cannot attend is welcome to send a report or issues they would like raising at the meeting to the Parish Clerk.

Paying for your Parish Council

This is done through the **Precept**, which is a tax that Parish Councils (PC) charge their local electors to meet their budget requirements. PC's do not receive any direct funding from Central government. Some PCs can supplement this with income from services or facilities they provide. However, we do not have that luxury. Occasionally we receive grants from Amber Valley or Derbyshire CC for specific issues, eg the Kings Coronation. The Parish Council precept is part of the council tax and is collected from local electors via their council tax payments.

How is it calculated? The precept requirement is the difference between the PC's estimated income and its anticipated spending requirements for the financial year (its budget). The financial year runs from 1st April to 31 March. The Parish Council needs to agree a budget before it can set its precept and both must be agreed by the full parish council. For this year this was done at our 11 January meeting.

What does your precept pay for?

- Clerks wages -using AV pay scales
- Clerk's equipment (eg laptop and appropriate software).
- Maintenance of facilities eg playground,
- Services eg general and dog waste bins, mowing (but not the field, that is separately funded by the GB Barrington Trust)
- Hire of village hall for meetings
- Management of trees within its area of responsibility
- Giving of small grants
- Provision of Christmas tree, remembrance day poppies etc
- Maintenance of website and other communications.
- Insurance
- Support services for training and advice

Our budget for 2024/5 can be found on our website at kirklangleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Why has it gone up?

In line with wage increases at the AV rate, payments for your clerk have increased. We have to replace some play equipment and benches, mowing costs have increased, and so on. We also have to restore a healthy reserve because we have eaten into it over the last few years due to unexpected costs.

Dog waste (again...)

Sorry to keep mentioning this unpleasant topic, but reports still keep coming in of antisocial dog owners. Problems with the footpath from Poyser Lane have been reported, in particular. We could take the step of hiring a dog warden with a view to prosecuting miscreants, but this is an expensive step which would reflect on your council tax bill. For obvious reasons we hope to rely on your good sense in this regard; otherwise it is very unfair on dog owners who do respect the environment and grossly unfair on residents without a dog.

LITTER PICKING

A big thank you to those residents who perform voluntary litter-picking in the village and surrounding Lanes. Without you we would be overflowing with rubbish. Perhaps we could all help a little? If you see rubbish on your walks and can carry it home to a bin, why not do it?

Pot holes

Frequently in the news and getting worse, pot holes are the bane of our lives. There is a reporting mechanism and you are advised to use it. The larger the number of complaints, the more likely you are to see action. Derbyshire County Council are responsible for repairs and you report it on their website providing as much detail as you can about location and condition. By clicking on the "report a Pothole" tab on their website you are taken through a series of questions, including estimated size and depth. You are then directed to a map to pinpoint the location. It is that easy.

And on a happier note..News from KI Women's Institute

Kirk Langley WI is going from strength to strength with well over 40 members. Some members have recently entered a Limerick competition while others have volunteered to join a quiz team to participate in the WI County Quiz in April. Some members are enjoying a regular Canasta afternoon in winter and Walks and Talks will recommence as soon as the weather improves and it is a little drier underfoot! New members are very welcome to join us for up to 3 taster meetings before they have to join the organization. Our talk for March is on Rainbows Hospice, for April on Life as a Lady's Maid and for May on A Marriage of Two Religions. Meetings take place on the second Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm in St Michael's Church in Church Lane. [For further information please contact Sally Aitchison on 07766 403884 or Margaret Matthews on 07483 238428](#)



Another date for your diary....

The field day is going to take place on Saturday 6th July in the afternoon. Last year it had to be cancelled because of the awful weather, so we have much to make up for. Do come along as this needs your support. We can promise you food and drink (of all kinds) stalls, games and music. If you are new to the area, it's a great chance to meet your neighbours. If you have been here a while, it's a great chance to catch up. BUT this event needs volunteers. This means you. If you can help in any way please contact Anne Smith on 01332 824676

Cricket on the field

Our field isn't just for walking the dog. It is the home of Kirk Langley Cricket Club. They are looking for players of any ability to join them for the upcoming season. Come and support your local village team! The youth section is called "All Stars" and they are starting their sessions from 31 May for 9 weeks, from 6pm to 7pm.

Find them on Facebook or play-cricket.com for more information, or contact jaime.burton713@gmail.com

DID YOU KNOW.....?

Derbyshire Connect provides transport to shopping destinations for people unable to use conventional buses because of age, disability or because they live in areas where public transport is limited. The service runs weekdays, generally between 9am and 4pm and needs to be booked in advance. There are no weekend services. It is free of charge for gold card holders.

To book your journey call 01335 300670

How often will the service run?

Every community will have the opportunity to make a return trip to local shops once a week. In Kirk Langley it runs on Thursdays, collecting at 09:15 and returning at 12:15. It is a door to door service which has to be pre-booked.

The link below provides further information.

www.ashbournect.org.uk/derbyshire-connect-shopping

AMBER VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL Pre-Submission – LOCAL PLAN 2022 - 2040

The draft AVBC Local Plan 2022 – 2040 is available to view on the AVBC website:

<https://www.ambervalley.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/local-plan/>

Please take the time to have a look at this and see how many houses are proposed for Kirk Langley and the surrounding areas during the period 2022 – 2040. The deadline for making representations is 4.30pm on Wednesday 1st May.

Your opinion matters, please let AVBC know your thoughts by submitting a response.



Kirk Langley Cricket Club are looking for players of any ability to join us for the upcoming season. Come and support your local village team. Find us on Facebook or play-cricket.com for more information.

