

HARDEN VOICE



The newsletter of Harden Parish Council September 2017

www.hardenparishcouncil.gov.uk

News from your Parish Council

New planting



The Parish Council has been progressively taking over the planting and maintenance of the flower beds in front of the post office and butchers and behind the War Memorial from Bradford Council.

But digging up and planting the beds every year is expensive so the parish council commissioned a designer to come up with a low maintenance scheme which requires minimal care, watering and weeding.

Although expensive initially, this will be more economical in the future.

Bulbs will be added shortly to provide more spring colour.

War Memorial

Over the summer, the memorial was cleaned and repaired at a cost of £4,500. The Parish Council was awarded a grant of £3,000 by the War Memorials Trust to help pay for the work.

The inscriptions are due to be repainted and finally a QR code will be added which will link to the history and World War 1 pages on the council website.



One interesting repair was the replacement of the two finials which were shown in an original picture of 1920 but disappeared at some point.

Picnic in the Park



The Parish Council has installed two picnic tables in the Memorial Park near the play area. Part of the cost was met by a grant from the Community Chest

Glen View bench



This bench placed in Glen View by Harden WI in 1974 was in a dangerous state. The Parish Council and the WI have worked together to pay for and install a new one.

Harden Parish Council 2016-17

Gerald Jennings	Chair	07767 674823	geraldjennings@aol.com
Gerwyn Bryan	Vice chair	07768 443712	gerwyn@gerwynbryan.com
Diane Bonham	Member	07778 410859	diane.bonham@hardenparishcouncil.gov.uk
Julia Gregson	Member	01535 275328	andrewandjulia@tiscali.co.uk
Kay Kirkham	Lead member for planning	01535 275849	kay.kirkham@gmail.com
Gina Thompson	Member	01535 275407	gina.thompson@hardenparishcouncil.gov.uk
	Vacancy		
Ken Eastwood	Clerk	07850 049 487	clerk@hardenparishcouncil.gov.uk

Newsletter edited by Kay Kirkham 3 Gatesway Harden BD16 1TG

Council Meetings

Parish Council meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of every month in the Memorial Hall at 7.15pm.

The agenda will be put on the notice boards 3 days before each meeting.

The minutes are posted in the same place. They may also be found on the website.

All meetings are open to the public.

Neighbourhood



The Parish Council has started the process of creating a Neighbourhood Plan for Harden, Rycroft and the surrounding area.



A neighbourhood plan would sit alongside the Local Plan prepared by Bradford. Decisions on planning applications would be made using both the Local Plan and the neighbourhood plan.

It would provide the opportunity for us to set out a positive vision for how we want our community to develop in ways that meet local need and make sense to us. We can put in place planning policies that will help deliver that vision.

The Parish Council submitted proposals for how the plan would develop and these have been accepted by Bradford Council.

Our Plan Proposals

1. Preserve the character of Harden, retaining a distinct community, protecting the local heritage – both the natural and built environment;
2. Meet defined housing needs in a manner commensurate with the Local Plan and the character of the designated area during the period of the plan;
3. Maintain and improve shopping, recreational, cultural and community facilities;
4. Meet defined employment need in a manner commensurate with the Local Plan and character of the designated area to enable provision of adequate employment opportunities for its residents – now and in the future;

5. Ensure the retention of retail units and encourage new retail units;
6. Ensure local businesses continue to thrive and provide employment;
7. Meet the needs of residents in the areas of education, health, leisure, recreation, sport and transport;
8. Ensure that Harden and its Parish are a good place to live with facilities for young and old alike;
9. Maintain and protect the natural environment and availability of green spaces within the designated area;
10. Maintain on-going dialogue with local organisations, developers, individuals and the Local Planning Authority to ensure that agreed criteria are met throughout initial development of the Neighbourhood Plan and beyond.

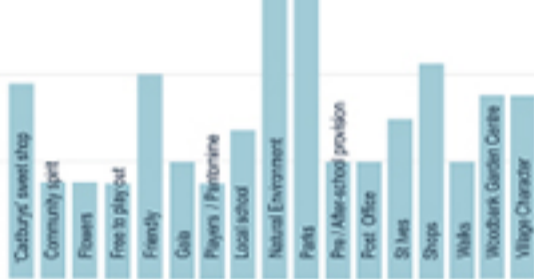
HARDEN VILLAGE

HAVE YOUR SAY



Earlier in the year, we asked people in the village what you thought about Harden. We gave every household a pack, worked with children in the school and held an event at Memorial Hall. Here's what you told us. It's very important to understand that this is was NOT a popularity contest – this doesn't tell us what is least or most popular – it just shows how often different things were mentioned when you talked about Harden.

WHAT YOU LIKE



There's clearly a lot to like about Harden! As you can see from the chart, the green spaces were mentioned a lot, along with the local school, shops and activities.

Children seem to particularly appreciate Cadburys* – the local sweet shop, and the ice cream parlour at Woodbank Nurseries...

Everyone values the natural environment, having a local school and the other shops.

There were lots of mentions of community activities and community spirit too.

Most of the dislikes were about the local environment. Adults in the village mostly focused on the traffic problems, especially around the school. Children worried about traffic as well, but were also much more aware of problems with open spaces –littering, dog mess and reductions in upkeep by Bradford Council which has meant, for example, the grass grows too long to play football. Perhaps the longer grass also makes dog owners think they needn't clear up?

WHAT YOU DON'T



YOUR IDEAS



There were lots of ideas, with the most frequently mentioned shown above (adults on the left, children on the right). There was support for a community building, with adults mentioning keep fit classes, functions, a meeting space and keeping the pre & after-school activities. Children wanted to see more sports and a kids club. People of all ages would like to see film shows.

Overall, what we saw was a Parish Council working really hard for everyone's benefit, but they cannot possibly do everything themselves. So it's up to the whole village to keep Harden the great place you all love so much.

A real community is one you take part in – no matter how little or how much – be a part of it!

It's not just the Parish Council

So the Parish Council has started the Neighbourhood Plan process but crucially local residents must be involved. It's a big job and we will appoint someone to help us get the technical bits right but the rest is up to you.



Professional expertise is always useful but it is much more important that you care about the future of our

community. If you want to know more about getting involved, please contact Ken Eastwood the clerk.

New website

The Parish Council website which first went live in 2010 has been replaced by a new, modern design which is better to look at, more versatile and easier to use.

See for yourself at www.hardenparishcouncil.gov.uk

