

YT Agenda 22.10.13 Year report

This year has been another busy one for YT

One of our main targets of the year was our application to become a Community Incorporated Organisation and I'm pleased to say that we will be submitting it hopefully in the very near future.

A welcome start to the year was the colourful displays of planted bulbs on grass verges and small spaces of land and the Town Top area. The extra hanging baskets help to give the area a more cared for appearance and appears to be having a knock on effect, gaining more support from Kirklees council who are donating bulbs plants etc in order to extend displays into next year. Other residents have planted areas outside their properties and added to the overall improving appearance of the village.

There have been lots of favourable comments received about these initiatives including this summer's planting which looked impressive. This has encouraged us to plan to increase the number of displays for next year.

The Community Orchard trees donated by KBPC look healthy and we look forward fruits in the future

A Garden Club has started up over the summer with the aim of establishing and maintaining planted areas around the village. Anyone is welcome to turn up and help out.

Thanks to KBPC for helping with grants, Council for donating bulbs and plants, members of Hopton In Bloom for their support and all the environment volunteers with a particular mention for Michael Bowyer who has put in his time in a variety of activities

A Lascelles Hall group have been formed to address the issue of dog fouling, with the help of Tina Shaw the local Dog Warden. It is hoped that more action groups are formed to encourage responsible dog ownership.

Walking is a very popular pastime for many in the area. It's good to see people out and about and helps keep footpaths open and clear. The Healthy Walking group are active in walking various footpaths in the village and their leader Richard Howett along with David Clarkin are joining with Yetton Together in embarking on an exciting project - the development of a booklet of walks around the area. This is a welcome extension to the walks featured on the YT website.

In May following a request by YT some McDonalds employees in conjunction with volunteers cleared litter from the banking by the footpath from Tandem Industrial Estate to Lascelles Hall making the site a more pleasant to walk through.

In addition residents have commented on the positive effects of YT and Community Police Officers intervention to control anti-social behaviour on footpaths leading down to Dalton Bank reserve

As part of a campaign to have speed activated signs installed near the school and St Mary's Lane a series of Speed surveys was undertaken by the Transport group with the assistance of community police officers. The results have been passed onto Kirklees Council. As Hopton are having the same problems with traffic, links have now been formed to work together. The limited parking around the businesses at the junction of Bankfield Lane and New Road was a concern. A survey was taken and findings have been presented to Kirklees Council.

In addition YT are asking highways to give a considered response to the implications of the proposed gyratory system for residents in Lascelles Hall and Gawthorpe

Particular thanks to John Hinchliffe, Colin Beever and David Clarkin for the hours they put in for the Traffic and Transport group

We continue the exciting venture of working to secure and revitalise the Community Centre and library's future. In March an open evening was held to gauge response of residents and increase prospective volunteers to support the Centre. As a result 3 residents with expertise in managing community centres have come forward to offer their services on a management team, which is now up and running. Also a list of people interested in volunteering in various ways has been compiled.

The team are working hard and despite set backs are moving forward towards their aims.

Library Services were very happy with the positive response to a recent social held at the Community Centre for people interested in supporting the library in various ways.

There are lots of ideas for other activities, childrens story time, has already started as has a family history group. A reading group is in the pipeline.

We were hoping to start a coffee shop this autumn however this has been delayed until council make some decisions

YT have enjoyed continued links with clubs, groups and businesses over the year especially the Scouts and Guides who together put on the Community Gala which was another success. I also would like to mention Inspiration Computers who are always on hand with support and advice with the website etc.

New links have been created with other local Community Centres such as Shelley, Kirkburton and Highburton, Croft House, Paddock and others and we would like to thank them for their willingness to share ideas, help and support in various ways

Lawrence Batley and Chol theatre are working with the Youth Group on activities which will take place in early 2014. There are also contacts with Huddersfield University .

YT are exploring residents request to look into a skateboard area within the village

The team working on the magazine and website continue to provide excellent up to date information for residents. Thanks to businesses who advertise and those who contribute to articles. Also a big thanks to the volunteers who help to distribute the magazine.

We are a community led group and are always looking for fundraising ideas to help to finance some of the projects planned. Quiz nights are very popular and the next one is on 16th November. I would like to remind people that the 200 club is a great benefit in creating funds for our activities. So if you have not joined up think about doing so. We welcome anyone who has any ideas or prepared to organise or help at an event. Particular mention to June Durkin who raised funds for YT last year and will be again this, in the Parish Church's Xmas Tree event .

It has been a pleasure working with the steering group this last year and I thank them for their commitment and hard work without which these projects/initiatives would not happen.

Thanks to all the working groups and volunteers for their help.

Thanks also for the support, help and advice from Kirkburton Parish and Kirklees Ward Cllrs

Trish Mellor
Chair Yetton Together