

OXSPRING PARISH COUNCIL

WINTER 2016 PARISH NEWSLETTER

**OXSPRING PARISH COUNCIL WISHES YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR FOR 2017**

Oxspring Best Planter of 2016 Competition.

The Parish's competition for the best roadside planter took place once again in August this year. The three planters judged to be the most attractive were awarded prizes of £50, £30 and £20 respectively. As in previous years, the judging was difficult as there were some lovely displays! Thank you very much to all those who help maintain them.

The winners were:

- 1st Prize: C Dempsey: Planter near Children's play area
2nd Prize: C Langley: Toll Bar post planter on corner of Roughbirchworth Lane
3rd Prize: J Wainwright: Planter near Mount Pleasant*

Oxspring Friends Carol Concert at Saint Aidan's Church – 15th December

*Oxspring Friends invite you all to their annual carol singing evening at Saint Aidan's Church
on Thursday 15th December*

From 7pm to 9pm

Mince Pies and Sherry will be served

The evening will be accompanied by Lena and Edward O'Neil on the organ, and Malcolm conducting

Everyone is very welcome

This event including refreshments is free, tickets not required.

NEW YEAR'S EVE
CEILIDH

At Saint Aidan's 8pm Till "Big Ben"

Live Band: Pinch O'Snuff

Bring your own drinks and nibbles

Adults £10, Children 5-11 yrs £5

Get your tickets now from Oxspring Post Office or Val 07778 422925.

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Parish Council News

The Parish Council has been busy maintaining various areas of the village during this year, most notably maintaining the equipment in the play area. The perimeter fencing was altered to make the play area safer, and to stop children escaping onto the road! Many positive comments have been received about the new fence. We have also replaced the bridges on the Toddler multiplay unit so that the gaps between the vertical bars are narrower, thus making them safer for the children. Various other pieces of wooden equipment parts have also been replaced due to wear and tear.

We are also considering installing a gate in the far corner of the playground (near the swings where there is currently an opening to the pavement). The options are to leave the opening as it is, fence off the gap, or install a gate to the pavement. Are you a user of the play area? If so, please let us know what your preferred option would be? (Contact details below).

This year the Parish Council put up hanging baskets along Sheffield Road, on lamp columns and also on the railings at the front of The Willows housing estate. We were very pleased with the response to the baskets and will be putting them up in future years also. We would like to increase the number of baskets next summer by extending further along Sheffield Road in both directions. Purchasing and maintaining the baskets throughout the summer incurs cost, but is definitely worth it! The village looked beautiful. If you would be interested in donating towards the cost of next years baskets please do get in touch with the Clerk.

The Parish Council have several other initiatives that they are considering for the future, including a community allotment, community orchard and adult open-air fitness equipment.

***The Titivator volunteer group** have been very busy over the summer, litter picking, pruning, weeding, removing graffiti, planting, strimming and so on. The list of jobs completed is vast. The next job they will be doing is putting on the Christmas tree. Anyone wishing to join the group would be made most welcome. Please contact Alan Walker on 01226 379895 or Freda Shaw on 01226 767070 if you are interested.*

The Parish Council receive many reports of issues that bother residents over the course of a year. There are some recurring issues which the Council would ask politely that people refrain from doing. These are:

Dog Fouling – please clear up after your dog and use the dog bins available around the village, alternatively take the bag home to your own bin. Leaving bags hanging in trees is unacceptable. Barnsley Council have stated that if you spot dog fouling on a pavement near you, please report it to them on 775656. The Neighbourhood Pride Team will come out and clear it, and if they find that a particular area is being fouled regularly then there is a greater chance of getting the Dog Warden to come out to patrol the area and catch the offenders.

Fly tipping – Please do not dump rubbish at the sides of roads/footpaths. There has been a lot of fly tipping in Oxspring in the last year and it makes the village unsightly.

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Oxspring Pop In Club

Notice from the Club organisers:

The Pop In Club has been running for approximately 6 years and meets weekly on Wednesday afternoons in Saint Aidan's. It is a popular meeting place for village folk with up to thirty residents regularly attending each week.

We are looking for volunteers to assist the current team. This does not necessarily mean committing to turning up every week! You may for example be able to bake a cake to swell the tea trolley or be happy to fill in for holiday cover?!!

Please call Heather on 766973 or Angela on 766798 to discuss your time and talents..... Thank You.

Starling Murmuration

By Chris Sharp (Oxspring resident)

Did you see the Starling murmuration over Oxspring?

*What an amazing site
I stood in awe and watched till the night time stole the light.*

*A swooping mass of birds, whirling in the sky
The cacophony of beating wings many hundreds flying by*

*In complex shapes from thrashing wing
This awesome sight makes my heart sing*

*The swirl and dive, fall and rise
Create a dance in evening skies*

*Why do they do it did you ask?
Science is trying to solve the task*

*Safety is one reason why around each other they do throng
Makes it hard for birds of prey to separate just one*

*They exchange some information of the better feeding sites
Before they seek shelter in high roosts to spend the night*

*They used to be so common but now are in decline
With 80% less Starlings it is a worrying sign*

*So if you missed the Starling murmuration that now is very rare
Please feed the birds in Oxspring and in this sight we all can share*

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Oxspring In Bloom

Greetings from the Parish.

*This is an update on developments since the summer. The amazing children and volunteers at Oxspring Primary School garden have achieved a **Gold award** for the second year running from the Royal Horticultural Society. This is a staggering achievement! Huge thanks for the continued support from our head teacher Mrs Irwin and the Oxspring Parish council.*

For the first time, the village is going to enter the Barnsley/RHS Village in Bloom competition in 2017. We will enter the "It's your Neighbourhood" category. There are three sections to the judging; Community, Horticulture and Environment. If you would like more information or would like to get involved please contact the Parish Council, however I shall be keeping you all updated, thank you.

Over this winter we shall be organising an orchard planting day and a daffy and bluebell planting day, so look out for posters around the village!

*On behalf of the Parish Council and the Titivators have a wonderful Christmas and New Year.
Emily-Gratton-Rayson (Parish Councillor).*

Do you need Oxspring Bowling

(By Chris Sharp)

*If you feel blue this time of year
Here is a thought to bring you good cheer*

*There is a place where you can go
It's sure to stop you feeling low*

*It's Oxspring Bowling down the street
St Aidan's Hall is where we meet*

*Every Monday one till four
Just £2 pay on the door*

*Never played? Just have a try
You'll find the time flying by*

*So grab your coat put on your shoes
Let Oxspring Bowling cure your blues*

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Saint Aidan's Church Diary

Weekly activities include:

<i>Pilates Fitness:</i>	<i>Monday 9.30 – 10.30am</i>	<i>Church Service: Sunday 9am – 10am</i>
<i>Indoor Bowling:</i>	<i>Monday 1.00 – 4.00pm</i>	
<i>Busy Bees (preschool):</i>	<i>Tuesday 9.30 – 11.30am</i>	
<i>Brownies (girls 7-10):</i>	<i>Tuesday 6.15 – 7.45pm</i>	
<i>Kettlecise Fitness:</i>	<i>Tuesday 8.15 – 9.15pm</i>	<i>For more information on any of these activities and events please call Father Matthew Joy on 762276.</i>
<i>Pilates Fitness:</i>	<i>Wednesday 9.30 – 10.30am</i>	
<i>Pop-in Club (for elderly):</i>	<i>Wednesday 2.00 – 4.00pm</i>	
<i>Rainbows (girls 5-7):</i>	<i>Wednesday 6.00 - 7.15pm</i>	
<i>Ranger Guides (monthly):</i>	<i>Thursday 7.30 – 9.00pm</i>	<i>For hall hire, call 764333 or 762276.</i>
<i>Zumba Fitness:</i>	<i>Friday 6.00 – 7.00pm</i>	

Neighbourhood Plan Update

It may seem to some that Oxspring's Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) has been talked about forever without any obvious signs that the end is in sight. At last, however, a significant milestone has been reached. The Parish Council and Steering Group have taken the Plan as far as we can for now. The final stages will be undertaken by Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council (BMBC), from the Regulation 16 Public Consultation to Examination, Referendum and Adoption.

As a reminder for those who may have forgotten, or do not know, BMBC started to prepare a Local Plan sometime after we had already begun preliminary preparations on Oxspring's Neighbourhood Development Plan. In order for our Plan to comply with the Government's Regulations on Neighbourhood Plans it makes sense for the BMBC Local Plan to have been through its Examination process before Oxspring's NDP is submitted for Examination. Briefly, the reason for this is so that any issues or potential changes which could impact on Oxspring's NDP have been highlighted and dealt with. If we were to proceed with our NDP at an earlier stage a review of Oxspring's NDP may then be required which could incur unwanted further delays and unnecessary additional expenditure.

BMBC propose submitting their Local Plan to the next stage this autumn with a view to it having been Examined and Adopted by the summer of next year (2017). As soon as the Examiner's report is available on the BMBC Local Plan Oxspring Parish Council will submit the Neighbourhood Development Plan to BMBC. They will then proceed to the Regulation 16 Public Consultation and Examination; if all goes smoothly, a referendum should be held in the village in the autumn of next year (2017) with the NDP being adopted by the end of the year.

We can appreciate that by next year people may have forgotten all about the Oxspring NDP and with that in mind a campaign will be launched in the late spring to rekindle interest and keep everyone up to date with developments. Any relevant information will also be put on the NDP and Parish Council Websites. This has been a long and often frustrating process but, though it may still seem some way off, the end is in sight.

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Oxspring Parish Council meeting dates 2017

At Saint Aidan's Church

Monday 9 th January	7.15pm	Monday 3 rd July	7.15pm
Monday 6 th February	7.15pm	Monday 4 th September	7.15pm
Monday 6 th March	7.15pm	Monday 2 nd October	7.15pm
Monday 3 rd April	7.15pm	Monday 6 th November	7.15pm
Monday 8 th May	6.45pm	Monday 4 th December	7.15pm
Monday 5 th June	7.15pm		

The public may attend for 10 minutes at the beginning of each meeting

Your Councillor Contacts

Parish Council

<u>Chair</u> - Ian Goldthorpe:	Tel 766362
<u>Vice Chair</u> - Ann Walker:	Tel 379895
Freda Shaw:	Tel 767070
Alison Mills:	Tel 379910
Emily Gratton-Rayson:	Tel 766322
Graham Sedgwick:	Tel 764350
Ian Stanley:	Tel 764220

Borough Council

<u>Penistone East</u>	
Robert Barnard:	Tel 382861
John Wilson:	Tel 243497
Paul Hand-Davis:	Tel 773148

Something to Report?

Here are some Useful Council Numbers

Abandoned Vehicles	772468	Pest Control	772468
Dog Fouling	772468	Planning Applications	772000
Illegal dumping/fly tipping	772468	Public Rights of ways	772142
Fly Posting/tipping	775656	Potholes/Road repairs	773555
Flooded Roads	773555	Street lighting faults	774200
Footpaths roadside	773555	Traffic Light faults	773555
Graffiti	775656	Refuse collection/recycling	772045
Gritting/snow clearing	773555	Noise complaints	772468
Grass cutting/weed killing	775656	Litter Bins/street sweeping	775656
Household Waste recycling	774215	BMBC Switchboard	770770

Police Golden Line 736387 (Penistone Safer Neighbourhood Team – non emergencies)

Public Sewers 08451 242429 (Yorkshire Water)

South Yorkshire Police (Non urgent calls) 101