

EAST RIDING PARISH NEWS

Keeping you up-to-date with news about your area

Issue 77 : October 2014



Doing battle against snowdrifts and ice

Summer may only just have drawn to a close but winter preparations are already well under way. This year's efforts against the weather have been boosted by four new gritters and a new £400,000 salt barn, while essential machinery and vehicles are being serviced ready for action.

It is important to get ready well in advance, as keeping East Riding's 3,500 kilometres of roads moving in spite of snow and ice is a huge task for the council. The council's fleet of snow ploughs, gritters and mobile snow blowers are serviced, drivers are trained and routes well-rehearsed. Salt barns are filled to capacity in complete readiness for winter.

This year, four older vehicles of the fleet of 21 gritters have been replaced. The 60-strong team of gritter drivers have started their training and are carrying out test runs of the precautionary and secondary routes.

The 26 mobile snow blowers, bought by the council last year to treat the busiest footways, are also being serviced and readied for action.

A new salt barn has been built at Beverley Depot, financed through the council's capital programme, at a cost of around £400,000. It has been filled with 2,750 tonnes bringing the total salt storage capacity across the council's depots to almost 17,500 tonnes. The council's salt barns have already been filled to ensure they are ready no matter when the bad weather starts.

The new salt barn creates extra capacity to store salt, ensures supplies are safeguarded, and allows the council to buy at advantageous rates when it restocks its salt in the summer. The increase in salt storage, along with the development of brine production using rock salt, supports pre-wetted treatments which are more efficient than using salt on its own. This means the council will be able to carry out 100 precautionary network treatments from stock held within its depots.

Salt bins are also being checked and re-filled where necessary, so if you see your local salt bin being re-filled this does not mean there is wintry weather forecast, this is all part of the council's routine winter preparations.

Community Partnerships

The dates of the next meetings are:

Beverley and Rural area

Thursday, 16 October at 10am – Treasure House Education Room, Beverley

Bridlington and Driffield area

Tuesday, 21 October at 2pm – Bridlington Fire Station

Goole and Howdenshire area

Wednesday, 29 October at 10am – Gilberdyke Methodist Chapel Hall

Haltemprice and Hunsley area

Wednesday, 22 October at 10am – Cottingham Sports Centre

Holderness area

Tuesday, 28 October at 10am – Bilton Village Hall

Market Weighton and Pocklington area

Tuesday, 18 November at 2pm – Hayton Village Hall

You can see agendas and notes of previous meetings at www.eastriding.gov.uk

From the Home Page, type "Community Partnership" in the Search box and then choose from the results page.



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Mobile Phone Coverage

Ofcom, the national communications regulator, recently published research on mobile phone call quality provided by network operators. The report is part of Ofcom's plan to support improved mobile connectivity in the UK.

Mobile phone coverage is a very important issue for communities across the East Riding. Mobile phone network operators have coverage-checker maps on their websites, enabling consumers to select a mobile service that best suits their needs.

There is a link to the maps via the Rural Services section of the council's website at: www.eastriding.gov.uk

All four main network operators (EE, O2, Three, Vodafone) have ongoing plans to expand mobile network coverage across the country.

Vodafone has recently launched a national programme ('Rural Open Sure Signal') for communities to register their interest in obtaining improved mobile reception in areas with little or no coverage.

Interested communities are invited to nominate a village champion and submit an application form by 14 October 2014. Further information on this programme can be found at: www.vodafone.co.uk/rural



Tree planting

The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) work with volunteer groups on local nature reserves, woodlands and green spaces all over the East Riding. They would like to hear from any parishes or community groups that are interested in planting trees.

Through the Big Tree Plant, run by Defra and The Forestry Commission, TCV will establish volunteer-led tree planting projects in areas that would benefit most - for example those with little greenery or tree cover. The scheme will run between October 2014 and February 2015.

Interested groups can apply for native saplings with protective tubes and stakes and supervised community planting. For further details, contact Ian Jakulis, senior community officer, on (01482) 620309 or i.jakulis@tcv.org.uk

The Woodland Trust is also offering free trees for communities, youth groups or schools. Small packs come in a choice of two themes, either to plant as a hedge or a copse. Medium and large packs offer a variety of benefits, from encouraging wildlife to year-round colour. All saplings are native, UK-grown and supplied 20–40cm high – a perfect size for establishing quickly.

There is more information at www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/communitytrees

Broadband East Riding Workshops

The Broadband East Riding Business Support Programme is encouraging local business growth by helping businesses to learn about, and exploit, the opportunities that digital technologies and high-speed broadband can offer.

A range of workshops have been designed to help businesses get the most out of being connected. Support includes the expertise of a dedicated business adviser providing one-to-one guidance and advice. There will also be bespoke business advice on search engine optimisation audits and IT diagnostic reviews, both of which provide a report and action plan to take forward. More information is available at www.broadband.eastriding.gov.uk/latest-news

Workshops provided during the autumn focus on social media, search engine optimisation and cloud computing. They will be delivered in Beverley, Driffield, Bridlington, Hornsea and Market Weighton.

The Broadband East Riding project is part-financed by the European Regional Development Fund Programme 2007 to 2013. For more information, visit: www.gov.uk/browse/business/funding-debt/european-regional-development-funding





Wolds Conference

A conference at Beverley Racecourse's Attraction Suite will discuss the economic potential of the Yorkshire Wolds on Thursday, 16 October. It will include the visitor economy, the value of nature tourism, farming and estate management, countryside recreation and access, and heritage and archaeology.

The conference opens with a report about making the most of the potential of the Yorkshire Wolds in terms of economic growth while preserving the attractions of a very special landscape. At the end of the conference, it is hoped that a strong partnership can be formed from interested parties, to develop and deliver a wide-ranging action plan for the future of The Yorkshire Wolds.

The conference will be hosted by the Campaign to Protect Rural England and places are limited. For further information, email Margaret Cockbill at:

mrc@damaskend.karoo.co.uk

Community Transport in the Pocklington area

Beverley Community Lift owns and operates a community bus in the area. Based at Burnby Gardens, it is used daily for morning and afternoon school services. Between those times it is largely idle, apart from two monthly shopping trips to Monks Cross.

The bus could be used by people in outlying villages to get to Pocklington or Market Weighton. Market day transport into Pocklington is a possibility, and there may be other needs like access to the surgery. The vehicle can be hired for one-off events like theatre visits, sports teams, and visits to interesting places.

The organisers need to know if there is demand for transport which could be met by using the bus – anybody who is interested in one or more services on a regular basis is asked to contact John Brown by email at john@jrbrown.plus.com

The organisers also urgently need volunteer drivers. Training can be provided and qualifications arranged. Anyone interested should contact John Brown.

Grants for War Memorials

Organisations have one more opportunity this year to apply for funding to repair and conserve freestanding war memorials. Applications can be made for grants of up to 75% of project costs, to a maximum of £30,000 depending on the project. Full details can be found on the War Memorial Trust website at: www.warmemorials.org/grantsforwarmemorials/

Health Trainers for Carers

NHS Health Trainers provide one-to-one confidential support to people living in the East Riding. They help people look after their health and well-being.

Part of the service is for carers, as the role of a carer can be both stressful and time-consuming. It is easy to forget about yourself and how you are feeling and coping.

Carers are as important as anyone else, so should not feel guilty about taking some time to get back on track.

The Health Trainer for Carers Team has recently expanded, enabling them to cover the whole East Riding. They know being a carer makes it difficult to get around, so they will always meet in the home or at a nearby location.

If you are looking for support with reducing your stress, eating more healthily, losing weight, stopping smoking etc. then you can contact the Health Trainers to arrange a discussion with one of the health trainers. They will provide you with six to eight appointments and ensure they support you to getting back on track with your goal.

You can contact the service on Freephone 0800 917 7752 or email : healthtrainers@humber.nhs.uk



Portrait of village hall life

A national survey reveals that 12 million hours of volunteering, £11 million of renovations and 38.6 million cups of tea contribute to the existence of village halls.

The survey was carried out by Action with Communities in Rural England (ACRE). It showed that volunteers who run classes and events put in 2.5 million hours annually. That's on top of an estimated 9.6 million hours clocked up by management committees.

More than half of the halls who responded said they were struggling to find new recruits to help manage the buildings – with people protesting that they were too busy, too old or simply not interested.

Key findings of the ACRE 2014 village halls survey include:

- hall volunteers make a total commitment worth almost £85m annually, at a notional rate of £7/hr
- the average age of a hall committee member is 58 – the age range stretches from 18 to 98
- around 1,000 village halls, or 10 per cent, host a community enterprise such as post office, community shop, coffee shop, library, cinema or farmers' market.

Margaret Kirk of HWRCC can be contacted for information and advice on (01430) 430904.



Skerne and Wansford : Defibrillators

Two defibrillators supplied by Yorkshire Ambulance Service are ready for use in the parish : in both Skerne and Wansford. Once Wansford Village Hall reopens after installation of a new floor, the parish council will invite Yorkshire Ambulance Service first responder Trish Kilner to give a familiarisation talk.

The installation cost of the defibrillators has been met by parish councillor Bryan Hills, the former postmaster at Wansford and both villages' ex-'paper lad'.

Swanland Village Hall : New season of films

The award-winning film 'Life of Pi' kicked-off the season on Saturday, 21 September. Swanland Village Hall was one of the first community halls to take part in an experiment to bring a cinema experience to East Riding villages. The experience is an initiative taken by ArtERY with funding from Screen Yorkshire and the Lottery.

It will hopefully spread to other villages in East Yorkshire - for details of other participating venues, call ArtERY on (01943) 607030. For further information, call Yvonne on (01482) 634863.

Goole : The Green Team

This small local charity, based in Goole, urgently needs new trustees to join their board. The charity involves volunteers to run a garden maintenance service for local people who are elderly or disabled. They also grow produce on their allotment which they sell through a Veg Bag scheme.

Trustees give their time voluntarily to lead the organisation, set strategic direction, and ensure compliance with legal requirements. They meet every two months – day-to-day work is delegated to the staff team.

Do you know someone with relevant skills and knowledge, such as business experience; managing finances and people; marketing; health and safety; or fundraising who might like to get involved? Ask them to contact The Green Team on (01405) 837126 or info@thegreenteam.org.uk

Give us your news

Parish News is happy to receive comments from town and parish councils about the content and format of this newsletter – please feel free to get in touch and give us your opinions.

We welcome proposals for articles but cannot guarantee to print everything, as space is limited. If you would like to contribute to Parish News call **Brad**

Webster on (01482) 391431, or email community.partnership@eastriding.gov.uk

