

# NEWSLETTER

**WELCOME TO THE SPRING 2022 EDITION OF THE CATCLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER. WE HOPE IT WILL BE OF INTEREST TO EVERYONE.**

Spring is a time for new beginnings and life begins a new season of life. 2022 is an important year in this regard as previous years haven't been much fun for everyone.

Catcliffe is a long respected community. Over the years we have had to move with the tide and embrace new communities. The central core of the village is surrounded by new estates. In order for Catcliffe to be successful we need to work together and become one.



The loss of community hubs such as the Red Lion and the Plough, in keeping with modern day trends, is regrettable. We have the Waverley pub of course and there is still the Memorial Hall. This is a tremendous asset to the village. We feel we can progress the building of community around it. It is there and should be used.

We have activities booked in every weekday evening. There is something for everyone to enjoy, make new friends and feel good about themselves. Dispel the negativity.

Elsewhere other groups are forming fabulous bonds within the community. Residents are benefitting from better mental health and an interest in life. Like the flowers featured here it is a time to grow and enjoy, make your mark and build self confidence. Be a somebody.

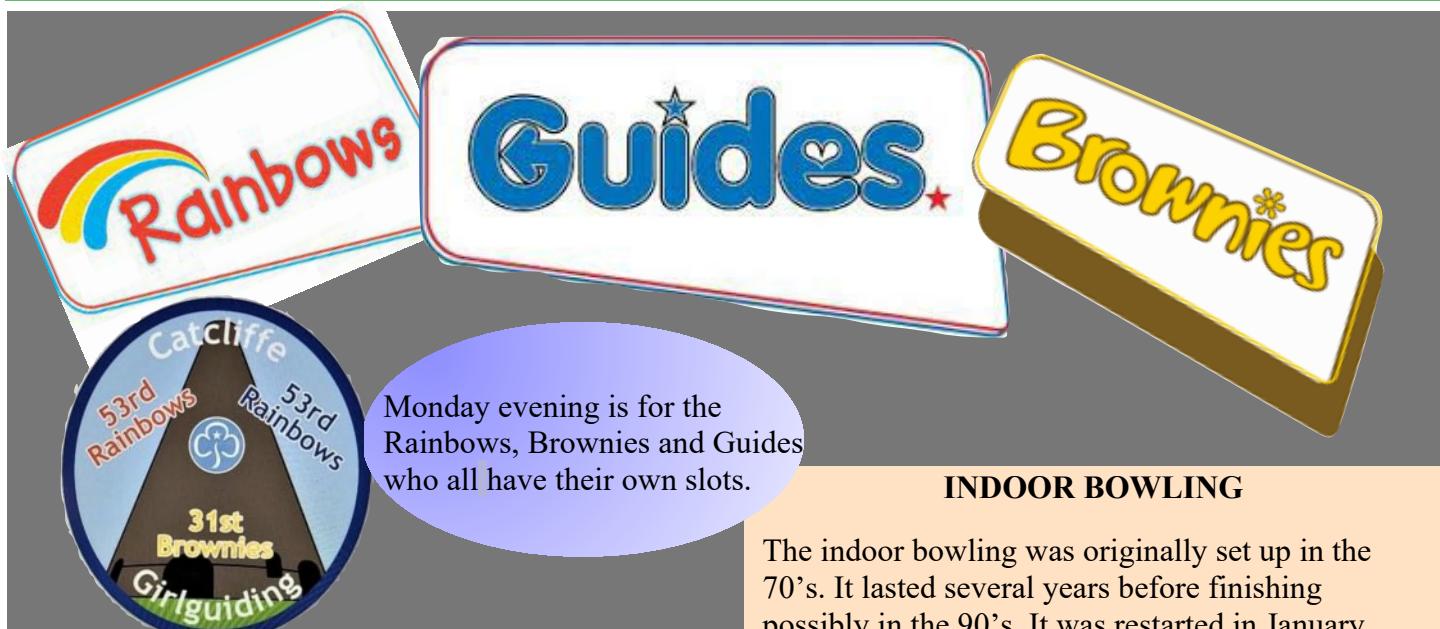
Inside you will find details of the above, a review of some of the issues we're all experiencing and other useful information.

Please visit our web site and Facebook page.  
[www.catcliffeparishcouncil.com](http://www.catcliffeparishcouncil.com).



# Keep Young and Beautiful. Healthy in Body and Mind.

There are plenty of ways you can do this in Catcliffe. We have excellent facilities at the hall and on the Recreation Ground.



## INDOOR BOWLING

The indoor bowling was originally set up in the 70's. It lasted several years before finishing possibly in the 90's. It was restarted in January 2015 by Friends of Catcliffe. The parish council agreed to the use of the existing equipment for free with just the hire charge to pay for.

From a meagre start of around 8 members, membership stands at 18 regulars with other players occasionally attending. There are 3 mats available so everyone gets to play for the duration of the session. Sessions run from 7:00 - 9:00 pm every Tuesday evening at the Memorial Hall. You can get the hang of it in 5 mins. The game, known as Short Mat Bowls, can be played by anyone, any sex or any age. Ages currently attending are folk from the 50's to 90's. Come and have a laugh.

## ZUMBA

The perfect way to get extra fit is to attend the Zumba sessions on Wednesday evening at the Hall. Lee wastes no time getting everyone to move to the pulsating rhythms and beat of the music.

## KIXX FOOTBALL

Can 2 year olds play football?  
You bet they can.

Bring your Toddler along on  
Wednesday morning

## SCOTTISH DANCING

Later on Wednesday evenings you can take your partner or quartet and dance to the music of Scotland. This is a brilliant session for young and old.

Kixx



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## CHAIR AEROBICS

For those with gentler exercise in mind and a stimulating chat with a coffee, why not pop in on Thursday morning..

Starts after Easter. And it's free!!



THE BRITISH WHEEL OF  
**YOGA**  
Qualified Teacher

## YOGA

Thursday evening and Friday morning is the time to wind down all those stresses of the week and seek enlightenment. An excellent tutor will guide you through the process.

You will need to book on to a course to suit your abilities.

## CHANCE TO DANCE

If you've Friday on your mind why not put on those dancing shoes and have a twirl round the old dance floor. You can bring a partner or select one from the dancers there. Strictly comes to Catcliffe.



Contact our clerk for further information or any councillor

clerk@catcliffepc.com. Tel: 01709 837550.

[www.catcliffeparishcouncil.com](http://www.catcliffeparishcouncil.com)

## BORN TO PERFORM

A Rotherham based performing arts academy with classes from age 2 - 70 years. Babes, juniors and singing classes are on a Saturday morning at Catcliffe Memorial Hall. Your first class is free to try. And you get the opportunity to appear at Rotherham Civic Theatre twice a year.



And don't forget the Hall and the Meeting Room are available to hire for that special party, important anniversary or just a celebration of a major success in whatever you do.

**Visit [catcliffeparishcouncil.com](http://catcliffeparishcouncil.com) for more information on our facilities.**

# ISOLATION - WE DON'T NEED IT

## COME AND MEET YOUR NEIGHBOURS

### St. Mary's Church Catcliffe – Weekly Coffee Pot

For over eight years, there has been a weekly coffee morning in Catcliffe, hosted by St. Mary's Church, in the heart of our community. We call it a Coffee Pot. And it's open to everyone. There was a gap during Covid restrictions when we couldn't meet and we missed our weekly time together.



We are now meeting again each Tuesday from 10:00 till 12:00. There are regularly between 20, 30 or more, enjoying a coffee, tea, cake, toast and other snacks. What we enjoy even more is a natter and a catch up with others in a warm and comfortable place. Relive the old, plan for the new.

Its free and there's no washing up, the dishwasher copes with that. You can make a contribution if you wish – no pressure.

We've had good feedback. People have told us it has broken isolation, improved mental health and they have made new friends and it is something to look forward to each week.

### CATCLIFFE BOWLING CLUB



Last year, bowling was back underway at Catcliffe BC. Many of the leagues were classed as friendly for 2021 due to COVID, with no promotion or relegation taking place. This year however, all leagues are returning to the more competitive format.

#### 2021 SEASON REVIEW

Highlights of the season include the club winning the South Yorkshire Cup, a 12 man team competition which was held at Hallam Prop in Sheffield, beating Thurgoland A in the final. This takes them through to the BCGBA World Club Championships Finals in April at Spen Victoria. Another success was the Friday night team winning the B Division of the Rotherham Doubles league.

### MEMBERSHIP

The club currently have about 60 members, of which about 15 are social members. If you would like to give the game a try, you can contact us via our secretary Mr Glyn Davies on 07957578842 (email [glyndavies101062@outlook.com](mailto:glyndavies101062@outlook.com)) ; alternatively catcliffebowling on facebook.

We are always on the look out for new members, to play socially, or join one of the leagues. Membership is only £35 for the season, plus an additional £2 for each league game played. All money raised helps for the club goes towards league fees and the maintenance costs of the green. The season runs from April till the end of September.

We have league games on a Monday, Tuesday and Friday evening, plus a Saturday afternoon. This year we have put a new beginner's team in the Monday night social league, starting in the bottom league. This is ideal for new starters to bowling or any social members who want to play more competitively. If you wish to play in this, please get in touch.

### ALLOTMENTS

What was a piece of wasteland has been transformed into a thriving community hub. With Parish Council investment and a considerable amount of hard work by the people who formed the Allotment Society, the transformation has been astounding. The plotters should be very proud.

There is a waiting list and if you are interested please contact the clerk for contact details.



# CATCLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

**We have received a great deal of criticism about the the closure and conditions of our two playgrounds. We are as unhappy about this as anyone and the decisions we had to make are regretful.**

Our first playground at Poplar Way came about with a grant from builders putting up Blue Mans Way. There is a condition of building plans that a grant should be made to local communities. The council at the time chose to have a playground. Parish councillors did much of the work involved in putting it together. Inspections of the equipment could be made by anyone available (it seems) and health and safety of the levels necessary today wasn't a factor. The grant didn't include maintenance and the cost of this came out of the parish council budget.

Our second playground, at Highfield View, was also provided through a grant from the Dickens estate building project. As with Poplar Way, maintenance and repair was the responsibility of the Parish Council. At the time neither playground was vandalism an issue. Over time this did become a major factor.

There's no doubt that the vandalism was more prevalent at Highfield View. This came hand in hand with government requirements for increased levels of health and safety and the need for certified inspections. These are not cheap and their damning reports do not help budgets. One dodgy link on a swing for instance can mean the closure of the equipment until it's repaired by a certified engineer.

Due to the concerns expressed by inspectors etc, we canvassed and tendered for new equipment. The number of companies willing to provide this equipment was sadly lacking. The cost of providing equipment within our budget was impossible. Another issue was the availability of equipment and spare parts which since Covid has been a no go. The spares don't exist.

Just prior to Covid the Glassworks building project provided us with a £29,000 grant. We eagerly asked for tenders to provide us with new equipment. Two companies responded with suitable options .We realised that putting equipment in both playgrounds wasn't practical or worthwhile. We didn't get the playground we desired but at least we got a useable playground.

**During lockdown the vandalism at Highfield View became out of control and the cost of maintenance prohibitive. We had no choice but to close the playground on advice.**

We don't have an answer to the vandalism. The police say they will act but need names and proof.

So at present, we can offer no solace to those wanting Highfield View opening up again. It's not a welcome situation for residents or councillors. But at least we do have one playground in operation. For a village of our size this is a reasonable provision. We welcome input from residents and anyone willing to become councillors and become part of the decision making.

As a Parish Council we do receive queries as to why certain issues are not dealt with. Most of these are not within our remit unfortunately but we will always do our best to offer advice or by contacting relevant agencies.

**Dog Litter:** The solution is in fact solvable. Simply pick the mess up. Then the easy part, put it in a bin. There are bins around the village, maybe not enough perhaps, but this is a Streetpride operation in partnership with the dog wardens. We cannot get Streetpride to supply more bins as they do not have the staff to empty them. If there's no nearby bin, take it home and put it in your bin. R.M.B.C. accept the use of household bins for dog waste.

The dog wardens are the only people who can prosecute. If you know of unlawful dog fouling, please contact them. The more people who contact them the more chance they will take action.

We do appreciate those of you who go beyond the bounds and do the job that irresponsible folk don't do.

**Litter:** The provision of bins is the same as for dog bins. They do exist but it's apparent some folk don't use them. Same rules as for dog waste, bag it, bin it.

We do employ a litter picker for 5 hours per week and we have several residents willingly picking everyone's mess up. Without these people the detritus would be out of hand. As with Dog Wardens, litter droppers can be fined. But you have to report any blatant disregard of the act to Streetpride as it's not a police issue.

**Fly Tipping:** Punishment for fly tipping is increasing both in the amount of fines and crushing of vehicles. Again, if you suspect fly tipping, report it to Streetpride. They will clear it away and attempt to find the perpetrators. We have taken some measures to counter the menace but it needs all of us to get involved.

**Traffic Issues:** Catcliffe has never been short of traffic problems. Back in the fifties we had heavy lorries trundling down Brinsworth Road, Rotherham Road and past the school carrying waste for Hadfields Tip. Since then the village has been a constant building site it seems. And it's not improving.

The ongoing use of Sheffield Lane as an illegal rat run is regularly on our meeting's agenda. We have organised petitions, letters of protest, demanded surveys, all to no avail. We are at a loss why we and residents are ignored.

We now have a new situation whereby heavy traffic is affecting the health and safety of residents on the Blue Mans Estate and compounding the woes of Sheffield Lane. Again, no one listens and we are just railroaded.

We will continue to help residents where we can but we're fast running out of options. Of course we always need more housing and that need will never subside. It just would be nice if sometimes the populace is considered. And work together.

And then there's the Parkway. Despite petitions and TV appearances there has been no consideration of the residents views. Balfour Beatty have done their best to involve residents but they too have to toe the line. It appears at present there are no plans to reduce the noise levels or counter the increase in pollution. And it's going to be a long haul to resolve the matter.

# CATCLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

It's been a roller coaster of a year with regard to staffing and councillor changes. The workload we all suffered during this period was extremely stressful. Cllr Cooper resigned, came back to us and resigned again. Her community skills will be sorely missed. We also lost the services of Cllrs John and Shaun Pashley. We don't need to mention the tremendous work they did during their tenure as most of you recognised it with your comments on our social media platforms. They too will be difficult to replace and the door is always open.

In a positive vein we do have 3 new councillors. Cllr Fernandez, Cllr Bayliss and Cllr Bishop have all offered their services and we look forward to benefiting from their input.

A major loss was the guiding light of all councils, the clerk. Parish clerks receive a salary and councils cannot survive without them. They have management skills, an efficiency in accounts and the knowledge to carry out all the admin required. They also work hard to keep councillors in line. Jill Samuels was a good 'un and we wish her well in her new employment. We have been fortunate to recruit Josie Huddleston, an experienced clerk who comes to us with excellent skills and pedigree.

## COULD YOU BE A COUNCILLOR?

By becoming a Parish Councillor you become someone your community will look to for help, guidance and support, a community leader with the power to influence decisions for the benefit of the people you serve.

As part of a local council you will have responsibility for:

- *Running local services such as the open spaces, play areas and village hall.*
- *Deciding on how much to raise through the precept in order to deliver your council's services.*
- *Influencing and shaping the long-term development policy for the Parish, and as part of the planning process, comment on planning applications in the Parish.*
- *Improve the quality of life and the environment in the local area.*
- *Working to identify issues which are important to the lives of the residents you represent.*
- *Working to bring about improvements through local projects, lobbying other service providers and working in partnership with other Parishes and agencies.*

Training can be provided to assist with understanding the role of a Councillor and Parish Council.

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month, starting at 6.30 pm and last no longer than two hours.

### To become a Parish Councillor, you must:

Be an elector of the parish;

Or in the past 12 months have occupied (as owner or tenant) land or premises in the Parish;

Or work in the Parish (as your principal or only place of work);

Or live within three miles of the parish boundary.

You don't have to be connected to a political party. Parish Councils are Non-Political.

And yes, we really are volunteers.

# THAT'S NICE TO KNOW

Police (Non Emergency)	101
Gas Emergency	0800 111 999
Power Cut	105
Water Emergencies	0345 1242424
Crimestoppers	0800 555 111
Rotherham Council (Main)	01709 382121
Streetpride	01709 336003
Council Housing	01709 336040
Concerns About Young Person	01709 336080
NHS Advice Line	111
Rotherham Hospital (Main)	01709 820000
Samaritans	116 123
Travel Line	01709 515151
National Rail Enquiries	03457 484950
Citizens Advice Bureau	03444 111 444
National Debt Line	0808 808 4000
Tax Credit	0345 300 3900
Age UK Advice	0800 1602

## PARISH COUNCILLORS

Clr Pete DeVeaux Chair	07721 601128 <a href="mailto:petedeveaux@catcliffepc.com">petedeveaux@catcliffepc.com</a>	Clr Garry Marsh Vice Chair	07977 192154 <a href="mailto:garrymarsh@catcliffepc.com">garrymarsh@catcliffepc.com</a>
Clr Wendy Green	07712 670119 <a href="mailto:wendygreen@catcliffepc.com">wendygreen@catcliffepc.com</a>	Clr Nigel Simpson	07709 849493 <a href="mailto:nigelsimpson@catcliffepc.com">nigelsimpson@catcliffepc.com</a>
Clr Victoria Fernandez	07565 882139 <a href="mailto:victoriafernandez@catcliffepc.com">victoriafernandez@catcliffepc.com</a>	Clr Tony Bayliss	07764 796000 <a href="mailto:tonybayliss@catcliffepc.com">tonybayliss@catcliffepc.com</a>
Clr Richard Bishop	07792 111390 <a href="mailto:richardbishop@catcliffepc.com">richardbishop@catcliffepc.com</a>	Josie Huddleston CLERK	01709 837550 <a href="mailto:clerk@catcliffepc.com">clerk@catcliffepc.com</a>

## WARD/BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

Cllr Amy Brookes	01709 255943	<a href="mailto:amy.brookes@rotherham.gov.uk">amy.brookes@rotherham.gov.uk</a>
Cllr Dr Firas Miro	01709 807960	<a href="mailto:firas.miro@rotherham.gov.uk">firas.miro@rotherham.gov.uk</a>

**[clerk@catcliffepc.com](mailto:clerk@catcliffepc.com) 01709 837550**

**[www.catcliffeparishcouncil.com](http://www.catcliffeparishcouncil.com)**

# CATCLIFFE MEMORIAL HALL

## THE MEMORIAL HALL

A FANTASTIC VENUE TO HOLD SPECIAL EVENTS

THE MAIN HALL HOLDS 150 GUESTS

**£20 PER HOUR (this price includes full use of the kitchen facilities; garden area and car park)**

**Residents and Regular Hirers 20% Discount**



## MEETING ROOM

**Our meeting room caters for 36 people.**

**Fabulous for meetings, seminars etc.**

**Free WiFi**

**£16 per hour (this price includes full use of the kitchen facilities and car park)**

**Residents and Regular Hirers 20% Discount**

The Memorial Hall was built and opened in 1962. In its early days it was the venue for Saturday night dances including live bands. Other community regulars were the Darby and Joan Club, the Monday night bingo sessions, Old Folks Tea and the occasional performances from various brass bands and choral groups. We catered for dance schools and sporting activities such as indoor bowls. Youngsters looked forward to the regular Saturday night club.

Eventually the hall was extended to include a large stage with several rooms for classes and organisations. A popular one was the Pottery class which ran for 30 years. There were classes for basic Maths and English. Another attraction was the regular jumble sales. In fact if it could be done in a hall it was done in Catcliffe. The meeting room was added around this period.

Over time the extension area became unfit for purpose and the hall was renovated in 2017. The stage area and utility rooms were demolished and removed and the hall returned to its original size. However a top class kitchen area was added and the toilets were upgraded. A small office was added to cater for the clerk.

We believe our hall is one of the best in the area, should be used more often and become a community hub. If you believe you could organise any type of activity for the village then please get in touch.

