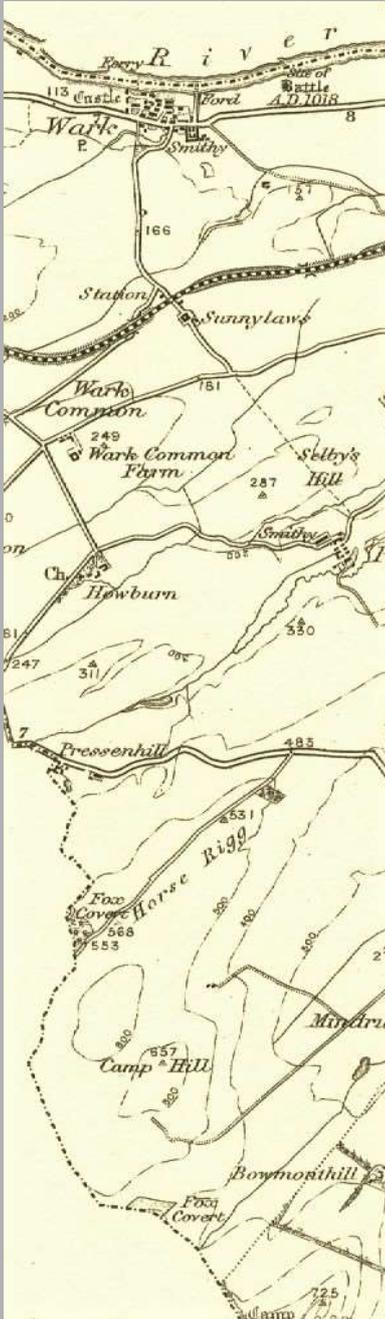


Carham Parish Council Newsletter

No 1 ~ December 2017



Welcome to the Carham Parish Council newsletter. We thought you might like to know what your Parish Council does and what it has been working on since the local elections were held in May. We have included some other local items that may be of interest.

We plan to give you an update on Parish Council matters twice a year; the next issue of this newsletter will be in May 2018. In the meantime, we wish you a very happy Christmas and a peaceful and prosperous new year.

Carham Parish Council

Traffic Calming

- ❖ A solar-powered vehicle activated sign has been sited on the western approach to **Wark** village to remind drivers to respect the 30mph speed limit. It was paid for by Northumberland County Council but is the property of the Parish Council, so please let us know if you spot any problems with it.
- ❖ We have written (again) to Northumberland County Council about the need for a safety barrier on the B6350 near the **West Learmouth** junction.

Superfast Broadband ...

We have been talking to Northumberland County Council about the provision of superfast broadband. The matter is complicated by the fact that the parish is served by three different telephone exchanges. However, we can report that superfast broadband is available now to residents of **Carham** (the main village) who want to order it. **East Learmouth** and **West Learmouth** are next, as they are part of the existing phase of fibre roll out, which should be completed by the end of 2017. **Carham Hall, Shidlaw Farm, Wark village, Wark Common, Sunilaws, Mindrum** and **Mindrum Mill** are included in the next phase of fibre roll out in 2018. The following are not part of any fibre roll out plans at this stage: **Pressen Hill, Pressen, The Hagg, Downham, Moneylaws**.

We are concerned that, as things stand, not every community in the parish will have access to superfast broadband and a number of farm businesses will miss out. We will continue to push for a solution to this.

... and Plain Old Telephony Services

Just one working public phone box remains in Carham parish. This is the box on the B6352 near **Mindrum Station**. Three years ago the Parish Council asked Northumberland County Council to object to the proposed removal of this payphone, as there is little or no mobile signal in the location. The phone box can be used for ordinary phone calls (cards only) as well as for emergency calls.

- ❖ The decommissioned phone boxes in **Carham** and **Wark** belong to the Parish Council and are now used as information points. Anyone can put information in these boxes.



Contact Us

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Wark Play Park

Carham Parish Council is responsible for the play park in **Wark**. The park is inspected on a regular basis and we have set money aside to pay for maintenance and any repairs that are needed. We are currently renewing the fencing, to try to prevent rabbits from getting in.

- ❖ Earlier this year three residents transformed the play park by cleaning the equipment and generally tidying the whole area. If you are able to help out the next time this needs to be done, please let us know.

Litter Bins

The bins that appeared in **Carham** (by the church gate) and **Wark** (next to Wark Farm office) a year or so ago were put there by the Parish Council. The bins can be used for bagged dog mess as well as for litter.

Potholes

Potholes are not within the remit of the Parish Council, but you can report them to Northumberland County Council, using the Report Pothole link on the home page of the Council's website www.northumberland.gov.uk

Carham 2018

Next year sees the 1,000th anniversary of the Battle of Carham, which fixed the eastern end of the border between England and Scotland along the line of the River Tweed. The anniversary will be commemorated with a number of events, including a Living History weekend on 7-8 July. For more information, including commercial opportunities, go to www.carham1018.org.uk

Join Us?

If you are interested in joining the Parish Council, please contact the Parish Clerk.

Carham Parish Council is an elected body in the first tier of local government. It is responsible for representing the interests of the whole community. Among other things, it is concerned with community safety, street lighting, common land, play areas, litter, tourism, traffic calming, seats and shelters, rights of way, and some aspects of planning and highways.

The Parish Council meets six times a year. Meetings are in alternate months beginning in May, on the second Tuesday of the month, in St Cuthbert's Church, Carham at 6.30pm. Anyone living or working in the parish can attend a meeting.

For the minutes of Carham Parish Council meetings, go to www.carhamparish.org.uk