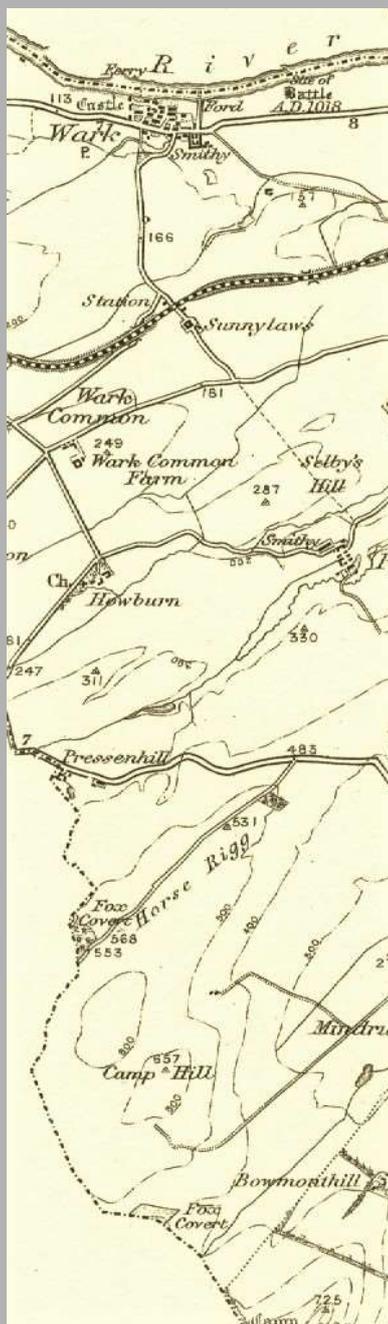


Carham Parish Council Newsletter

No 5 ~ December 2019



Welcome to the December issue of this twice-a-year newsletter, which brings season's greetings as well as news from, and about, Carham parish. For more regular and timely parish news, you can now sign up to receive an email each time we post an item on the Carham Community Website (see first item below). Once you have done this you will receive notification of Parish Council meetings and other events happening in our community, as well as occasional items from further afield such as planned road works that affect our area.

Carham Parish Council

Carham Community Website

The *News + Events* section of www.carhamparish.org is where we post information that we think you will find interesting or need to know. If you have an email address, you can sign up to receive an email alert whenever we post new information in this section:

- Go to the website www.carhamparish.org
- Find *Follow News + Events* on the right-hand side of the page
- Enter your email address in the box, and click *Follow*

You will receive an email from Carham Community Website with a link for you to confirm your subscription.

Private Water Supplies ...

If you have a private water supply and take more than 20 m³ of water a day, you are now likely to require a licence from the Environment Agency – even if you have not needed one before. Changes to the licensing system have removed a number of licence exemptions, including the exemption for groundwater abstractions of between 20 m³ and 227 m³ a day, and the exemption for surface water abstraction within the Till river catchment.

The licensing system applies to domestic users as well as to a farm or a business that takes water from a river or the ground. A collection of houses on one borehole, well or spring supply may need a licence. For more information, go to the *News + Events* section of www.carhamparish.org and scroll down to the item *Private Water Supplies*.

The deadline for applying for a licence is 31 December 2019.

... and Public Rights of Way

Following a request from the Footpaths Group, Northumberland County Council has installed new finger posts, a footbridge and stiles on the footpaths from **West Learmouth** to the B6350 south west of Cornhill, new stiles on the path from Piperdean Lane to **Pressen**, and a new finger post at the southern end of Piperdean Lane, near **Mindrum Station**. Reports on the walks organised by the Footpaths Group are on www.carhamparish.org – click on *About* at the top of the page, then choose *Activities*.

Wark Play Park

The children's play park in **Wark** is managed by the Parish Council and is inspected regularly. This year, on the advice of the play park inspector, a new surface of bark chippings has been installed under the see-saw and roundabout. This replaces the old rubber matting, which had begun to perish. A broken tree limb that was overhanging the play park has been removed.



Contact Us

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Superfast Broadband

Government funding is still available to help small businesses and the local communities surrounding them with the cost of installing a gigabit-capable connection, if they are not included in the Superfast Broadband programme. Under the Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme businesses can claim up to £2,500 against the cost of connection either individually or as part of a group project. Residents can benefit from the scheme with a voucher worth £500 as part of a group project.

Rural premises may be eligible for additional funding through the Broadband for Rural Communities scheme, which offers vouchers worth up to £3,500 for each small and medium-sized business, and up to £1,500 each for residential premises. For more information, visit <https://gigabitvoucher.culture.gov.uk>.

Carham Parish Garden Exchange

We are planning to organise a Garden Exchange next year for the parish's keen gardeners. The idea is to find good homes for your surplus plants, seeds, garden tools, plastic plant pots, gardening books or anything else that you no longer need that another gardener might find useful. As well as enabling local gardeners to stock up on useful items, we hope to raise some money for charity through donations. And, if the Garden Exchange works as intended, it will reduce waste by putting back into circulation items that would otherwise be thrown away. We will post details, including the date, on www.carhamparish.org early next year. To receive an email notification of this and other parish news and events, you can sign up via the website – see the first item in this newsletter.

Christmas Carols and Church Services

- ❖ A carol service will be held at **Carham Hall** at 3.15 pm on Tuesday 17 December for residents, their families, staff and parishioners.
- ❖ There will be a carol service in place of Morning Worship in St Cuthbert's church, **Carham** on Sunday 22 December at 11.00 am. On Christmas Day, Holy Communion will be celebrated at St Cuthbert's at 9.30 am. The fifth-Sunday joint service (Carham, Cornhill and Branxton) on 29 December will be at St Paul's church, Branxton, at 11.00 am.

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