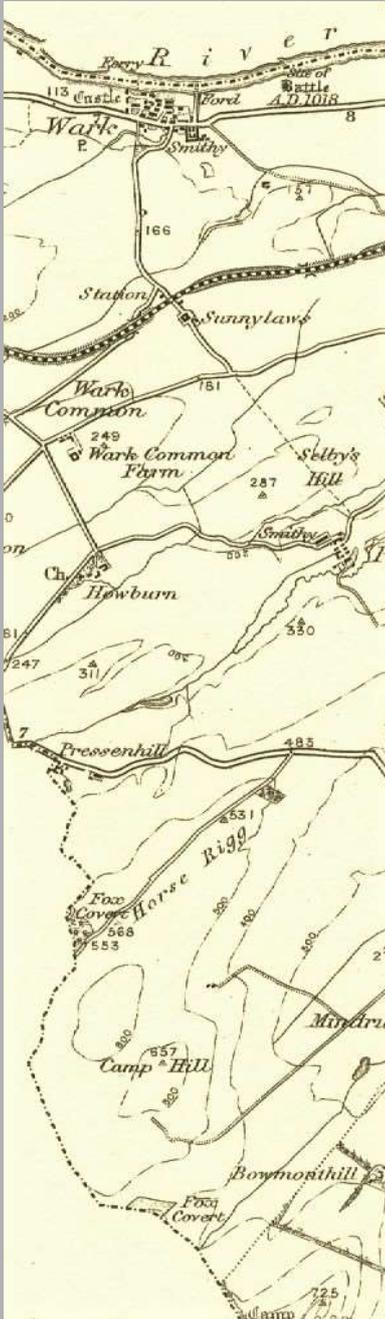


Carham Parish Council Newsletter

No 9 ~ December 2021



Storm Arwen hit Carham parish quite badly, with damage to buildings and the loss of many trees. Some residents were without electricity for several days, but at time of writing power has been restored throughout the parish, and the big clear-up has begun. At the same time, of course, Covid-19 remains a problem for everyone, everywhere, and we do not know what the next few weeks – or months – will bring. We hope that, despite these trials, everyone has the chance to rest and enjoy the company of family and friends over Christmas, and that the new year will be a better one for all of us.

Carham Parish Council

Christmas Church Services

There will be a carol service at St Cuthbert's church, **Carham**, at 11.00 am on Sunday 19 December, and on Christmas Day (which is a Saturday) there will be holy communion at 9.30 am. There will not be a service at the church on Sunday 26 December. Services at the church resume their usual pattern (morning worship on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month) on Sunday 9 January.

Winter Conditions

There are five yellow Northumberland County Council-owned grit bins in the parish. Two are in **Wark** village, one is in **Pressen**, and one is at **East Moneylaws** road end, while the one that should be at **East Learmouth** has been reported as missing. The Parish Council is very aware of the difficulties residents face when there is snow and ice on the pavements and roads and we have asked Northumberland County Council for three additional grit bins – one more for Wark, one for Wark Bank and one for Sunilaws. It may, however, be some time before we learn whether our request has been successful.

- ❖ To report an empty grit bin, call the phone number that is on the bin or go to the Winter Services page of the Northumberland County Council website www.northumberland.gov.uk/Highways/Winter.aspx.

Free Energy Efficiency Improvements

Northumberland County Council is offering free energy efficiency improvements, such as wall insulation, solar panels and air source heat pumps, to help homeowners cut energy bills and make their homes warmer. To be eligible, you must own your home and have a household income of less than £30,000, or someone living in your home receiving benefits, and your home must have an EPC rating of D, E, F or G. The scheme – the Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery scheme – is funded by the UK government and delivered by E.on in partnership with Northumberland County Council. For information and to apply, call 0333 202 4820 (Monday to Friday, 9.00 am to 5.00 pm) or visit www.eonenergy.com/green-homes-grant.html. You do not need to be an E.on customer to benefit from this scheme.

Electric Vehicle Charging Point

Northumberland County Council is in the process of installing an electric vehicle charging point in the car park in **Wark** village. This will enable residents who are not able to park outside their homes to charge an electric vehicle. Visitors, too, will be able to use the charger. The charging point was requested by Carham Parish Council and we are delighted that Northumberland County Council was able to meet our request.



Contact Us

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Carham Parish Council

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Wark Playpark Repairs

In October, a resident contacted the Parish Clerk to say that a large limb had fallen off a tree into the playpark in **Wark**, bringing down a section of the fence. Northumberland County Council, which owns the land on which the tree stands, quickly cleared the debris and sent a tree inspector to assess the damage and the tree. The fence has now been repaired and the tree will be made safe.

Footpaths Group

With the easing of Covid-19 restrictions, the Footpaths Group has resumed its task of walking the rights of way in the parish to ensure that they remain usable and reporting any problems. It has organised three walks this year, including a farm walk that was kindly led by Peter Straker-Smith of **Wark Common**. For information about the Footpaths Group and the walks it has done, go to www.carhamparish.org/walks If you want to know more, or are interested in coming along on the next walk, contact the walks organiser via the email link on that page.

Citizens Advice Northumberland

Citizens Advice Northumberland has asked us to spread the word about the services it offers. It gives free, confidential, impartial and independent advice and information on a wide range of subjects, including debt, energy, benefits and consumer advice, and can support families after a cancer diagnosis through its Macmillan Benefits Advice team. To contact Citizens Advice Northumberland, call 0808 278 7944 (Monday to Friday, 9.00 am to 4.30 pm) or visit www.citizensadvicenorthumberland.org.uk

Sign Up!

Carham Parish Council publishes this newsletter twice a year, but if you have an email address you do not have to wait until the next issue to receive news and information from us. Go to 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.

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