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Friday 22nd June 2018

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## Aycliffe People Need to Comment on County Plan

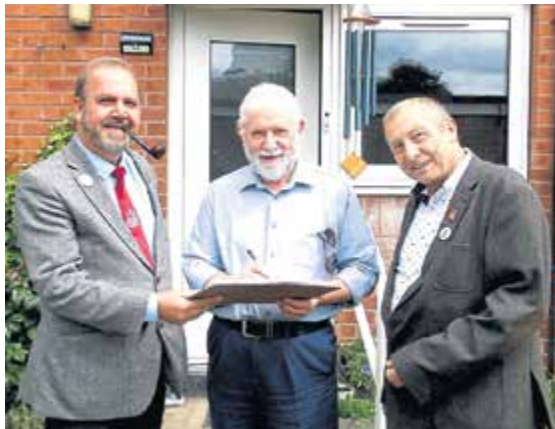
DCC has launched the consultation on the 'Preferred Options' stage of the County Durham Plan. The consultation is kicking off with an engagement event at Newton Aycliffe Youth & Community Centre, 3:30-6:30pm, Monday 25th June. Officers and information will be there to explain what the Plan is proposing, and there will be opportunities to ask questions and have your say. WHAT IS THE COUNTY DURHAM PLAN?

The County Durham Plan is not a routemap for growth, but a schedule for land management. It aims to influence - when development is proposed - where it should take place, and what kind of development it should be. The Plan therefore lays down rules concerning issues such as employment land, housing, town centres, the rural economy, environment & habitat, transport, and minerals. It cannot conjure up bus services, shopping centres and the like but - when growth does take place. The Plan (alongside our Great Aycliffe Neighbourhood Plan) aims to make sure that it is the right growth in the right places ... so that future developments benefit us and

our community. **HOW MIGHT I RESPOND?** There is no need to try to read the (1,400 pages of the) Plan and respond by Monday! Over the next six weeks, the County Planners will be introducing you to various aspects of the Plan, and you will be able to see what they are proposing and whether you agree. The Council will receive comments on the Preferred Options until 3 August. I would encourage people to

go to Monday's event, and to follow this issue and respond to the consultation. It is essential that Newton Aycliffe subjects the Plan to intense constructive scrutiny, and that we highlight the bits we like as much as the bits we don't. The Plan will frame the County's development up to 2035, so it is of critical importance that we get it right. You can find the Preferred Options document online here: <http://bit.ly/CDP18PO>

## No Thank you, Livin



Great Aycliffe Residents' Association Secretary Arun Chandran (left) and Vice Chairman Ken Robson getting a signature from a resident for the petition against Livin's West Ward Regeneration Scheme Option 3. Figures show 85% against!

## County Councillors' Neighbourhood Walkabout

Councillors Kate Hopper & Eddy Adam are holding a ward walkabout with representatives from partner organisations where available starting at 6pm on Monday, June 25th in the Simpature area. We look forward to hearing from local residents who are welcome to join us or get in touch using contact details below.

Cllr Eddy Adam - Telephone: 03000 268670

[eddy.adam@durham.gov.uk](mailto:eddy.adam@durham.gov.uk)

Cllr Kate Hopper - Telephone: 03000 268727

[kate.hopper@durham.gov.uk](mailto:kate.hopper@durham.gov.uk)

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## Free Ladies Golf Taster

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## June Entertainment Guide

Friday 22nd	Private Party
Saturday 23rd	East Coast Mainland - £2.50 on the door
Tuesday 26th	Kids Disco, 5pm-8pm, £1 on the door
Friday 29th	to be confirmed
Friday 29th	Upstairs Soul Sessions - Free Entry
Saturday 30th	Disco Night - Tickets £2.50 or £3 on the door

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## Hospice Staff & Volunteers Recognised at Awards Event



Staff and volunteers were recognised for their long service to St Teresa's Hospice during a special awards ceremony held at the Darlington-based charity on Wednesday 6th June.

The annual event acknowledges the dedication of those who have served and supported the Hospice for 10 years or more. Certificates and badges were presented to 16 members of staff and volunteers.

For 10 years' service: Paul Wheatley, Shops Operations & House Clearances Manager; Maria Fawcett, Health Care Assistant (HCA); Claire Tobbell, HCA; Carmel Gilsenan, HCA; Yvonne Rose, Staff Nurse; Clive Wright, HCA; Donna Owen, HCA; Donna Taylor, Staff Nurse; Marie Emmerson, Staff Nurse; Jeff Surma, Family Support & Bereavement Worker; Michelle Horner, Supporter Services Manager; Jean Sunter, Leyburn Shop Volunteer.

For 20 years' service: Michelle Shepperson, Activities Coordinator & Hairdresser; Jan Scott, Family Support

Team Volunteer. Barnard Castle Shop Volunteers Kath Cosgrove and Margaret Harley received unique certificates in recognition of 30 years, and were also presented with flowers in beautifully hand gift-wrapped planters.

Presenting the awards to Kath and Margaret, Chief Executive of St Teresa's Hospice Jane Bradshaw said: "Kath is a St Teresa's veteran, starting 30 years ago with some friends by simply taking in donations, sorting and selling them in a little shop in Barnard Castle to try and raise some much needed funds for the hospice. She has seen many people come and go during her years with us and has supported St Teresa's with a force second to none.

Margaret was one of the first volunteers who, along with Kath and her friends, fundraised to help get the Hospice started. Since 1st January 1987 to it closing recently, she has given unstinting support to the Barnard Castle Shop and has been a strong supporter of the Hospice, ensuring that she

spread the word about our services."

Volunteers play a vital role in all areas of the Hospice. If you feel you can give some of your time to help please contact us on 01325 254321 or visit [www.darlingtonhospice.org.uk](http://www.darlingtonhospice.org.uk)

## Film Show

### "VICTORIA AND ABDUL"

The "Feel Good Film Show" at St Clare's Church on Tuesday 19th June features the 2017 British drama "VICTORIA AND ABDUL" starring Judi Dench, Ali Fazal, Eddie Izzard, Michael Gambon and Tim Pigott-Smith.

Indian Muslim servant Abdul is sent to Queen Victoria's court and catches her eye. He becomes her servant, aid, language teacher and ever-closer friend, much to the annoyance of her family, the court and staff. How close it is to reality is anyone's guess, but it is great entertainment. EVERYONE IS WELCOME.

Tea and coffee are served at 1pm, included in the £2, and the film starts at 1.15pm. A variety of chairs are provided for your comfort, and tables so that you can bring a spot of lunch to eat while you enjoy a great film in friendly company. For further details ring Ric Hargreaves 01325 316755.

## England Game Treats at The Big Club



Go down to the Big Club and join them to support England on Sunday June 24th (1pm kick off) and Thursday June 28th (7pm kick off).

In addition to their 1 for 10 deal on Carling and John Smiths - 4 pint pitchers will be available during the games at reduced prices. Carling at £9.50 and John Smiths at £8.75. The main bar has 4 large TV's and a big screen showing the games - complimentary snacks will be served throughout the games.

**LADIES SPECIAL** during the games - all fever-free tonics will be served free on all purchases of any Gin in the Copper Room Gin Bar.



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## BURGER NIGHT

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6.00pm-9.00pm - mix and match any 2 meals from the grill menu and receive a free bottle of house wine  
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### Saturday 23rd June - "F.M."

Review: "Was this our best pub gig ever? Probably! What can you say about FM, this was rock and metal utopia, a classic journey through the rock and roll hall of fame. They did the lot, Kaiser Chiefs, Foo Fighters, Sabbath, AC/DC, Zepellin and no real cheese; OK, they did "Whisky in the Jar", but hey! FM put a great amount of effort into their gigs, sometimes mid week gigs just don't seem to have the same WOW /OOMPH.

The atmosphere was great as was the music, a superb night. What is particularly pleasing is that FM don't always take the easy option, ie: instead of sticking to "Sweet Child Of Mine," they did "Welcome to The Jungle". How long have FM been around now? Many a year and on this performance many a year to come. Thanks lads you were awesome."

### Sunday 24th June - "OASISJAM" (£3.00 entry)

OASISJAM are a tribute to two of the greatest bands ever - OASIS and THE JAM. They are a 4 piece band and create the greatest hits of both bands such as Wonderwall, Going Underground, Town Called Malice, Don't Look Back In Anger - all killer and no filler! OASISJAM are based in the North-East of England and play regularly in the area. Band Members include Tim Lowe - Vocals and Guitar; Richard Coxon - Bass & Vocals; Alan Batchelor - Lead Guitar and Vocals; Scott Fenner - Drums and Percussion.

### Saturday 30th June - "Dakota"

Quote - "Dakota are a really tight act who look like they enjoy every second of their set."

**Sunday 1st July - "Breakfast Club"** (£3.00 entry, 4pm start)  
An afternoon of classics performed by the North-East's top 80's tribute.

For more information on bands go to

[www.turbiniapub.co.uk](http://www.turbiniapub.co.uk) or 313034

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# Poem for Our NHS Woodham Summer Concert

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No monies passed hands, your healthcare was free  
We've forgotten pre '48 there were no doctors for me  
Our buildings now old, our resources all on a squeeze  
Your donations are needed so do help us please  
With a state of the art MRI here just for you  
We need to invest but we'll need your help too  
It's our 70th Birthday so please give us a cheer  
Our blessed NHS – it's precious, please help keep us here!  
*By Pat Chambers, Fundraiser for the MRI Appeal*



Students performing during the recent successful production of School of Rock

Woodham Academy's talented students will take to the stage again at their annual Summer Concert. This year's event is named 'A Night At The Movies' and will feature performances influenced by music from films – ranging from cult classics to modern favourites. Students from all year groups will take part in the concert, which will feature the Dance Academy, Woodham Jazz Band, Percussion Academy, Drama Academy, and the newly formed Woodham Rock Band, as well as various soloists.

The concert, which follows the recent success of Woodham Academy's acclaimed production of School of Rock, will also feature a sneak preview of next year's musical, Grease. Head of Music Rob Gales said: "Everyone who saw our recent performances of School of Rock will know our students are hugely talented performers. They are working hard to ensure we have another great night of entertainment at Woodham Academy, and we hope as many people as possible will be here to enjoy it."

Woodham Academy recently received a national award in recognition of the excellence of its music education. The Incorporated Society of Musicians (ISM) awarded Woodham Academy its Silver Certificate, praising the high achievement of the school's students. The Woodham Academy Summer Concert will take place on Tuesday, July 3, starting at 7pm. Movie themed refreshments will be available on the night, as well as the usual raffle. Tickets, priced just £4 and £2, are available now on Parentpay, from the school office, or on the door on the night.

## Exciting Changeover at The Huntsman Pub



The Huntsman in Woodham Village has new operators from Friday 22nd June. Elliot McKee and his family moved in 3 weeks ago prior to a full refurbishment taking place. One of his daughters has already joined Woodham Burn Primary School. Chloe, Elliot's partner will be supporting him in his new venture. Elliot has strong connections with the town through his father Malcolm McKee who lived in the town when he was young. Malcolm played football for the Sports Club and the Working Men's Club. He was also managing director of Eaton Axles with whom he worked for 18 years. The Huntsman will cater for all. Homecooked Food served every day, Carvery Served every weekend and live sports all week. Quiz and event nights will also be planned. Looking forward to meeting everyone!



## MRI SCANNER APPEAL

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- Send a cheque to: Cashiers, Darlington Memorial Hospital, Hollyhurst Road, Darlington, DL3 6HX. Please make cheques payable to: Co Durham & Darlington NHS FT Charity.
- Pick up a donation envelope

with more information, from one of our waiting areas or wards.

- Text **SCAN02 £10** to 70070 to donate £10 to CDDFT.
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## Newton Aycliffe Trio at Volunteering Event



Bobby Munn, Liz Joy and Yvonne Beynon

Sheena Stephenson Manager of the charity Lifeline Community Action's project "Children's Blessings" put forward her three volunteers for an award at Durham volunteering event at Durham Cathedral on Wednesday 6th June.

"Without the help of Bobby Munn, Liz Joy and Yvonne Beynon, Children's Blessings would not have been able to help 52 families with 137 children between them in the last 3 months. Thanks so much" said Sheena.

If you need help with clothes and household goods for your children please contact: 07594 297 462.



Aycliffe Village Primary School  
Thursday, 28th June, 2018  
from 3.30pm to 6.00pm

Stalls include:

- Body Shop • Hair & Bow • Wax Melts •
- Slime Stall • Name the Teddy •
- Mat Flip Challenge • Dart Target •
- Festival Hair Glitter • Bouncy Castle •
- Inflatable Obstacle Run • Nails for Kids •
- Sweetie Cones • Fish n Chips Van •

*"A fun packed afternoon is guaranteed"*

Come along and support your school.  
All proceeds to Aycliffe Village Parent & Teacher Association, working with parents and school to champion your child's educational experience.



## Continued Success at Pennine

North East-based Pennine Home Improvements is celebrating continued success, with sales up 17 per cent during the last six months, compared with the same period last year.

With sales at £6million, December 2017 to May 2018 has delivered an accelerated performance for the Business. The announcement comes as Pennine bids farewell to current Sales Director of ten years, Derek McLaren, who retires this month and welcomes its new Sales Director, Paul Clifton.

Paul is universally recognised as the leading mind in sales development within the home improvements market, having worked in the window and conservatory industry for 30 years and as a business development consultant and key note industry speaker over the last 15 years.

He has spent the last five years as a consultant for the Conservatory Outlet Group, helping the national dealer network develop its sales strategies.

Mark Tinnion, managing director at Pennine Home Improvements, said: "Our outgoing Sales Director has been instrumental in embedding industry leadership in terms of our products, service and our way of thinking into our exceptional Sales Team, so



we needed to recruit someone who could continue that work. We consider ourselves very lucky to have secured Paul.

"He will bring peerless experience in crafting and implementing sales processes which are designed to give the customer the best possible experience and ensure that their finished Pennine product is tailored precisely to their needs."

Pennine is currently planning to further develop its product portfolio to offer continued choice and flexibility for orangeries, extensions windows and door design, as well as building on its commitment to its showroom network.

Mark continues: "It's important to us to offer customers the opportunity

to see and feel their products before they purchase, but beyond this we also have a firm strategy to further integrate technology into our service which will enhance the customer experience throughout all aspects of their journey with Pennine. It's a really exciting time for us."

The Company offers an unrivalled proposition in the market: the only home improvements company in the North East to offer a 20 year guarantee, free annual maintenance checks, a 24-hour emergency lock-out service and a price promise, and believes this is responsible in part for its success.

For more information on Pennine Home Improvements, see <https://www.penninehome.co.uk>

## Heighington Village Hall Needs Support

Dear Sir,  
For a number of years a thriving pre-school has taken place in the Village Hall every week day morning during term time.

Changes in funding from central government for the provision of education has meant that the monies received for a child has not actually covered the cost of delivering the care/education to that child.

This is a situation that has effected many child care providers. For Heighington pre school, this has had a devastating effect meaning that they will close with effect from 19th July.

This is having an impact on many levels. There is a single mum in the Village who doesn't drive and she is struggling to find a suitable alternative for her child.

As you can imagine it has also had an impact on the Village Hall as nearly 50% of our income came from the rent received from pre School. We are exploring all possibilities to try and fill the void including free taster sessions for anyone interested in setting up groups and we're

also trying to attract any local businesses who may want to hold meetings in the Hall. If anyone is interested they can contact our booking secretary Margaret on 01325 307305

On a brighter note we are hosting a Christening celebration on the 1st July. The baby's mum Stacey grew up in Heighington but then emigrated to Florida with her parents approximately 20 years ago. She has

subsequently married a US citizen but wanted her baby to be Christened at St Mary's in Newton Aycliffe and wanted to hold the celebrations thereafter in the Village Hall.

There will be four generations of the family present at the celebration - great grandparents Robert and Pat Cutmore, grandparents Ian and Julie Cutmore, parents Michael and Stacey Brantley along with baby Hannah and her older sister Sophie.

Interestingly and coincidentally, I understand the priest Fr. Cornforth who is doing the Christening has spent time at a parish in Florida.

Karin Allison, Secretary  
Heighington Village Hall

## Men Can be Victims of Abuse Too!



on 03000 202525 or via [myharbour.org.uk](http://myharbour.org.uk)

## Summer Fete

Rose Lodge care home, of Carers Way in Newton Aycliffe, are hosting their annual Summer fete on Saturday 30th June from 2pm-4pm.

The family-friendly event will feature various stalls, prize games, face painting, bouncy castle and vintage café.

Entry is free and all are welcome. For more information please contact the home on 01325 271301 or [roselodge@cwch.com](mailto:roselodge@cwch.com).

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**MAD**  
**Community Choir**  
**Newton Aycliffe**

**CONCERT**  
**"Why We Sing"**

**Wednesday 27th June**

**7pm - 11pm**

**The Big Club, Newton Aycliffe**

**Admission £5 - Pay at the Door**

**For tickets ring Sonia on 310991 or call in and buy at Woodham Community Centre**

**PLEASE SUPPORT US!**

**Proceeds to**  
**Motor Neurone Disease**

MALE VICTIMS of domestic abuse are encouraged to seek support in a new campaign launched in Durham today.

The #NOLESSOFAMAN campaign is aimed at men who are victims of domestic abuse. There are over 2.5 million cases of domestic abuse against men reported in the UK each year. Domestic abuse can be psychological, physical, sexual financial or emotional.

A key message is that there is help and support available for male victims through Harbour, a service commissioned to provide assistance to individuals and families affected by domestic abuse.

The new campaign is spearheaded by Libby Wright, the Young Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner for County Durham and Darlington. Libby was elected by the Police Cadets last year on a manifesto which included a commitment to promote the rights and interests of male victims of domestic abuse.

Libby said: "Research suggests that one in six men are victims of physical

violence from an intimate partner. Men are also two times less likely to tell anyone about the domestic abuse they are suffering.

"I want to empower men to seek help and reassure them that help and support is available. Men should feel free to seek help. They shouldn't view the situation they find themselves in as a sign of weakness; it doesn't make them any less of a man." Speaking at the launch, Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner Ron Hogg said: "Libby is absolutely right to raise this issue. For too long, this issue has remained hidden and under reported. I hope this campaign will encourage men to come forward and seek support."

Copies of the hard-hitting poster will be distributed through a variety of places including colleges, universities, GP surgeries, pubs, and more.

If you would like copies of the poster to distribute in your workplace, contact general.enquiries@durham.pcc.pnn.gov.uk. Harbour can be contacted

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## Open Activities at School Aycliffe Hall

**Monday**  
12.00 to 13.00 Dance Fit £3 per class  
18.15 to 19.00 Bums/tums/legs £3 per class  
19.00 to 19.45 Body blitz £3 per class or also do bums/tums/legs for £5

**Tuesday**  
18.30 to 19.30 Ballroom/Latin Dance class £5 per person  
19.30 to 20.45 Yoga suitable for all levels first class free then £5 per person All you need is a mat and a blanket

**Wednesday**  
Held on a monthly basis first Wednesday jof each month  
13.00 to 15.00 Craft and Natter group £3 per class inc tea/coffee Share ideas/tips or start a new project  
19.00 to 21.00 Ladies Evening £3 inc refreshments and a speaker - an opportunity to mingle and make new fiends Plus a chance to win a prize in our raffle draw

**Thursday**  
10.00 to 12.00 Mother/guardian toddler group under 1 £1 up to school age £2 inc drink and a biscuit Stay and play session, well stocked toy cupboard and themed play days  
17.00 to 18.00 N-dance unisex street dance class for 4 year olds and above

18.30 - 19.45 Yoga - Sam Lavery  
Blanket required but mats are available  
£5 per class or £20 for 5 sessions  
Our hall is available for hire and recently undergone major refurbishment - thank you GAMP Please contact Tony Robinson on 07807134942

**Planned Events for July**  
Ladies Night Friday 13th - Pizza, Prosecco and Pamper evening We have a temporary license so you can purchase addition prosecco, if required! £10 per person inc pizza and presecoco There will also be a chocolate tombola too  
Robson Fields - Saturday 28th 20.00 'till late  
£8 per person - please bring your own refreshments  
Robson will take you back to through 50's and 60's with songs from Billy Fury, Elvis, Eddie Cochran, Cliff Richard and the Shadows  
Check him out on You Tube - tickets being sold on a first come served basis Please feel free to look us up on Facebook School Aycliffe Community News and hope to see you at our events. Contact: 07951 758118

## MRI CASH FROM BISHOP AUCKLAND ROTARY & INNER WHEEL CLUBS

Bishop Auckland Rotary Club had already made a substantial donation towards the MRI Scanner Appeal, some £7000.00 from their annual golf day. Representatives Pat Chambers and Chairman Paul Keane were delighted to be invited to a recent meeting to update the Rotary and Inner Wheel club members on the completion of installation. They were however stunned with their continued generosity during that evening when a further cheque was presented for £1613.82!

Heather Scholtmeiser, Chair of the Bishop Auckland Inner Wheel, organised with members, a joint fundraising evening using Stockton to Darlington Ukulele for an evening packed with fun. The MRI Appeal Committee are absolutely delighted at their continued support as the push to raise the final £300,000 needed for the appeal before Dec. 2018



L-R Bishop Auckland Rotary President Keith Black, CDDFT Chair Prof Paul Keane OBE, Inner Wheel Chair Heather Scholtmeiser

## ORDINATION OF PAUL SPELLMAN



Bishop Alan Hopes of East Anglia Diocese laying on hands at the point of ordination of Paul



Paul with his parents Patricia and Terry Spellman and Bishop Alan

Newtonian Paul Spellman was ordained a deacon for the Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia at the Basilica of Saint Paul's Rome, on the 13 June. He has been studying at the Pontifical Beda College since 2012. The seminary specialises in candidates that have precious careers and are there slightly older. Paul will spend a final year in Rome, where he will complete his training as well as spend the year working as a deacon and in service to the community. Paul is from Newton Aycliffe, where he visits regularly to see his parents. He went to school at St. Joseph's Primary school here on the town and then to St. John's in Bishop Auckland. He eventually trained to be a Secondary School Teacher, working in London's inner-city schools for 18 1/2 years. However, his feeling of being

called to priesthood has been with him since his teenage years. This summer Paul will be in Great Yarmouth, on his Pastoral placement, a slight change to last year when he spent the summer in Palestine. He is looking forward to serving the church and parish in Yarmouth, which is made even more special as it is the Church where his maternal grandfather was received into the church in 1942. In September he returns to seminary to continue managing the college bar and common room as part of his in-house responsibilities and looks forward to being ordained a priest in Norwich's Catholic Cathedral of St. John the Baptist sometime next summer. After his ordination next year he will be living full time in his diocese though so far he has no idea where.

## WE WANT YOU!

Our new **North East Freight Centre** opens soon and to satisfy growing demand, we need to recruit more HGV drivers!

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**"Good Morning Aycliffe" with Aidan Thompson**  
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Monday to Friday, from 8.30am - 12 noon  
Send a request, shout out or mention to win a prize.  
Email: [info@ayclifferadio.co.uk](mailto:info@ayclifferadio.co.uk) or text: 07512 253333

**"Afternoon Aycliffe" with Paul Baker**  
Mon, Thurs and Friday from 12 noon to 4.00pm

Every Night from 12 Midnight to 3am  
cuddle up and listen to classic "Love Songs"

**\* WATCH OUT FOR NEW SHOWS/PRESENTERS \***

### MONDAY

Through the Decades with Elachi Indian Restaurant

6-7pm	60s Show	Karl Simons
7-8pm	70s Show	Peter Rush
8-9pm	80s Show	Paul Gittins
9-10pm	90s Show	Paul Baker
10-11pm	00s Show	Producer Dan

### TUESDAY

2-5pm Driving Home with Sports Show sponsored by Honest John

6-7.30pm	Sports Round UP	Darren & Lee
26th June - Alan Gaskarth - NAYFC U12s Manager		
7.30-9.30pm	Northern & Classic Soul	Kevin Sowerby

### WEDNESDAY

2-5pm	Driving Home with	Carl Bennett
5-7pm	Tea Time Out	Amy Harrison
8-10pm	Alternative Aycliffe	Gary & Alby

### THURSDAY

2-5pm	Driving Home with	Carl Bennett
5-8pm	Mystery Year	Paul Baker
7-8pm	"Throwback Thursday"	The Doctor
8-10pm	"Beat"Roote	Graeme Roote
10-12am	"Desire"	Craig Chisman

### FRIDAY

6-8pm	House Mix	PVR Studios
8-10pm	Guest Presenter Session	
22nd June - Pauly Mac from Australia (live from Studio)		
29th June - Owen & Aidan present a one off show for Pride Month. Music & History of LGBT & Drag Scene.		

### SATURDAY

8-11am	Kitchen Floor Fillers	
11am-1pm	Kent Collective	Daz Kent
1pm-2pm	With the Beatles Part 5	Honest John
4-6pm	Northern & Classic Soul (R)	Kevin Sowerby

### THE SATURDAY NIGHT EXPERIENCE

6-7pm	Evening Session	Jim-jams
7-8pm	PH7 MixTape	Paul Hardy
8-9pm	Chart & Dance Remixes	Alan Hastie
9-10pm	Retro Tech House Mix	OZ-DJ
10-12am	Garage/Indie	MC Supa

### SUNDAY

9am-12	Dante's Sunday Dinner	Dante McGuire
12-2pm	Sports Round Up (R)	Darren & Lee
2-4pm	"Aycliffe Goes Country"	Aidan Thompson
4-6pm	Folk/Celtic/Rock Show	Steve & Col
6-7pm	Church Service	Xcel Centre

Check our website for full schedule  
**[www.ayclifferadio.co.uk](http://www.ayclifferadio.co.uk)**

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Contact John Atkinson - [john@ayclifferadio.co.uk](mailto:john@ayclifferadio.co.uk)

**Want to be a presenter on Aycliffe Radio?**

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Registration number 11211835. Registered office: Aycliffe Radio, c/o Blue Bridge Centre, St. Cuthberts Way, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham DL5 6DS.



Scheduled shows can be changed/cancelled at any time.





## Livin Caught with Pants Down!

Dear Sir,  
After reading Bob Flemming's report in last weeks Newton News regarding the West Ward Regeneration, I have a few questions.

On the 22/2/18 Livin had a meeting with Councillor Chandrun and at this meeting they stated that because the West Ward was five times bigger than the York Hill Estate it would be untenable to put a charge on properties.

But after reading Bob Flemming's report isn't this near enough exactly what Livin are offering now. The only difference being that instead of a fixed amount being payable on the sale of a house it's a percentage instead. In the report it states that "It was confirmed that it is Livin's intention that they will have no additional rent nor mortgage to take out to purchase the property outright through

shared equity arrangements that Livin would try to put in place.

The value of their current house would be offset against the value of the new property and used to calculate the shared equity value i.e. the residents stake in the value of the house. It was pointed out that the equity in the property would be more likely to increase following regeneration as housing values would increase rather than stagnate and decrease as is the case now. Livin would own the remaining share of the property. If the property was sold in the future the proceeds would be shared between Livin and the resident based on shared equity"

So what has changed since February and now - have Livin scooped the top prize on a few scratchcards, had a really good few nights at Gala Bingo, or done a few lucky fifteens?

What's the catch. Phrases like there is no such thing as a free lunch, and if a deal seems too good to be true then it usually suddenly springs to mind.

Is this not simply an attempt by Livin to placate west ward residents and the Town Council after being caught with their proverbial pants down following Councillor Chandrun obtaining their original bid and exposing it?

The report also stated that "Livin went on to express concern at some of what they perceived to be incorrect information being published in the local media and distributed to local residents, which they felt was undermining their consultation and muddying the waters"

Now this is not true, since all this has started the information published in the Newton News which has been both truthful and factual with clear documentary evidence to back things up. The people who write in are concerned residents who are deeply worried about the whole situation. Newton News is allowing these people to express their concerns in exactly the same way as those residents who are in favour of Option 3.

In fact the only people who have muddied the waters so to speak are Livin themselves. They say they have spent the last five weeks fire fighting rumours but wouldn't a more correct euphemism be that for the last five weeks they have been doing damage limitation? In recent weeks we have also learnt that option 2 may involve partial demolition, and now that within option 3 there are a number of subsequent options. Is this not simply adding to the confusion and are we going to reach a stage where nobody is not going to know what the hell they are really voting for or against?

Name and address supplied

## VINTAGE & CLASSIC VEHICLE SHOW



The Northern Bygones Society are holding there annual Vintage & Classic Vehicle Show with the Vintage Caravanners and the 1st Newton Aycliffe Scouts Group on Sunday 1st July 10am to 4pm at the NASSA Building on Bluebell Way, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 7PW.

There will be face painting, cake stalls, bracelets and keyring stall, sweets, books, paintings, games, crafts & tombola. There will be food, coffee & teas to purchase from 10am & the bar will be open from 12 noon. There is also a table top sale. If anyone would like a table at a cost of £5 please contact Cath English on: 01388 662562.

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## LOCAL WORKMEN HOLD SCHOOL WORKSHOP



Enquiring young minds in Stephenson Way Academy were given the opportunity to put their STEM (Science, Technology Engineering and Mathematics) skills to good use this week during a special visit from Esh-MWH. The local construction company, who have recently been carrying out sewerage works in the Travellers Green area, delivered an interactive workshop based around the topic of water to Year One pupils.

During the session, children

explored how water is used at home and were asked to consider what happens to it when we flush the toilet or pull the plug out of our baths. From the outset, the children were enthused and thoroughly enjoyed dressing up to re-enact a range of job roles, including a ground-worker, designer, technician and quantity surveyor.

Working collaboratively, they put their measuring skills to the test to set out a safe construction site. Having created a runway of pipes, pupils were able to observe how water flows through a system.

Howling with laughter, the

little learners were introduced to the fun characters, Pee, Poo and the squishy microbes who taught them how water is cleaned. It was fascinating to find out through a fun sorting game what should go down the toilet and what should go in the bin.

Clare Davison, Added Value Coordinator at Esh-MWH, said, "It is wonderful to see children getting enjoyment from the kits, exploring the practical ways in which STEM can be put to use, whilst gaining valuable hands-on knowledge and skills outside of a traditional classroom environment. STEM subjects have been identified as having a skills shortage but initiatives like this will help promote the topics to children in a fun and interactive way."

Class teacher, Miss Buck, added, "It was fantastic to see the whole class working together, putting their problem solving skills to the test. Through their interaction and discovery, they were able to understand more about the wider world, particularly the construction sector."

Both pupils and staff at Stephenson Way would like to extend their thanks to the visitors for the wonderful workshop.

## GCSE ART EXHIBITION



Woodham Academy is hosting a public exhibition so everyone can enjoy the fantastic art work produced by the school's art students. The exhibition will feature an extensive collection of impressive art works in a range of styles and materials. Lynsey McAulay, Head of

Art and Design said: "Our students have worked very hard throughout their GCSE course and have produced art works of an exceptionally high standard. We are very pleased to be able to share our students' success with everyone, and look forward to welcoming people to our fantastic exhibition."

The Art Exhibition will be held at the school's art gallery on Wednesday, June 27th from 4pm to 6pm. Everyone is welcome and there is no need to book.



Classical music lovers are in for a treat on Friday, 13th July at St. Andrew's Church, South Church, when flautist, Fiona Mancey-Jones together with pianist, Marija Scott, entertain with a programme which includes work by Poulenc and Debussy.

Fiona has performed as a soloist and chamber musician at many venues in the UK including the Worcester Three Choirs Festival, the Reid Concert Hall in Edinburgh and this year tours to South Africa.

Lithuanian-born Marija has established herself as a versatile and much sought-after collaborative pianist and teacher. She has been made a Junior Fellow in Piano Accompaniment at both The Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama and The Royal Northern College of Music.

Their programme will include work by Poulenc, Debussy, Faure and Piazzolla. Tickets £13.50 (£15 on the door) from Brotherton's Music in Newgate Street or Brian Varley (01388) 606075

## Solicitors Launch £125 MRI Match Funding Challenge

Are you based in Darlington Newton Aycliffe or Bishop Auckland and pride yourself in your charitable giving? This is your chance to do something amazing, and raise money for an important local cause.

Latimer Hinks Solicitors Limited is challenging local businesses, teams and organisations to generate as much money as possible for the Darlington and Bishop Auckland MRI Scanner Appeal. The firm will provide 10 businesses with a £125 start-up investment in order for them to put their innovation and money-making skills to the test to grow the amount as much as legally and ethically possible, in three months.

We invite you to apply for the challenge with your fundraising ideas. The best 10 ideas, in the view of the judging panel, will be given £125 to raise as much money between July 1st and September 30th.

How does it work?

- Get your team together and request an application form by emailing: [at@latimerhinks.co.uk](mailto:at@latimerhinks.co.uk) with the subject header 125 Challenge

- If your application is successful, Latimer Hinks Solicitors will be in • If your application is successful, Latimer Hinks Solicitors will be in touch with £125 investment to get started

- Fundraise over the three months to raise as much as you can.

Applications must be received by Wednesday 27th June and the 10 winning businesses will be notified by Friday 29th June.

## HAVE YOU GOT NEWS FOR US?

We are always interested in local news stories. We like to feature good news and interesting items on achievements & community service

Tel: Syd

01325 300212

or [syd@newtonnews.co.uk](mailto:syd@newtonnews.co.uk)

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# Great Aycliffe Town Council NEWSLETTER



22nd June 2018

Telephone: 01325 300700 • Email: [info@great-aycliffe.gov.uk](mailto:info@great-aycliffe.gov.uk) • Website: [www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk](http://www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk)

## ANNUAL REPORT 2017/18

### Foreword by the outgoing Mayor, Councillor Wendy Hillary

This has been a wonderful year for me to represent the Town Council of Great Aycliffe in my role as Mayor. I had the pleasure of attending 90 engagements in addition to the formal civic duties. Meeting so many residents, some of who were celebrating special occasions, is one of the things that I enjoy the most about being the Mayor.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped me raise £3,235 for my nominated charity the MRI Scanner Appeal



at Bishop Auckland and Darlington Hospitals.

This annual report provides a brief summary of some key achievements from the past year and an overview of financial information.

### SOME KEY THINGS WE DID LAST YEAR

The Council made capital investment of £185,000 in 2017/18 and the main capital works completed, or nearing completion, are listed below:

- Replacement roller door and separation tank cleaning at the depot.
- External lighting replacement for the driving range.
- Replacement festive lighting (first year of a new rolling programme of full replacement).
- Additional drainage works at Stephenson Way Cemetery.
- Widening of the Town Park access gate
- Further investment at St Oswald's pre-school, changing the office building into a second pre-school setting specifically for two-year olds including an outdoor play area fencing and surfacing.
- Three replacement works vehicles; a multi-use mowing machine, compact tractor and a wood chipper.
- Play area surfacing replacement (first year of a new rolling programme of full replacement).
- Various pieces of leisure equipment.
- Computer replacements and website development.
- New leisure equipment including bubble balls, targets and foam fencing equipment for use at the sports complex;
- On-going programme of footpath repairs.

Further details on the Council's recent capital spending and capital investment plans for the future are provided in the 2018/19 Annual Report and Statement of Accounts and the 2018/19 Budget and 2017/18 to 2021/22 Medium Term Financial Plan.

In addition to the capital works the Town Council:

- ✓ achieved £182,000 savings across all service areas;
- ✓ once again achieved a clean bill of health with our finances and received an unqualified audit;
- ✓ provided and managed a wide range of special community events such as Fun-in-the-Parks; Santa Tours, Senior Citizens' Excursions; Christmas Lights; Firework Display and the Aycliffe Festival;
- ✓ assisted and supported other event organisers – 10K race; 3K Fun Run; Remembrance Parade and Community Enhancement Awards;

### A message from the new Mayor, Councillor John Clark

I was honoured to have been elected at the Annual General Meeting on the 16 May 2018 to serve as the Mayor of Newton Aycliffe for the coming year and will endeavour to always promote our great town to the best of my ability, and respect and follow the wishes of the people who have voted for me to represent them on the council.

My aims are to better the town of Newton Aycliffe for the benefit of its residents and the local area.

I have chosen to raise funds for the 'Great Aycliffe Cancer Support Group', and will be supported during my year by my Mayoress, Bernardette Moore.

If you would like me to attend any special event or occasion, please contact Sharna Stretch at the Town Council Offices on 300700.

The Capital Programme Budget for 2018/19 totals £444,750 and includes provision for the following planned projects:

- The installation of a diesel fuel tank and dispenser at the depot in order to generate revenue budget savings through the bulk buying of fuel;
- Replacement of St Oswald's Pre-School flooring, installation of a window to the manager's office, and installation of a fire alarm system;
- Various replacement works vehicles and machinery, comprising a pick up vehicle, seven gang mowing unit, 3 golf buggies and golf tees mower;
- Building repairs to Simpasture Pavilion
- The ongoing programme of play area surfacing replacement;
- The installation of a hard standing staging area and path upgrade at the Town Park;
- Hedge removal and replanting at Stephenson Way Cemetery;
- Replacement of St Oswald's Allotments perimeter fence;
- Replenishment of litter and dog bins and public seating stocks;
- Footpath improvements in the Woodham Burn area; and
- Agnew 5 improvements including footpath installation and scrub management works; and
- Aycliffe Angels memorial seating replacement.

We also continue to provide our usual services such as:-

- ✓ An environmental centre at Moore Lane
- ✓ Held another successful Town Pride Environment Week working with the Youth Council, local schools and volunteers
- ✓ Manage 9 parks, all with play equipment and provide additional play areas at Scott Place, School Aycliffe and the Oak Leaf Sport Complex
- ✓ Continue to provide 6 football pitches, Mini-soccer, Rugby pitch and six-a-side pitches
- ✓ Continue to run the Oak Leaf Sports Complex - indoor bowls, sports hall, squash courts, bar and catering, children's holidays courses, indoor/outdoor sports activities



- ✓ Continue to run the Oak Leaf Golf Complex - 18 hole golf course and an 18 bay floodlit driving range
- ✓ Continue to provide a limited supply of free dog poo bags
- ✓ Continue our partnership working with Durham County Council
- ✓ Worked with a range of partners to deliver a variety of events and services
- ✓ Manage Stephenson Way Cemetery and West Cemetery and provide grounds maintenance and burial service at St Andrew's Churchyard
- ✓ Provision and maintenance of Aycliffe Angels Memorial Garden
- ✓ Maintenance of war memorial and flagpole
- ✓ Run a pre-school play setting at St. Oswald's Park - with a 'good' Ofsted rating which now also included provision for 2 year olds.
- ✓ Provide a range of civic events
- ✓ Provide 212 allotment plots in 5 different locations. Including 2 allotment sites with pigeon or poultry facilities
- ✓ Employ a Town Pride Team and a team of Park Patrol Operatives
- ✓ Provide public seats in many locations
- ✓ Provide a number of bus shelters with litter bins
- ✓ Grounds maintenance and environmental management at a number of key sites
- ✓ Assist Aycliffe Youth Council
- ✓ Provide a lorry park
- ✓ Encourage Community Empowerment through Customer Panel, Consultation and Open Days
- ✓ Provide small grants to local voluntary organisations
- ✓ Continue to support the Great Aycliffe Neighbourhood Plan
- ✓ Comment on planning applications

### Town Council Targets for 2018 to 2019

#### AIM 1 - TO PROVIDE GOOD QUALITY GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT OF THE COUNCIL

- 1 Publish a Town Council Service Delivery Plan by 31st May each year.
- 2 Publish an Annual Report.
- 3 Provide an annual member training programme from member requests and the town clerk from his annual appraisal and CPD requirements.
- 4 Develop a recommended training programme for Members which shows highly recommended and recommended courses with a reminder being sent quarterly and records of attendance and none attendance being kept.
- 5 Undertake an annual review of the Council Constitution, Financial Regulations and ensure compliance with current legislation.
- 6 Ensure compliance with GDPR.
- 7 Improve advertising of Council facilities and services by targeting a service area in each publication making sure each area is targeted at least once.
- 8 Ensure that social media is used to advertise the Council's services and facilities.
- 9 Undertake research where appropriate for new policies and procedures.
- 10 Keep up to date with any changes in legislation and report to council as and when required.
- 11 Continue to monitor energy consumption, implement energy saving initiatives and reduce usage where possible.



- 12 Ensure all staff have an annual appraisal.
- 13 To undertake quarterly review of staff sickness and report to performance management group.

#### **AIM 2 - TO MANAGE THE COUNCIL'S FINANCES AND ASSETS IN A RESPONSIBLE MANNER**

- 14 Produce Annual Return by 30th June each year.
- 15 Achieve an unqualified audit opinion of the Annual Return by 30 September 18
- 16 Ensure the Medium Term Financial Plan is approved by 30th June each year.
- 17 Deliver the Internal Audit Plan Schedule of Work and report quarterly to Audit Sub Committee then to Council.
- 18 Manage the financial impact of the localisation of support for council tax (LCTSS) and any future cuts to LCTSS funding.
- 19 Quarterly budget control reports are presented to Policy and Resources Committee.
- 20 Budgets/Precepts approved by 31st January 2019.
- 21 Ensure all relevant information is published in compliance with the Transparency Code/Openness of Local Government Regulations.
- 22 Deliver the work set out in the Asset Management Plan via the capital programme and ensure that a six monthly review is undertaken with Officers and Member Asset Management Group.
- 23 Undertake an annual update of the Asset Register including the schedule of expected life and replacement costs for buildings, plant and machinery.
- 24 To consider the Council's Business Risks every March and minute that the full review has taken place by Council.
- 25 Ensure that at least one Service Review is completed each year. Reviews for 2018/19 and will include:

- Oak Leaf Golf Complex
- Oak Leaf Sports Complex

#### **AIM 3 - TO PROVIDE ACCESSIBLE, AFFORDABLE LEISURE FACILITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES**

- 26 Deliver the Council's programme of special events:
  - Fun in the Parks
  - Senior Citizens Trips
  - Firework Display
  - Santa Letters
  - Santa Tours
  - Christmas lights
- 27 Undertake a review of the Santa Tours to ensure volunteers and members of the public are safe and as much, as possible, of the Town has a visit from Santa.
- 28 Help co-ordinate and deliver the Aycliffe Festival, providing assistance, financial support if required, training and publicity and undertake a review as soon as possible following the event.
- 29 Construct new play area at Cobbler's Hall, subject to lease being completed.
- 30 Undertake a review of activity usage and explore the possibility of any new activities that could be implemented at the Oak Leaf Sports Complex.
- 31 Investigate partnership working with outside bodies including the Sedgefield Sports Partnership.

#### **AIM 4 - TO PROVIDE PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION AS APPROPRIATE IN GREAT AYCLIFFE**

- 32 Ensure the continuous improvement of the service and obtain at least a 'good' and aiming for 'excellent' Ofsted Inspection.
- 33 Ensure all recommendations from the Ofsted Inspection are implemented.

#### **AIM 5 - TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT OF AYCLIFFE BY MANAGING AND DEVELOPING PARKS, PLAY AREAS AND GREEN SPACES**

- 34 Works & Environment Manager to arrange to work with local schools and community groups to develop volunteer opportunities.

- 35 To continue to monitor the health and condition of the trees on Town Council land in line with the tree management policy and undertake a visual tree inspection of a specific area every 6 months to assess the health and condition of the trees.

- 36 Investigate options to obtain hydrology information on the lakes at West Park and investigate ways and means to implement any recommendations.
- 37 Works and Environment Manager to organise and help deliver 15 public countryside events.
- 38 Complete at least 5 targeted Himalayan Balsam removing working parties along The Burn.
- 39 Identify 2 new areas to be developed as wildflower meadow.
- 40 Undertake maintenance and management of specific Durham County Council environmental areas as per the management agreement.
- 41 Undertake a limited snow clearing and gritting service for Durham County Council (DCC) as per the winter maintenance agreement for the benefit of residents.
- 42 Undertake improvements to the Aycliffe Angels memorial area.
- 43 Replace the junior play area at Aycliffe Village.
- 44 Complete the improvements to St. Oswald's allotment fencing.
- 45 Undertake improvements to the Town Park Skate Park.
- 46 Undertake footpath repairs including sections of Woodham Burn.

#### **AIM 6 - HELP AND ENCOURAGE PARTNERSHIP WORKING TO IMPROVE THE SERVICES AND FACILITIES FOR THE RESIDENTS OF GREAT AYCLIFFE**

- 47 Support and encourage Aycliffe Youth Council (AYC) by:
  - Organising the election process –
  - Holding at least 8 meetings a year –
  - Helping to organise at least 1 project a year
- 48 To continue partnership working with DCC and build on the existing initiatives.
- 49 Work with the Youth Council, schools, community and voluntary groups hold a Town Pride Environment Week.
- 50 The Works and Environment Manager and Park Patrol Officers to work with DCC Officers and Police in regard to anti-social behaviour issues.
- 51 The Works & Environment Manager and Town Pride Team to work with DCC Officers and Tidy Britain to ensure that the Great Aycliffe Parish has a targeted Anti-Littering campaign.
- 52 Work in partnership with residents and friends groups to improve our parks, play areas and environment areas.

#### **AIM 7 - ENCOURAGE THE RESIDENTS OF GREAT AYCLIFFE TO BECOME INVOLVED IN LOCAL DEMOCRACY**

- 53 Hold an aims and target meeting each March to discuss progress on existing targets and new targets with the Customer Panel Group.
- 54 Hold a budget setting consultation meeting with the Customer Panel.
- 55 To review the Great Aycliffe Neighbourhood Plan in 2022.
- 56 Hold a Parish Meeting.
- 57 Hold an Allotment AGM.
- 58 Hold 4 allotment representative meetings.
- 59 Hold or take part in at least 2 events to inform residents about Town Council services.

#### **AIM 8 - TO RESEARCH INFORMATION AND MAKE THE CASE FOR GREAT AYCLIFFE**

- 60 Produce timely responses to all major consultations carried out.

## **MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL**

30th May 2018	Environment	7.15 p.m.
30th May 2018	Recreation	* 7.15 p.m.
6th June 2018	Policy & Resources	7.15 p.m.
13th June 2018	Full Council	7.15 p.m.
11th July 2018	Environment	7.15 p.m.
11th July 2018	Recreation	* 7.15 p.m.
18th July 2018	Policy & Resources	7.15 p.m.
25th July 2018	Full Council	7.15 p.m.
5th Sept. 2018	Environment	7.15 p.m.
5th Sept. 2018	Recreation	* 7.15 p.m.
12th Sept 2018	Policy & Resources	7.15 p.m.
19th Sept. 2018	Full Council	7.15 p.m.
17th Oct. 2018	Environment	7.15 p.m.
17th Oct. 2018	Recreation	* 7.15 p.m.
24th Oct. 2018	Policy & Resources	7.15 p.m.
31st Oct. 2018	Full Council	7.15 p.m.
28th Nov. 2018	Environment	7.15 p.m.
28th Nov. 2018	Recreation	* 7.15 p.m.
5th Dec. 2018	Policy & Resources	7.15 p.m.
12th Dec. 2018	Full Council	7.15 p.m.
16th Jan. 2019	Environment	7.15 p.m.
16th Jan. 2019	Recreation	* 7.15 p.m.
23rd Jan. 2019	Policy & Resources	7.15 p.m.
30th Jan. 2019	Full Council	7.15 p.m.
27th Feb. 2019	Environment	7.15 p.m.
27th Feb. 2019	Recreation	* 7.15 p.m.
6th Mar. 2019	Policy & Resources	7.15 p.m.
13th Mar. 2019	Full Council	7.15 p.m.
10th Apr. 2019	Environment	7.15 p.m.
10th Apr. 2019	Recreation	* 7.15 p.m.
17th Apr. 2019	Policy & Resources	7.15 p.m.
24th Apr. 2019	Full Council	7.15 p.m.

\* The Recreation Committee will commence immediately after the Environment Committee Meeting.

**15th MAY, 2019 - COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING - 7.15 p.m.**

**22nd MAY, 2019 - PARISH MEETING - 7.15 p.m. (\*\*\*)**

The Public and Press are cordially invited to attend.  
 "The Public Entrance to the Council Chamber will be open 30 minutes prior to the commencement of meetings".

(\*\*\*) (N.B. - this is not a meeting of the Town Council but a meeting of local government electors in the Council's area. Any queries about the Parish Meeting can be made to the Town Clerk on 01325 300700).

### **OUTSIDE BODIES LIST FOR 2018/19**

- (a) **Youth Council**  
Councillors Jim Atkinson and Derek G. Atkinson together with the Corporate and Policy Officer.
- (b) **County Durham Association of Local Councils**  
Councillors R.S. Fleming, M. Iveson and the Town Clerk.
- (c) **Aycliffe Village Community Association**  
Councillor Bill Blenkinsopp.
- (d) **Woodham Village Community Association**  
Councillors K. Henderson and B.A. Clare.
- (e) **Great Aycliffe and Middridge Local Councils' Committee**  
Councillors R.S. Fleming, B. Hall and the Town Clerk.
- (f) **Larger Local Councils' Forum**  
Councillors R.S. Fleming and M. Iveson and the Town Clerk.
- (g) **Newton Aycliffe Bus Preservation Society**  
Councillor I. Gray.
- (h) **Friends of Byerley Park Local Nature Reserve**  
Councillor I. Gray.
- (i) **Friends of Stockton and Darlington Railway**  
Councillor Dave Hardaker.

### **GRANTS / DONATIONS**

The Council considered applications for Grants and the following were agreed and paid out over the year 2017/18.

• Akari Care Home	£75.00
• Rotary Club of Newton Aycliffe	£150.00
• Great Aycliffe Cancer Support Group	£52.00
• Great North Air Ambulance	£350.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£627.00</b>



# CHAIRMAN / VICE-CHAIRMAN

# MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES MUNICIPAL YEAR 2018 / 2019

# Members on Committee

**COUNCIL** (All Members) Councillor John Clark (Mayor), Councillor Mary Dalton (Deputy Mayor)

**ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE** (27 Members + Mayor and Deputy Mayor as ex-officio)

Councillors Eddy Adam, M. Ashcroft, Jim Atkinson, Derek G. Atkinson, Kathy Beetham, P.J. Bergg, Bill Blenkinsopp, Mrs. D. Bowman, Arun M. Chandran, B.A. Clare, J.D. Clare, J. Clark, Mrs. M. Dalton, R.S. Fleming, I. Gray, George C. Gray, Mrs. S. Haigh, B. Hall, Dave Hardaker, K. Henderson, Jed Hillary, Wendy Hillary, Kate Hopper, M. Iveson, Mrs. S.J. Iveson, Mrs. V.M. Raw, Ken Robson, Paul Symons and Sally Symons.

**RECREATION COMMITTEE** (27 Members + Mayor and Deputy Mayor as ex-officio)

Councillors Eddy Adam, M. Ashcroft, Jim Atkinson, Derek G. Atkinson, Kathy Beetham, P.J. Bergg, Bill Blenkinsopp, Mrs. D. Bowman, Arun M. Chandran, B.A. Clare, J.D. Clare, J. Clark, Mrs. M. Dalton, R.S. Fleming, I. Gray, George C. Gray, Mrs. S. Haigh, B. Hall, Dave Hardaker, K. Henderson, Jed Hillary, Wendy Hillary, Kate Hopper, M. Iveson, Mrs. S.J. Iveson, Mrs. V.M. Raw, Ken Robson, Paul Symons and Sally Symons.

**POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE** (26 Members + Mayor and Deputy Mayor as ex-officio)

Councillors Eddy Adam, M. Ashcroft, Jim Atkinson, Kathy Beetham, P.J. Bergg, Bill Blenkinsopp, Mrs. D. Bowman, Arun M. Chandran, B.A. Clare, J.D. Clare, J. Clark, Mrs. M. Dalton, R.S. Fleming, I. Gray, George C. Gray, Mrs. S. Haigh, B. Hall, Dave Hardaker, Mrs. I. Hewitson, Jed Hillary, Wendy Hillary, Kate Hopper, M. Iveson, Mrs. S.J. Iveson, Mrs. V.M. Raw, Ken Robson, Paul Symons and Sally Symons.

**SUB-COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS** from the Policy and Resources Committee

**SERVICE REVIEW WORKING GROUP** (10 Members)

Councillors M. Ashcroft, Arun M. Chandran, R.S. Fleming, B. Hall, Dave Hardaker, Jed Hillary, Wendy Hillary, M. Iveson, Mrs. S.J. Iveson and Ken Robson.

**GENERAL APPEALS SUB-COMMITTEE** (Members chosen as necessary from appropriate Committee)

**MEMBER APPEALS PANEL** (Members chosen as necessary from Personnel Sub-Committee)

**PERSONNEL SUB-COMMITTEE** (15 Members + Mayor as ex-officio)

Councillors M. Ashcroft, Jim Atkinson, Kathy Beetham, Bill Blenkinsopp, Arun M. Chandran, J. Clark, R.S. Fleming, Mrs. S. Haigh, B. Hall, Dave Hardaker, Jed Hillary, Wendy Hillary, M. Iveson, Mrs. S.J. Iveson, Mrs. V.M. Raw and Ken Robson.

**APPEALS SUB-COMMITTEE** (6 Members + Deputy Mayor as ex-officio) Councillors Eddy Adam, P.J. Bergg, J.D. Clare, Mrs. M. Dalton, George C. Gray, Kate Hopper and Paul Symons.

**AUDIT, RISK & GDPR SUB-COMMITTEE** (8 Members + Mayor & Deputy Mayor as ex-officio) Councillors M. Ashcroft, P.J. Bergg, Arun M. Chandran, J. Clark, Mrs. M. Dalton, George C. Gray, Dave Hardaker, Wendy Hillary, M. Iveson and Mrs. S.J. Iveson.

**ASSET MANAGEMENT MEMBER WORKING GROUP** (11 Members) Councillors M. Ashcroft, Jim Atkinson, P.J. Bergg, Arun M. Chandran, R.S. Fleming, George C. Gray, Dave Hardaker, M. Iveson, Mrs. S.J. Iveson, Mrs. V.M. Raw and Paul Symons.

**CHARGES WORKING GROUP** (Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Environment, Recreation and Policy and Resources Committees plus the Mayor and Deputy Mayor) Councillors M. Ashcroft, J. Clark, Mrs. M. Dalton, R.S. Fleming, I. Gray, B. Hall, Jed Hillary, and M. Iveson.

**REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE** (7 Members + Mayor & Deputy Mayor as ex-officio) Councillors M. Ashcroft, Arun M. Chandran, J. Clark, Mrs. M. Dalton, Jed Hillary, M. Iveson, Mrs. S.J. Iveson, Mrs. V.M. Raw and Ken Robson.

**PRE-SCHOOL SUB-COMMITTEE** (5 Members + Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Policy & Resources & Mayor & Deputy Mayor as ex-officio) Councillors M. Ashcroft, Kathy Beetham, J. Clark, Mrs. M. Dalton, R.S. Fleming, Mrs. S. Haigh, M. Iveson, Mrs. S.J. Iveson and Sally Symons.

**SUB-COMMITTEE & WORKING GROUPS** from the Recreation Committee

**GOLF COURSE WORKING GROUP** (5 Members + Chair and Vice-Chair of Recreation)

Councillors M. Ashcroft, Derek A. Atkinson, Jim Atkinson, R.S. Fleming, B. Hall, Jed Hillary and M. Iveson.

**SPORTS COMPLEX WORKING GROUP** (Members chosen as necessary)

**HORNDALE PARK SUB-COMMITTEE** (Chairman & Vice-Chair of Environment, Recreation, Policy and Resources and the Mayor and Deputy Mayor + 2 further members) Councillors M. Ashcroft, Bill Blenkinsopp, J. Clark, Mrs. M. Dalton, R.S. Fleming, I. Gray, B. Hall, Jed Hillary, M. Iveson and Paul Symons.

**EVENTS SUB-COMMITTEE** (8 Members + Mayor and Deputy Mayor) Councillors M. Ashcroft, Kathy Beetham, Bill Blenkinsopp, J. Clark, Mrs. M. Dalton, B. Hall, Dave Hardaker, Jed Hillary, M. Iveson and Paul Symons.

**SUB-COMMITTEE** from the Environment Committee

**PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEE** (14 Members + Mayor and Deputy Mayor)

Councillors Kathy Beetham, P.J. Bergg, Mrs. D. Bowman, Arun M. Chandran, B.A. Clare, J. Clark, Mrs. M. Dalton, R.S. Fleming, George C. Gray, I. Gray, Mrs. S. Haigh, B. Hall, Dave Hardaker, M. Iveson, Ken Robson and Paul Symons.

# MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES

Listed below for public disclosure is the allowances and other expenses claimed by the Council's Elected Members during the financial year 2017/18 in line with statutory requirements as set out in the Local Authority (Members Allowances) Regulations 2004.

Surname	Forenames	Title	Total Payment	Allowance
Adam	Edward M	Mr	£1,036.85	£1,036.85
Ashcroft	Martin	Mr	£1,036.85	£1,036.85
Atkinson	Derek George	Mr	£948.55	£948.55
Atkinson	James	Mr	£1,036.85	£1,036.85
Beetham	Kathryn Sarah		£925.75	£925.75
Bergg	Peter John	Mr	£1,036.85	£1,036.85
Blenkinsopp	William M	Mr	£1,036.85	£1,036.85
Bowman	Dorothy	Mrs	£925.75	£925.75
Chandran	Arun	Mr	£1,036.85	£1,036.85
Clare	John Duncan	Mr	£1,036.85	£1,036.85
Clare	Barbara Anne	Mrs	£1,036.85	£1,036.85
Clark	John Joseph	Mr	£1,036.85	£1,036.85
Colman	Niel	Mr	£111.10	£111.10
Dalton	Maria	Mrs	£1,036.85	£1,036.85
Davies	Pearl Louise	Mr	£111.10	£111.10
Fleming	Robert Stuart	Mr	£1,036.85	£1,036.85
Gray	George C	Mr	£1,036.85	£1,036.85
Gray	Ian	Mr	£1,036.85	£1,036.85
Haigh	Sandra	Mrs	£1,036.85	£1,036.85
Hall	Brian	Mr	£1,036.85	£1,036.85
Hardaker	David Wilson	Mr	£925.75	£925.75
Henderson	Keith	Mr	£1,036.85	£1,036.85
Hewitson	Irene	Mrs	£1,036.85	£1,036.85
Hillary	Wendy P	Mrs	£1,036.85	£1,036.85
Hillary	Jeremy Paul	Mr	£1,036.85	£1,036.85
Hopper	Catherine M	Mrs	£925.75	£925.75
Iveson	William	Mr	£111.10	£111.10
Iveson	Sarah Jane	Mrs	£1,036.85	£1,036.85
Iveson	Malcolm	Mr	£1,036.85	£1,036.85
Kenstall	Paul Elaine	Mr	£111.10	£111.10
Raw	Valerie M	Mrs	£1,036.85	£1,036.85
Robson	Kenneth	Mr	£1,036.85	£1,036.85
Symons	Sally AM	Mrs	£925.75	£925.75
Symons	Paul	Mr	£925.75	£925.75
Whelan	Christopher A	Mr	£111.10	£111.10

Any subsistence figures are for Conferences  
As per approved Members Allowance Scheme

Denotes - Councillor Allowances from previous 4 years elections April to 17 May 2017 prior to Council Elections held in May 2017.

# MEMBERS ATTENDANCES

17th MAY 2017  
TO  
16th MAY 2018

Councillor	Att.	Apol.	Pres.
Adam E	32	4	37
Ashcroft M	64	2	67
Atkinson DG	24	6	30
Atkinson J	44	1	45
Beetham K	45	12	58
Bergg PJ	47	12	59
Blenkinsopp W	35	6	41
Bowman Mrs D	36	1	37
Chandran AM	66	0	66
Clare Mrs BA	43	11	59
Clare JD	36	0	37
Clark J	44	11	57
Dalton Mrs M	32	4	41
Fleming RS	52	0	53
Gray GC	57	4	61
Gray I	56	1	57
Haigh Mrs S	48	10	62
Hall B	72	3	76
Hardaker D	55	14	69
Henderson K	13	1	28
Hewitson Mrs I	11	7	18
Hillary JP	64	8	74
Hillary Mrs WP	56	13	70
Hopper K	31	5	37
Iveson M	57	17	77
Iveson Mrs SJ	43	12	55
Raw Mrs VM	41	6	49
Robson K	53	11	64
Symons P	29	0	29
Symons Mrs S	24	6	31

# BYERLEY PARK, HORNDALE & COBBLERS HALL WARD



John D. Clare  
Lab - Tel. 318333



Ian Gray  
Lab - Tel. 313770



Brian Hall  
Lab - Tel. 314105



Dorothy Bowman  
Ind - Tel. 308094



Irene Hewitson  
Ind - Tel. 318763



Peter J. Bergg  
Lab - 07432 070717

# WOODHAM WARD



Barbara A. Clare  
Lab - Tel. 318333



Paul Symons  
Ind - 07496 180442



Mary Dalton  
Lab - Tel. 320499



Sally Symons  
Ind - 07495 705413



Sandra Haigh  
Ind - Tel. 318303



Keith Henderson  
Lab - Tel. 319542

# KNOW YOUR COUNCILLOR

# AYCLIFFE CENTRAL WARD



Jim Atkinson  
Lab - Tel. 310791

# AYCLIFFE VILLAGE



Bill Blenkinsopp  
Ind - Tel. 788893

# SIMPASTURE WARD



Valerie M. Raw  
Lab - Tel. 311447



David Hardaker  
Lab - Tel. 314442



Kathy Beetham  
Lab - 07826 258822



John Clark  
Lab - 07972 170190

# WEST WARD



Eddy Adam  
Lab - 07900 701966



Kate Hopper  
Lab - 07837 917138



Arun M. Chandran  
Ind - Tel. 313224



George C. Gray  
Ind - Tel. 314934



Martin Ashcroft  
Lab - 07811 403986



Ken Robson  
Ind - 07443 046804

# SHAFTO / ST. MARY'S WARD



Robert S. Fleming  
Lab - Tel. 310025



Wendy Hillary  
Lab - Tel. 313273



Malcolm Iveson  
Lab - Tel. 319759



Derek Atkinson  
Lab - Tel. 301395

# NEVILLE WARD



Jed P. Hillary  
Lab - Tel. 313273



Sarah Iveson  
Lab - Tel. 319759



# Annual Report on the Council's Finances

## 1. Introduction

Welcome to this annual report on the Council's finances which we hope you will find informative and of interest.

This report sets out the Council's spending plans for this year; 2018/19, whilst also providing a summary of the Council's actual income, expenditure and financial performance over the last year; 2017/18.

## 2. The Council Budget

The Council Budget is an estimate of the resources that the Council will require to be raised from council tax to fund all of the services it provides for the year ahead.

The Budget covers the financial year which runs from 1st April to 31st March.

The Council needs to set a Revenue Budget and a Capital Budget each year.

The **Revenue Budget** funds the day to day running costs of the Council's services such as salaries and goods and services, and the net cost, after deducting any income receivable from fees and charges and grants, is met from the Town Council proportion of the Council Tax.

The **Capital Budget** funds major one off investment in the Council's fixed assets such as its buildings, vehicles and play areas and is funded from the Council's Balances and Reserves and any external grants that may be available.

## 3. 2018/19 Revenue Budget

The 2018/19 Revenue Budget was developed in a way that ensured that services can continue to be provided to current standards this year, whilst recognising the longer term budget pressures faced by the Council, and the need to maintain contingency resources within the Revenue Budget for as long as possible.

Additional budget provision needed to be made for a number of issues including a 10% cut to the Council Tax Support Grant funding, the 2018/19 local government pay award which amounted to a 4.5% increase in the Council's staffing costs, the opening of a new pre-school setting offering places for two year olds, costs linked to complying with the new General Data Protection Regulation, significant falls in sports and golf complex income and inflation on running costs.

However these increases were partly offset by council tax base growth from new housing development, efficiency savings including reduced staffing costs from vacant posts, flexible retirements, reduced working hours and cover, savings from energy efficiency measures across the Council, and a significant increase in pre-school funding following expansion of capacity, an increase in the funding rate, a rise in funded hours, and an improvement in the numbers attending.

In addition, in light of the future financial challenges identified in the Medium Term Financial Plan, the Council has also taken the decision to increase the Revenue Budget Contingency Sum to £66,000.

These surplus resources will provide protection against any unforeseen budget pressures next year, as well as a means of topping up the Council's balances and reserves if they are not used during the year.

However, most importantly, they provide spare resources within the Revenue Budget which can then be utilised in subsequent years to offset some of the ongoing budget pressures faced and help to restrict future Precept increases.

**In overall terms, the Council's 2018/19 Revenue Budget, as represented by the Precept has increased by £117,500 or 8.1%, when compared to the 2017/18 Precept, from £1,453,500 to £1,571,000.**

This increase has been agreed in order to ensure that all services can continue to be provided to the standard expected by the residents of Great Aycliffe next year, whilst continuing to provide a firm foundation, and some surplus resources, to meet the financial challenges, spending commitments and funding cuts that lie further ahead.

The following table provides a summary of the Council's 2018/19 spending plans:-

## 4. 2018/19 Council Tax

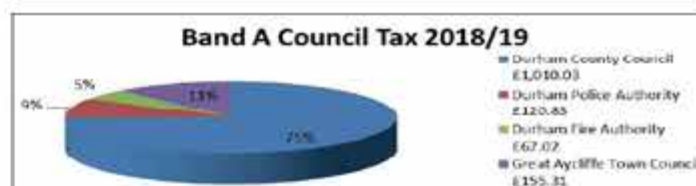
**The 2018/19 Band D Town Council Tax is £232.97 per year.**

**This represented an increase of 4.99% on the 2017/18 Council Tax.**

However, it is important to note that more than half of the properties in Great Aycliffe fall within Council Tax Band A and therefore pay only two thirds of the Band D Council Tax.

**The 2018/19 Band A Council Tax is £155.31 per year which equates to £13 per month or £3 per week. This is an increase of £7 per year or 62p per month.**

A breakdown of the 2018/19 Council Tax is shown here, demonstrating that 11p in every £1 of the total Council Tax comes to the Town Council.



## 5. 2018/19 Capital Programme Budget

The Council will continue to make capital investment in order to deliver the Council's Asset Management Plan and invest in community assets.

The **Capital Programme Budget for 2018/19 currently stands at £429,750** and includes provision for building works, replacement works vehicles and machinery, computer hardware, footpath and play area safety surface repairs, a new park in Cobblers Hall, a new play area at Aycliffe Village and the replacement of the Town Park Skate Park.

The **Capital Programme Budget will be funded from the Council's Earmarked Capital Reserves and external capital grants and contributions.**

## 6. Council Balances and Earmarked Reserves

The Council's Balances and Earmarked Reserves stood at **£1.265 million at the 31st March 2018**. This is better than anticipated and is as a result of the savings delivered on the Council's Revenue Budget last year, as well the receipts from a land sale, and lower than expected spending on the Capital Programme Budget.

2016/17 £	Service Area	2017/18 £
62,944	Members and Civic Expenses	66,937
384,991	Corporate Management, Finance and Administration	400,611
1,318	Neighbourhood Plan	-
30,478	Capital Financing Charges	31,290
146,491	St Oswald's Pre School	149,132
114,542	Community Events	114,832
638,366	Sports Complex	661,776
237,728	Golf Course and Driving Range	256,211
207,915	Parks, Sports Pitches and Play Areas	197,239
241,772	Environment, Works and Street Equipment	273,036
85,995	Cemeteries	81,804
23,989	Allotments	21,846
7,999	Contingency Sum	745
7,376	Elections	17,479
<b>2,191,903</b>	<b>Total Cost of Running Council Services</b>	<b>2,262,937</b>
	<b>Less Income</b>	
(220,765)	Council Tax Support Grant	(191,733)
(96,628)	Pre Schools Funding and Fees	(132,949)
(416,771)	Sports Complex Fees and Charges	(398,527)
(179,883)	Golf Course and Driving Range Fees and Charges	(180,107)
(35,473)	Cemeteries Fees	(32,295)
(6,248)	Allotments Rents	(6,896)
(24,340)	Other Income	(27,328)
(8,694)	Use of Balances (Elections and Neighbourhood Plan)	(17,479)
(6,375)	Investment Income	(4,160)
<b>(934,177)</b>	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>(991,474)</b>
<b>1,197,726</b>	<b>Actual Net Cost of Council Services</b>	<b>1,271,463</b>
<b>213,424</b>	<b>Contribution to Council Balances / Savings</b>	<b>182,037</b>
<b>1,411,150</b>	<b>Council Precept / Council Tax</b>	<b>1,463,500</b>

This is considered to be an adequate level of reserves to fund capital spending commitments for the foreseeable future and to provide some protection against future revenue budget pressures and possible cuts to funding.

## 7. 2016/17 and 2017/18 Actual Revenue Spending

A summary of the Council's actual expenditure in 2016/17 and 2017/18 in running its various services, and how this expenditure was funded is detailed here:-

The financial position and spending of the Council is continuously monitored and controlled in order to help achieve the most efficient use of public resources and, as can be seen above, this prudent management of the Council's spending has resulted in significant savings being achieved in both 2016/17 and 2017/18.

Spending in 2017/18 was **£182,000 or 12.5% under the level of Precept** and this saving was made up of the inclusion in the Revenue Budget of the **£25,000 contribution to Earmarked Capital Reserves**, as well as efficiency savings, increased income and other under spending on the Revenue Budget of **£157,000**.

All savings achieved on the Revenue Budget will be set aside in the Council's Earmarked Reserves to provide for further investment in Council and community assets for the benefit of the tax payers of Great Aycliffe over the coming years.

## 8. 2016/17 and 2017/18 Actual Capital Investment

A summary of the Council's capital investment in Council and community assets in 2016/17 and 2017/18, and how this expenditure was funded is detailed here:-

2016/17 £	Investment Area	2017/18 £
42,693	Council Building Works and Improvements	22,235
45,054	Replacement Vehicles, Machinery and Equipment	140,014
19,500	Information Technology and Office Equipment	9,712
80,179	Parks and Play Area Improvements	8,717
30,153	Infrastructure Works (Drainage, Footpaths)	3,085
3,478	Street Equipment (Bus Shelters, Bins, Fencing)	1,050
<b>221,057</b>	<b>Total Capital Investment</b>	<b>184,793</b>
	<b>Funded by:-</b>	
24,500	Capital Contributions	-
196,557	Use of Council Balances	184,793
<b>221,057</b>	<b>Funding of Capital Investment</b>	<b>184,793</b>

## 9. Annual Audit Report

The Council completes an Annual Return each year comprising its Accounting Statements, Annual Governance Statement and Internal Auditors Report.

The Annual Return is reviewed by the Council's external auditors and an opinion is provided on whether the Council has prepared the accounts and governance statement in accordance with statutory requirements and proper practices for town and parish councils.

**The Council is pleased to report that the external auditors did not raise any issues of concern in respect of the 2016/17 Annual Return.**

The 2016/17 Audited Annual Return to the Council is available to view at the Council Offices or on the Council's website.

Service Area	2018/19 Budget £
Members and Civic Expenses	69,950
Corporate Management, Finance and Administration	461,300
Capital Financing Charges	32,900
Pre Schools	213,000
Community Events	134,650
Sports Complex	678,150
Golf Course and Driving Range	292,900
Environment and Open Spaces	83,500
Parks, Sports Pitches and Play Areas	225,350
Works and Depot	195,550
Street Equipment	6,700
Cemeteries	89,850
Allotments	25,850
Contingency Sum	66,000
<b>Total Cost of Running Town Council Services</b>	<b>2,579,650</b>
<b>Capital Programme Investment in Council Assets</b>	<b>429,250</b>
<b>Contribution to Capital Reserves</b>	<b>25,000</b>
<b>Total Planned Revenue and Capital Spending</b>	<b>3,029,900</b>
<b>Less Income</b>	
Council Tax Support Grant	(173,000)
Pre-School Funding and Fees	(173,250)
Sports Complex Fees and Charges	(394,500)
Golf Course and Driving Range Fees and Charges	(212,250)
Cemeteries and Allotments Fees and Charges	(49,100)
Feed In Tariff Income from Solar Panels	(11,250)
Other Income	(11,300)
Investment Income	(5,000)
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>(1,029,650)</b>
<b>Less Use of Council Balances - Capital Programme</b>	<b>(429,250)</b>
<b>Net Budget Requirement / Council Precept</b>	<b>1,571,000</b>



# Crossfit Success at Castle Games

On Saturday 2nd June and Sunday 3rd June The Castle Games 2018 individual competition finals took place in Sunderland, where athletes participated in 4 scoring CrossFit events and then a final event for each category. There were numerous divisions for the athletes and over the course of the weekend they crowned the fittest athletes across RX, teens, masters, veterans and adaptive categories. CrossFit All Out was very proud to have 6 athletes qualify for the event and then represent them at The Games.

Kenneth Storey, aged 48, competed in the veteran category where he finished in 14th place. "I was feeling a bit nervous on the day mixing it with the best vet athletes in England who regularly compete on the international stage. It was a pleasure hitting the competition floor with them and a great learning curve for me."

Becky Auton, aged 28, competed in the RX division, where she qualified 29th for the event and then amazingly finished 19th place on the day. "My first individual RX

competition and great WODs, testing a wide variety of skills and really well organised. I loved having the swim event and had my highest finish on that one, coming in 3rd place!" Gemma Whittle, aged 33, also competed for the first time in the individual RX division, and after qualifying for the event in 21st place she astonishingly finished in 4th place, just missing out on a podium spot. She said "I've done a lot of team competitions but finally plucked up the courage to enter one by myself, but I wasn't expecting to even make the final let alone finish 4th! Qualifying for the Castle Games also made me learn how to swim properly, something which I never would have made myself do."

On Sunday 3rd June two of the All Out young guns hit the competition floor despite being the youngest in the male teen category. Zack Cooke, aged 14, took part in his first ever individual competition, qualifying 34th and finishing 27th in an event that was meant for 16-19 year olds; a fantastic achievement. His dad Dave Cooke said, "He did himself proud and despite

being one of the youngest there he did not look out of place. Lessons learnt to take forward to his next competition. Absolutely buzzing for him as a proud dad!" Jake Hillman, aged 14, placed 23rd in this event, something he should be very proud of. His mum Jodie said, "Jake made me and his dad burst with pride. His grit and determination was amazing and he was so pleased with what he achieved that day. Tez, Vicki and all the coaches and members have shown great support throughout. Not only has Jake become fitter but evolved in other ways too – disciplined, strong willed and gained many skills."

Owner and Head Coach, Terry Anderson said "as always all of our athletes showed fantastic work rate and quality

standards. All who competed in The Castle Games should be proud of their achievements. The broad age range but high standard quality of our athletes speaks for itself, they are all reaping the rewards of the work they put in daily. Me and our team of Coaches are all very proud."



## Aycliffe Youth FC Donation to NAYCC



Newton Aycliffe Youth FC have always had a great working relationship with Newton Aycliffe Youth and Community Centre going back many years. The meeting rooms they have available are used by the football club to carry out First aid, Child safeguarding and many other FA courses as well as our monthly management meetings. The excellent sports hall is used by our Little Eagles boys development section, for 4-6 yr olds, in a warm and safe environment. Therefore at the final club meeting of last season, all the coaches and managers of our teams agreed that we would make a donation to the centre,

to help them continue the great work they are doing. Club secretary Berni Borsberry commented "We have always worked closely with the youth and community centre and the facilities they have are very important to our club. We hope this donation goes a little way to carrying on the great work they do for the people of Newton Aycliffe. A delighted Centre Manager Beki Metcalf stated "I am always touched by the continuing support we receive from our regular customers, without whom we couldn't survive in this climate. I would like to say a big thank you to Newton Aycliffe Youth FC for the donation we have received, we do greatly appreciate it."

## Aycliffe C.C. CRICKET SCOREBOARD

Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club's 1st team, sponsored by Franks the Flooring Store had another superb win, this time away at Northallerton 1st XI in the NYSD 2nd division. Aycliffe were asked to bat first and were bowled out for a below par 133 after 44.3 overs. The visitors were thankful for an excellent innings by Sam Telford (sponsored by Neil & Kim Telford), who top scored with 51 runs and he received good support from both Adam Gittins (20 runs) and Chris Palmer (16 runs). In reply, the home-side were ripped apart by some devastating fast bowling from the in-form Michael Howe (sponsored by Yvonne & Bob Wood) who finished with his best figures for four years (5 for 27). Howe's younger brother Patrick and Jack Slatcher also bowled well and both finished with a couple of wickets each as Northallerton were bowled out for 69 after 36 overs to

give Aycliffe victory by 64 runs. On Tuesday 12th June, the first team put in one of their best ever performance to beat Norton 1st team away from home by 54 runs in the semi-final of the NYSD Brunton Cup. After being asked to bat first, Aycliffe made a superb score of 147 for 6 in their 20 overs thanks to brilliant innings from Chris Palmer (sponsored by Vanilla Design & Print), who top scored with 47 from 40 balls and he was supported well by Adam Gittins (33 runs) and Sam Telford with 29 runs. In reply, Aycliffe spin kings Patrick Howe (3 for 11) and Luke Telford (2 for 16) help restrict the homeside to 93 for 8 from their 20 overs. Aycliffe will play Saltburn 1st XI in the final on Friday 22nd June at Marton CC with a 6pm start. The 2nd team game at home to Preston 1st XI in the NYSD 4th division was abandoned

as a draw at 4.15pm after a huge thunderstorm left the ground flooded and not fit for play. Earlier Aycliffe had won the toss and chosen to bat first and were well placed at 93 for 5 after 28.4 overs when the heavy rain stopped proceedings. Captain Neil Bancroft batted well scoring 22 off 46 balls and then Ryan Patrick (sponsored by A\* Bathrooms), who was 24 not out off 46 balls and Dan Weldon with a quickfire 17 not out off 14 balls started to accelerate the run rate when the game was dramatically ended.

The u17's were well beaten away at Barnard Castle in the quarter final of the NYSD junior cup. Aycliffe elected to bat first and were blown away by some excellent bowling from the home-side and were all out for just 47 from 16.3 overs. Only Ryan Patrick with 11 runs and Jak Kennedy with 10 runs managed double figure for Aycliffe. In Reply, the home-side easily reached their winning target in the 6th over and for the loss of just one wicket.

The u15's lost by nine wickets away at Stockton in the NYACC. Aycliffe were asked to bat first and were held to 76 for 8 from their 20 overs after some good batting from Frazer Mills (17 not out), Leo Mercy (12 runs) and Harry Wright (11 runs). In reply the homeside reached their winning target after 10.4 overs with Matty Greaves taking the only Stockton wicket to fall. The u13's had an excellent 19 runs victory at home to Seaton Carew in the NYACC League. Batting first Aycliffe scored 114 for 7 in their 20 overs with captain Matty Greaves top scoring with an unbeaten 30 and the other notable contribution came from Harry Brumwell, who scored a career best 13 not out. In reply the visitors were restricted to 95 for 6 from their 20 overs thanks to some good bowling from Brandon Grant and Matty Greaves, who both took a couple of wickets each. The u11's had an excellent win at home to Stockton by 30 runs in the NYACC league. Harrison Pearson starred with the ball taking 2 for 16, Daniel Heaton (18 not out) and Thomas Dearden (15 runs) batted well for Aycliffe and Will Dearden held on to a good catch.

## Gymnasts Compete



11 medals were won at the first gymnastics competition to be held at Woodham Community Centre in Newton Aycliffe on Friday June 8th. Gymnasts ranged from Nursery School age children to year 6 Primary and both boys and girls competed on floor and vault. Gymnastics sessions are held on Friday evenings from 6.15pm to 7.45pm.

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# PRETTY FLOWER HIDES DEADLY SECRET!

Himalayan Balsam is a pretty pink flower which the bees love and can be found throughout many areas of Aycliffe.

However, this beauty hides a secret. If left to spread, it will out compete all native plant species causing a single stand of this invasive weed. As the plant is generally found along watercourses, the shallow root system can also result in unstable river banks and increase river erosion problems.

The plant is well established in Woodham Burn and Great Aycliffe Town Council have spent several years attempting to control it by pulling and cutting it before it goes to seed.

The Council are encouraging residents to come along and assist in controlling the plant during a public event on Tuesday 26th June between 4pm and 6pm.

Participants are encouraged to wear long sleeved tops and trousers and meet at the Town

Park pavilion. Gloves and Instruction will be provided. If you require more

information please contact Great Aycliffe Town Council on 01325 300700.



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# UNDERGROUND FOR DANCE PERFORMANCE

A Victorian lead mine will  
 be the unusual venue for  
 an underground theatre  
 performance next week.  
 Trapped, which is inspired by  
 the true story of the Chilean  
 mine collapse of 2010, will be  
 performed in the unique setting  
 of Killhope Museum's Park  
 Level Mine. Thirty-three miners  
 were trapped underground for 69  
 terrifying days following the  
 disaster at San Jose Mine but,  
 incredibly, all were winched to  
 safety and survived.

Trapped tells their story by  
 combining physical theatre  
 and live music with cleverly  
 arranged lighting. Maria  
 McArdle, museum  
 operations officer, said: "We  
 really looking forward to  
 hosting what promises to be  
 an unusual and spellbinding  
 piece of theatre. We have had  
 held performances in the mine  
 before but nothing quite like  
 this. "The very nature of the  
 performance, with a small cast  
 in a small space, means that  
 audience members will feel  
 as if they are part of the event  
 rather than outsiders looking  
 on.

"And the fact that County  
 Durham has its own rich  
 mining heritage adds another  
 layer, with many of the theses  
 set to resonate with the local  
 audience."

Trapped is presented by  
 physical theatre and film  
 company Experiential, with  
 live music performed by singer/  
 songwriter Hayley Youell.  
 Some performances have  
 already sold out but tickets are  
 still available for the following  
 performances:

Thursday 28 and Friday 29  
 June - 1pm, 6.15pm and 7.15pm  
 Saturday, 30 June - 1pm, 3pm  
 and 6pm  
 Tickets are priced at £15 for  
 adults and £12 for children  
 and concessions. Booking is  
 recommended, call 01388 537  
 505. For more information:  
 www.killhope.org.uk/vents/  
 trapped

## Opticians

**K. McGuinness Opticians**  
**Town Centre**  
**Newton Aycliffe**  
**Tel: 316600**

## Free

### PALLETS FREE

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**NEWTON PRESS**  
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**Blue Bridge Centre**  
 (goods inward)  
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## Public Notice

**DONATIONS** of Bric-a-Brac  
 and other good condition items  
 for Newton Aycliffe good causes.  
 Honest John 01325 316630

**BEGINNERS RUNNING**  
 Have you always wanted to learn  
 to run? Improve your fitness?  
 Join a new group? Brand new  
 beginners running starts Monday  
 25th June, 6pm at Tesco Park.  
 10 weeks, 0-3 miles! £20 for 10  
 weeks. Call/text Jules (qualified  
 run leader) on 07966 968388 to  
 secure your place!

**WOULD** the gentleman from  
 Wakefield who donated boxes  
 of goods on Monday 18th June  
 in the afternoon to Honest John.  
 Please call back between Mon-  
 Fri 10am-3.30pm

**WOULD** the lady who  
 purchased the Picnic Basket on  
 9th June from Allsorts Charity  
 Shop, please call and collect her  
 accompanying cutlery.

# RUNNING CLUB NEWS



This weeks running  
 challenges began at the local  
 parkruns where several  
 runners obtained PB's. Well  
 done to the following: -  
 At Shildon - Ian Baronowski  
 achieved a new PB of 26.47  
 and Susan Clark in a time of  
 31.17.

At Sedgefield - Gem Holland  
 achieved another PB in 26.07  
 and at Chester-le-Street,  
 Carrieanne obtained another  
 PB in a time of 36.17.

Also on Saturday the  
 infamous Blaydon Race was  
 staged. We had two runners  
 who joined approximately  
 4000 runners to take part in  
 this annual race. The 5.7 mile  
 route starts from Collingwood  
 Street in Newcastle, taking the  
 runners over the Scotswood  
 Bridge to finish at the Shibdon  
 Playing Fields in Blaydon.  
 The race begins with the  
 singing of the famous Blaydon  
 Races Folk Song. On this  
 occasion it was very hot and  
 there had been a slight delay

to the start. Trish completed  
 the race in 44.28 with Dave  
 Thompson completing this in  
 59.25.

Sunday saw 7 of our runners  
 participate in the Swaledale  
 Marathon. They were part of  
 447 runners who participated  
 in this race which is a 23 mile  
 fell run and which passes  
 through some of Swaledale's  
 finest scenery. Aycliffe  
 results were as follows: - Matt  
 Heron 4:37, Rob Nicholson  
 5:26, Susan Cranswick 5:27,  
 Michelle Dixon 5:27, Jason  
 Dixon 5:28, Susan Blackburn-  
 Rees 5:36, Andrew Lumley  
 5:57.

Finally on Monday Alan  
 Wilks took part in the third  
 meeting of the Masters Track  
 and Field League. Alan came  
 1st M/70 in the 3000m in a PB  
 time of 12:16.06.

Well done all on another great  
 week of racing. Time to look  
 forward to next week when it  
 is the Aycliffe 10k Race and 3k  
 Fun Run.

# 3 Awards for NHS Team



The facilities and procurement  
 team at County Durham &  
 Darlington NHS Foundation  
 Trust triumphed at the recent  
 annual National Health Estates  
 and Facilities Management  
 Association (HEFMA) awards.  
 Under the management of Alison  
 McCree, the team were named  
 winners in both the Efficiency  
 & Improvement and Team of  
 the Year categories. Alison was  
 also named Leader of the Year at  
 the awards ceremony, held in the  
 Cotswolds.

Explaining their decisions,  
 the judges described the team  
 as taking, "Great pride in  
 delivering a number of service  
 improvements for patients,  
 visitors & staff." They singled  
 out the introduction of an  
 electronic patient meal ordering  
 system.

Alison was described by the  
 judges as having, "A clear vision  
 for the delivery of services and  
 beliefs and has demonstrated that  
 it is essential to support, develop  
 and nurture staff as they are the  
 most significant and precious  
 resource, as well as the key to  
 safer, better and more reliable  
 care for patients."

Commenting, Alison said, "It  
 was a tremendous evening and  
 we were delighted to receive  
 three of the top awards -  
 especially in the face of very  
 tough competition.

There are 650 members of  
 our team who are largely  
 based behind the scenes in

support roles including porters,  
 domestics, drivers, caterers,  
 telephonists, purchasing and  
 logistics staff, sterile services  
 technicians, medical engineers  
 and estates staff.

Their skills and commitment are  
 an essential part of delivering  
 a safe clean environment to  
 underpin excellent patient care in  
 the right place at the right time.  
 Each of these awards reflects the  
 work done by the whole team.

# FLOWER DEMO

The theme for the next  
 meeting of Shildon and  
 District Flower Club is,  
 topically, 'Summer Gardens'  
 when Area Demonstrator,  
 Barbara Collins, visits on  
 Monday, 2nd July.

The Flower Club meets at  
 7.30pm at Shildon Civic  
 Hall and meetings are free to  
 members. Visitors £5 - pay  
 on the door.

There will be various stalls  
 to peruse and the bar is open.  
 All welcome!

## For Sale

**RENT** a washing machine only  
 £3.99 per week, no deposit,  
 fully maintained. Bargain Buys,  
 Shafto Way, 01325 321 678

"**ALL SORTS**" Charity Shop  
 next to St. Clare's Church  
 Hall with new stock and  
 bargains galore including  
 books, comics, annuals, CDs,  
 DVDs, board games, Jigsaws,  
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 over locker, £45. Tel 01325  
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 seat, brakes, £30. Tel 07956  
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 3 piece suite, immaculate  
 condition, just over 2 years  
 old. £750. Cost £2700 new.  
 Collection only from Newton  
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**TOTAL** crunch body workout  
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 Long cushion (2) to fit 3 seater  
 hammock with canopy cover  
 cream/black stripped solid and  
 strong £60; 2 electric/calor gas  
 cool boxes, £65 each. Tel 07967  
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# UNIVERSAL CREDIT ROLLS OUT IN NEWTON AYCLIFFE AREA

As readers know, the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) started phasing in Universal Credit (UC) Full Service in County Durham by Jobcentre Plus area from October last year.

On 20 June, the final areas to go onto 'full service' UC will be Chester-le-Street, Durham, Newton Aycliffe and Spennymoor.

The UC Full Service will replace new claims across the county for the following means-tested benefits and tax credits for most working age people:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Housing Benefit
- Working Tax Credit
- Child Tax Credit

Existing claimants of means-tested benefits will move onto UC if they have an appropriate change in their circumstances, otherwise they will not be moved over until a later date.

It means big changes for those affected, as UC is claimed online and paid monthly in arrears into a bank account. Claimants receiving help with their rent will receive this as

part of their UC and will be responsible for paying their landlord.

## WHAT DCC IS DOING

DCC are continuing to work with the DWP, community and voluntary groups, landlords and housing providers to ensure residents are aware of the changes and how this will impact on them.

In addition, DCC Customer Services has appointed digital support assistants to help people who have difficulty making their online claims. They also offer personal budgeting support where needed and when people are referred to us by their DWP work-coach.

Our Customer Services Teams are also working closely with Welfare Rights and Citizens Advice in relation to debt advice and support.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

You can also find more information on Universal Credit by visiting our web pages at [www.durham.gov.uk/universalcrcdit](http://www.durham.gov.uk/universalcrcdit).

There is a 'postcode finder' tool on these pages which can be used to help customers find local computer facilities and also where they can get support

to help them make a claim.

## KEY CONTACTS:

- Universal Credit Helpline: 0800 328 5644
- Durham County Council Customer Services Team: 03000 260 000
- Durham County Council Welfare Rights Team: 03000 268 968
- Citizens Advice County Durham: 0300 323 2000

## HAVE YOU GOT NEWS FOR US?

We are always interested in local news stories. We like to feature good news and interesting items on achievements & community service

Tel: Syd

01325 300212

or [syd@newtonnews.co.uk](mailto:syd@newtonnews.co.uk)



## COUNTY NEWSBITS

Compiled by County Councillor John Clare

An important Cabinet meeting, and some significant council, community and business news. Plus some activities for next weekend. Find out more about the following on my blog at: [bit.ly/CNB37](http://bit.ly/CNB37)

## COUNCIL AND COMMUNITY NEWS

- Report: DCC Cabinet meeting, Wednesday 13 June – County Durham Plan, Adult Social Care, Transformation Update, Performance Management report, School Budget Plans.

The County Durham Plan 'Preferred Options' has been published – there is a consultation event at Newton Aycliffe Youth & Community Centre, 3:30-6:30pm, Monday 25 June.

Durham County Council is tops when it comes to ethical procurement, a Unison report has said.

- DCC Countryside Services June newsletter – Brightwater River Skerne, Green Spaces, Bee flies, Community working.
- Aycliffe has a "world class heritage" in the Stockton & Darlington Railway, Friends of the S&DR Chair Trish Pemberton has told Great Aycliffe Town Council.
- Universal Credit will be rolled out to the Newton Aycliffe area from 18 June.
- Last week the PCP changed its status from 'Charitable Company' to 'Charitable Incorporated Organisation'.
- Latest local roadworks information.

## BUSINESS NEWS

• Report: Great Aycliffe Business Park networking meeting at the Work Place, 15 June 2018.

• Disappointment as Hitachi misses out on the Deep Tube trains contract, but good news as the Hitachi test train arrives.

• Good news for Aycliffe Business Park's BTS Facades and Fabrications.

• Have you signed up for the Business Durham daily news email?

• Don't forget #AycliffeHour every Thursday on twitter, 3-4pm.

## THINGS TO DO

- Exhibition: The Women of Archaeology, Archaeology Museum, Palace Green Library, until 29 October, 10am-5pm except Mondays.
- Chattering Teeth (5-11s), Palace Green Library, drop in 1-3pm, 30 June-1 July.
- Old King Cole – everything mining at Beamish Museum, Wed 27 June-1 July (museum charges apply).
- Evening Star box set launch event, Locomotion Museum Shildon, 10am-5pm, 30 June-1 July.
- The ROF59 zip line is coming soon!!!
- This year's Aycliffe Festival starts on Friday 13 July and lasts until Saturday 28 July.
- On 13-22 July Durham will go 'totally Brass', including the Big Brass Bash in Newton Aycliffe Town Park, 6-9pm, Friday 20 July.
- Live Music Festival, Newton Aycliffe Town Centre, noon-8pm, Saturday 28 July.

## Obituary

### COLE

Lilian (Lily) May Cole on 9th June, 87, a resident of Newton Aycliffe for over 60 years died peacefully of Senile Dementia in a Care Home in Newbury.

Dearly loved Wife of the late Fred. Lily is survived by Sons John, Andrew and Daughter Margaret. She was pre-deceased by her Son David.

Lily was an active member of the Methodist Church on the town and was known by many.

Funeral Service to be held at West Berkshire Crematorium, Thatcham on Tuesday 3rd July at 12.45pm.

Family flowers only, donations in lieu, if desired, to Alzheimer's Society, may be made via [www.abwalker.co.uk](http://www.abwalker.co.uk)

Enquiries to A. B. Walker Funeral Directors. Tel 01635 873672

## Congratulations

### Viv and Roy Gibson



### Happy 40th Wedding Anniversary 26th June 2018

To Mam and Dad. You made it !! - How ?? All the best. Lots of luvs, Samie, Alexis, Bethan, Ryan, Abbie, Alex, Andrew and Ashleigh xxxxxx

### HAZEL McNEILLIE

13th June, peacefully at home in Newton Aycliffe. Hazel, aged 90 years, dearly loved Wife of the late Ralph and a very much loved Mother, Grandmother, Great Grandmother and Sister. Funeral today, Friday 22nd June. Friends please meet for Service in Durham Crematorium at 9.00am. Family flowers only please.

### ANTHONY McGEE (Magwa)



Died peacefully on 15th June, aged 55, surrounded by Sandra and family.

Sandra, David and family would like to invite friends to Anthony's Service and Funeral at 3.30pm on Friday 29th June at Wear Valley Crematorium Coundon, Bishop Auckland DL14 8NR.

Family flowers only please, any donations will go to the Marie Curie and Macmillan charities.

After the Funeral, all are invited to The Big Club, Sheraton Road, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 5NU, to celebrate Anthony's life.

## NEWTON NEWS

NEWTON NEWS is published and printed by Newton Press, which was first established in 1948 and incorporates "The Newtonian". Visit the on-line version at [www.newtonnews.co.uk](http://www.newtonnews.co.uk)  
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## Acknowledgement

JIM HALL would like to thank family and friends for their cards and condolences on the death of his Wife, Margaret. Thanks to the staff at St. Clare's Care Home and Rose Lodge Care Home for all their loving care and attention to Margaret through her illness. Special thanks to Pam Lovelass for a wonderful Service. Dr. Stevenson at Bewick Crescent Surgery for his special care of Margaret. The Co-op for their services at the Funeral. Margaret Allen and staff for the catering provided at Woodham Golf Club. The kind donations for Alzheimer UK Ltd amounted to £420.

## Birthday Remembrance

### Shane Smith

16th June 1989

Thinking of you on your birthday and every day. We love and miss you so much Son. You brought us so much joy, we were so proud of you, our perfect boy. Love you loads Mam and Dad xxxxx

### Viv & Roy Gibson



### 40th Wedding Anniversary 26th June 2018

Congratulations Mam and Dad. With lots of love, Sarah, Shaun, Lauren, Niamh and Dylan xxxxxxxx

### Viv & Roy Gibson

### 40th Wedding Anniversary 26th June 2018

With love and licks from Bobby, Teddy and Missy

### Jack



### From one very proud Mam xxxx

We are all very proud of you. From all your family and friends. Good luck for the future.



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## TARLING TAKES COACHING ROLE WITH HOMETOWN CLUB

Newtonian Sean Tarling says he's relishing the prospect of his first coaching role with his hometown club.

The 33-year-old helped Aycliffe to successive promotions as a player, captaining the side to an historic Northern League second division title in 2011. Aycliffe have since spent seven seasons in the top flight, while Tarling left for Bishop Auckland four years ago.

Manager Deano Browne, who guided Aycliffe to a comfortable 14th position in the first division last season, brought Tarling back to Moore Lane Park last year.

And after joint-manager Dan Mellanby stepped down from his coaching role at the club, Browne has appointed the midfielder as his joint assistant manager, along with Andrew Jinks, in preparation for the 2018-19 campaign.

"It all happened so quickly," said Tarling. "We sat and looked at this season moving forward, we had an open discussion and it was quite a quick decision. There's no reason we can't finish in the top 10, no reason at all. We beat the top five teams last season." Aycliffe have stabilised themselves in the Northern League first division and, despite dicing with the threat of relegation only for brief moments, have become a mainstay in the top division, thanks mainly to the support of chairman Allan Oliver.

Tarling, who has fond memories of the club's rise through the leagues, added:



"What people have done at this club, behind the scenes and on the pitch, collectively around the town, is brilliant. 'I'm born and bred Aycliffe, I've lived here all my life, and for a town to have a club as successful as it has been is fantastic."

## BIG BRASS AT AYCLIFFE

Towns and villages across County Durham will host some of the best street bands from across the world as part of this year's BRASS festival. The Big Brass Bash events will see bands from the UK, France and Spain party in a number of parks throughout the county and promises to have people up on their feet and dancing. This year's venues include our Town Park on Friday, 20th July from 6pm to 9pm.

As well as festival favourites including Back Chat Brass, Artistas del Gremio and Mr Wilson's Second Liners, new all-female street band Breakout Brass will join the tour as part of this year's focus on women and brass.

Other newcomers include The Brass Funkeys, an eight-piece London-based brass band, and Funky Style Brass from France.

Local performers from each area will also be taking part in the events and will work alongside The Northern Monkey Brass Band to create special performances unique to each venue.

"Our big brass bash events are always popular and we hope lots of people head out into



our parks to enjoy these free events."

As well as the big brass bashes, the bands will also be visiting schools across the county to provide performances

and workshops for 15,000 schoolchildren.

All Big Brass Bash events and the street ceilidhs are free to attend and no prior booking is needed.

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