



Whinfield Ward Newsletter Winter 2017

Your Councillors are:

Tom Nutt - 01325 360953 email - Thomas.nutt@darlington.gov.uk

Helen Crumbie 01325 462642 email - Helen.crumbie@darlington.gov.uk

POLICE NON EMERGENCY NUMBER - 101

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH - 346832 DOG WARDEN - 388799

YOUR COUNCILLORS

If you think we can assist you please contact us at our monthly surgery, held on the first Saturday of every month in Asda foyer commencing at 10.00 am until 11 am or by phone or email. We now have a face book page to enable us to keep you up to date on what is happening in the ward, please visit Cllr Tom Nutt and Cllr Helen Crumbie.

SPEED WATCH ACTIVITIES

On Monday 2nd October, along with our PCSO, we carried out a parking monitoring activity at Augusta Close at school starting time, promoting responsible parking and safety in the ward, this activity will be ongoing.

Speed Watch activities will also be taking place around the ward, so if you would like to become involved please contact us, your local councillors, to enable us to arrange activities and ensure that you are contacted with the relevant details.

STREET SCENE INITIATIVE

As Councillors for Whinfield Ward we recognise how 40 per cent cuts to our Street Scene services have impacted on the ward. A new Street Scene initiative is being aimed at recruiting volunteers to assist in keeping our area clean and tidy.

As local councillors, we are leading on this and are totally involved in activities. We are recruiting volunteers, so if you are interested in volunteering in your area of the ward, please contact us for more information.

All equipment needed will be supplied along with Health and Safety information.

DOG FOULING

Please continue to report dog fouling and let's ensure that we pick up our dog fouling and dispose of correctly.

Please remember that it became Law for all dogs to be microchipped.

REAR FOOTPATHS AND PLAY AREAS

A number of residents have made enquiries into shutting off the Council owned footpaths and play areas to the rear of properties around the Glamis Road and Kilmarnock Road area, with a view to incorporating it into rear gardens.

Initial consultations with the Borough Council Estate's Team have not raised any issues in principle but they would invite residents who may wish to register an interest or comment on the above proposals to contact the Council's Property Information Assistant at natalie.morrell@darlington.gov.uk by Friday 1 December 2017.

SKERNINGHAM GARDEN VILLAGE

There is a list of frequently asked questions which you may find useful available from the Councils Local Plan website at the following address:

<https://microsites.darlington.gov.uk/local-plan/themes-and-masterplans/skerningham-masterplan/>

The concept of a relief road for our area has been around for many years and we support the principle to relieve pressure from the A1150 and A167. The feasibility work to date has outlined two potential routes, which are both being assessed. We have made it clear that our preferred option is Route A.

RAIL HERITAGE

The Council has made significant steps in the last month to capitalise on the town's unique history as the birthplace of the modern railway. Firstly, it has agreed a Tourism Strategy that places railway heritage at the heart of the Darlington Experience, coupled with Theatre and other attractions.

A Railway Heritage Steering Group has been formed to deliver the plan. This includes the three Councils through which the original line went, the new Tees Valley Combined Authority, Network Rail, Northern Rail, Virgin Trains, the A1 Trust, the National Railway Museum and the Friends of the Stockton and Darlington Railway.

The Councils have appointed Festivals and Events International to develop the 200th anniversary celebrations that will take place in 2025, the year that the Combined Authority is promoting the area for the City of Culture. Those plans should emerge next year.

The Councils have completed the audit of the historic track bed and with the help of the Friends of the Stockton and Darlington Railway are promoting the line as a Heritage Action Zone.

A1 Trust are progressing well it's construction of the new locomotive, The Prince of Wales, and have plans to build a further two engines. Access to the £5 note bridge has just been opened and restoration of Hope Town Carriage works has been completed.

There are other exciting proposals being developed that will be announced shortly. All together it is hoped that this will create more jobs and opportunities in the Borough for both local people and visitors to enjoy.