

The Hart

Issue 18

Harthill with Woodall Parish Council Newsletter

Autumn 2008

NEW LEASE OF LIFE

After nearly two years of discussion and negotiation with Rotherham Borough Council, approval has been given for a long lease which the Parish Council will hold on Spens Field.

The lease will secure the land for the village for the next 20 years and will allow for development of the site for leisure and recreation purposes.

Under the terms of the lease the Parish Council will pay a minimal rent but take on responsibility for grass cutting and other grounds maintenance, a challenge it is greatly looking forward to.

The lease is expected to take effect early in the New Year.

Play Area Upgrade

One of the first developments on Spens Field will be the upgrading of the play area, as announced in the last issue of The Hart. The consultation phase is now complete and Groundwork Dearne Valley and RMBC have produced a design which reflects as many views as possible.

The improved play area will have many new features:

The wooden toddler play equipment will be removed as it was felt that it was in a poor state and in the wrong location. The swings will be kept and moved into the main play area.

Other existing play equipment is in fairly good condition and this will remain, leaving more funds for additional equipment. Existing equipment will be given a new lick of paint and the safety matting replaced by sand.

A new entrance will be created cutting back some of the low level



See www.harthillwithwoodallparishcouncil.gov.uk for a full size, full colour design

shrubs and bushes, providing clearer views onto the site.

A new path will lead into a new entrance into the play area. The majority of the fencing will remain to identify it as a play area and so parents can keep an eye on smaller children although the corner will be removed to allow for the feeling of more space. A mound will act as an informal boundary marker instead and a new slide will be put down this mound.

On top of the mound will be a seating area, including a spinning dish seat. There will also be a maze on the mound made from turf or wildflowers which will therefore not grow too high. Additional trees will also be planted to provide shade for the play area.

New equipment in the play area will feature natural play and provision for toddlers. It will include sand play

such as diggers, a log pile for climbing, boulders for climbing and sitting on, and a tunnel. A basket swing will also be included just outside the fenced area. There will also be seats and a picnic bench within the play area.

Further up Spens Field an area will be cut away into the natural slope and a winding track will be laid. This can be used as a cycling or running track. The existing tree and seat will be at the top of this slope and swings will also be put up here to create a feeling of swinging over the edge.

Finally the youth shelter will be removed and more informal seating put in along with a climbing net. Further low level vegetation will be removed to allow for better views into this area.

Work will commence on construction of the new play area in January and it will be completed by March 2009.

HARTHILL WELL DRESSING GROUP

This year's Christmas Well Dressing will be opened on Saturday the 13th of December at 4pm at the bottom of Doctor Lane.

The Well Dressing will be opened and blessed by the Reverend Colin Barrack, Minister of Harthill Methodist Church and the Reverend Gary Schofield, vicar of Harthill Parish Church.

Once again the Woodhouse brass band will accompany the carols, which will be sung around the Well Dressing.

Harthill guides are also attending



and afterwards Father Christmas will be there to meet the children.

Hot toddy and mince pies will be served around the well area or in the event of rain it in the Methodist Chapel.

Who are your Parish Councillors?

Ian Lloyd (Chairman)	773942
Angela Adams (Vice Chairman)	771610
Steve Green	773056
Barbara Gunby	771328
David Hall	771607
Carol Leigh	770114
Joy Pattison	772727
Liz Simmonite	770921
Wendy Thompson	773271

Clerk to the Council:

Les Wheatley
Tel 01246 434 908
Mobile 07773 782 246

On Your Doorstep

On your Doorstep, is a new Rotherham Borough Council campaign designed to encourage residents to make the most of what's on offer in Rotherham.

This November, there are seven attractions in Rotherham offering substantial discounts for families. These are:

Virtual Ice Skating · Wentworth Family Farm · Grange Park Golf Club · Superbowl · RSPB Old Moor Magna · Film at The Arts Centre: The Spiderwick Chronicles

Vouchers are available from the Rotherham Visitor Centre at 40 Bridgegate, Rotherham or by post if you call the Visitor Centre on 01709 835904.

Forthcoming Event

- ◆ Are you involved in an organisation or group in Harthill or Woodall?
- ◆ Does your organisation or group need new members or volunteers?
- ◆ Are you trying to raise funds?
- ◆ Would you like to start a new organisation or group on any topic or activity?

If the answer is yes to any of the above, please ring Les Wheatley (01246 434908) or Ian Lloyd (01909 773942) about an event coming to the Village Hall in January 2009.

Parish Council Website

The Parish Council website is now up and running.

The site includes Parish Council news, latest news and events from around the Parish, details of local organisations and a photo gallery. Coming soon is a message board where you can post your views online.

We update the site every week and try to keep it as relevant and informative as possible. Please let us know if there is an event you wish to advertise, if you have a group that isn't featured or if you would like to add photographs to the gallery.

Please visit:
www.harthillwithwoodallparishcouncil.gov.uk.

RELAUNCH OF HARTHILL WITH WOODALL NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

MEETING 11TH NOVEMBER 2008 IN THE UPSTAIRS ROOM AT THE BEEHIVE AT 7.30PM

AT PRESENT HARTHILL AND WOODALL CRIME RATES ARE SOME OF THE LOWEST IN THE AREA. WE NEED TO KEEP OUR VILLAGES SAFE AND PLEASANT PLACES TO LIVE. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH IS A PROVEN WAY TO KEEP CRIME TO A MINIMUM

VOLUNTEERS ARE REQUIRED TO GIVE A SMALL AMOUNT OF THEIR TIME AS PART OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NETWORK OPERATING IN THEIR OWN LOCAL VICINITY.

REPRESENTATIVES FROM SOUTH YORKSHIRE POLICE WILL BE PRESENT. PLEASE ATTEND.