Parish Elects New Council

Results for Husthwaite and Declared 04 May 2007 at 15:24
the Village Hall Committee

May 2007

| Electorate | 326 |
| Total Votes Cast | 199 |
| Turnout % | 61.04% |

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Candidate</th>
<th>Affiliation</th>
<th>Votes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CLARK, Brian Thomas</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>COULTHARD, Janet</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>DAVISON, Peter</td>
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<tr>
<td>DUNCAN, Ursula Ann</td>
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<td>FENWICK, Carol Linda</td>
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<tr>
<td>HOUlstON, Robin</td>
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<tr>
<td>NIXON, Alun Stuart</td>
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<tr>
<td>PONTE, Luis</td>
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<tr>
<td>SCARCE, Tony</td>
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<td>SMITH, Elaine Kathleen</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>WOODHEAD, Ruth</td>
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Deadline for your material in the next Newsletter: Sunday 15th July
Coffee Morning Helps Light the Church

Gerald Crane

At the end of April Diana Leeper entertained an audience of around 100 to a captivating presentation on Imperial Russia and Faberg. Diana spoke for over an hour, without notes, with a mix of humour, knowledge and enthusiasm charting the history of Imperial Russia and the work undertaken by Carl Faberg in meeting the creative needs of the royal family.

The presentation was punctuated by oohs and ahs as those attending responded to the visual brilliance of the craftsmans creations (photographs, not the real thing). A lengthy question session confirmed the eagerness of the audience to learn and the evening finished with Russian Zakuski (canapes) created by members of the PCC.

The evening raised over 500 towards church funds.

Climate Change

Visiting your village recently, I picked up a Husthwaite Newsletter. May I congratulate you and your community on the wonderfully lively range of activities you are all involved in. I would add a special word about the poems of the primary school pupils (Lets Cool It). Thank the good Lord that the young ones are waking up to climate change. I would like to hope that He and they can work together to bring off an amazing rescue act for His creation.

William S Smythe, Coventry

Glad I Moved to Husthwaite

Im writing to say how much I enjoyed the last Husthwaite Newsletter, especially the piece about the changes affecting farmers and thereby the crops and landscape around us (The Eye in the Sky Looks Down on the Meadow Edge). The Newsletter is always of interest, especially to those of us who are offcomdens, having been in the village only three years and not even raised in the countryside. I like the history and nature articles, too. Makes me glad I

William S Smythe, Coventry
Two Huskies and their Musher
Malcolm Wride

After falling in love with a beautiful Husky dog while on holiday in Canada, Margaret, my wife, said it would be nice to have one of those! So when our cats died, we got one. (Huskies and cats don’t get on together.) Taking it for walks proved a hassle as it was always PULLING! The breeder said it was because it was a sled dog, and that’s what they do. Having seen the type of rig these dogs pull when there is no snow, I decided to have one made. It was super!

In 1994 we went up to Aviemore, Margaret, Tara the Husky, the rig and myself, and we found that I could not race as I was not entered. But I could do the Trek. This involved borrowing another dog, together with Tara, and mushing* through the backwoods of Scotland for 17 miles. (Its only 16 miles if you don’t get lost.)

After going through the River Spey, three feet deep in snow melt, I managed to get back to base as night was falling and Margaret was wondering whether to send the helicopter out to find me.

Since then everything has been simpler. Enter the races properly and do the 4.5 mile race on the Saturday and the Sunday. The total of times indicates your position in the race.

We got our second dog, Hinault, to ensure we had a racing team after three years of borrowing dogs. He has been brilliant, a power pack! As we only entered the races for fun I only ever came last. I was never competitive, but nevertheless I always got the Red Lantern* and the oldest musher award. The oldest musher gets a walking stick, with a whisky flask inside and a dogs head handle, to keep for a year.

I have been to the races for ten years but have recently had to give up due to Tara developing diabetes and going blind. She has had an operation to restore the sight in one eye, but the pair of us are getting somewhat older!

* a musher is one who runs a dog team.

** The Red Lantern is given to the last one in the Iditerod race in Alaska, so that everyone knows that when that team gets in the race is over. The Iditerod race is annually in March to commemorate the taking of diphtheria serum to Nome in Alaska in 1925. The serum was taken 1160 miles in blizzard conditions by sled dog teams, and saved the township from death by diphtheria.

Views Sought on Bus Service
Barrie Ward

The County Council are again conducting a review of passenger transport (bus) services and home to school transport in Ryedale and Easingwold. The current contracts expire in late April next year and invitations to tender for replacement contracts will go out in September 2007. The Parish Council and individuals are invited to make comments or recommendations on the provision of these services. So far as Husthwaite is concerned the service under review is the 31X between Easingwold and Kirbymoorside (the Easingwold York element is provided commercially). As part of the review process the NYCC will look at whether a bus service running to a fixed timetable is most appropriate or whether flexible, on demand services would be better. If you have any views you may let me have them in writing and I will forward them. The deadline for receipt at County Hall is June 30th.

Thirsk Bus Service Re-Instated

The Number 59 Thirsk to Oulston bus service now passes through Husthwaite on Mondays and Fridays. Here is the timetable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>59 Thirsk Oulston</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday and Friday</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thirsk, Market Place</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1453</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1025</td>
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Parish Council Representatives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Police Liaison Committee: Luis Ponte</th>
<th>Village Hall Committee: A Nixon</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Highways: R. Houlston</td>
<td>Surgery Fund: R Woodhead</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lighting: C. Fenwick</td>
<td>Footpaths/Rights of Way: C Fenwick</td>
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<tr>
<td>YLCA: E. Smith &amp; Alun Nixon</td>
<td>Risk Assessment: C. Fenwick</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beckwith Trust: R. Woodhead</td>
<td>Neighbourhood Watch: C. Fenwick</td>
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<tr>
<td>District/Parish Liaison: P Davison &amp; E Smith</td>
<td>Communications: Luis Ponte</td>
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<tr>
<td>Easingwold &amp; Villages Forum: A Nixon &amp; P Davison</td>
<td>Parish Plan: P. Davison &amp; L Ponte</td>
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</table>

Barrie Ward is the Clerk of Husthwaite Parish Council
Village Hall Lands its First Grants
Richard Wood

It is common knowledge that a week is a long time in politics. What may not be so well known is that two months does not see much progress in the world of fund raising.

In the March edition of the Newsletter I reported that the Village Hall Committee was in negotiation with five grant awarding bodies. We are trying to raise the money we need to give the front of the Hall its long overdue face-lift. We visualise a re-surfaced area much more level than at present, properly drained and with retaining walls to the road and to the northern boundary. First the good news. North Yorkshire County Councils Hambleton Area Committee has allocated us its maximum grant. The Police Dispersal of Property Fund have been generous within their limitations, leaving us with a problem of raising the shortfall on what we asked them for. Hambleton District Council will contact us in the first week of June. We dont expect the Garfield Weston Foundations response before August. The uncomfortable news is that Awards for All, the communities branch of the Lottery Fund, have turned us down. There is a lot of money at stake here, and we are hopeful that they will favour our re-application.

The refurbishments sub-committee of Angela Whenman, John Lawrance and myself have burned the candle at both ends to create contingency plans. Its a constant battle to balance our ambitions with what we can squeeze out of the grant awarders. By the time the July edition of the Newsletter is published it will be much clearer how much of the designing and digging is going to be under way by the autumn.

Priceless Experience
The Village Hall Committee has been delighted to welcome a new member, Andrew Coulthard, who lives at Aletheia House in the High Street. Andrew brings very relevant experience to our planning work. I have no background as a fund raiser, he told us, but I have worked on Adult Education committees which studied applications and awarded grants. It is priceless experience in helping us get the wording right on numerous forms and meet the different criteria laid down by each awarding body.

Sunshine Barbie
The next Village Hall Committee occasion is the 5th Annual Summer Treasure Hunt on Sunday 24th June. It will start at the Hall at 1.30 pm and finish, as usual, with a barbecue in the sunshine on East View Green. Last years treasure was won by the Bailey family in a penalty shoot-out with the Barkers. Family fun, village-style, at its best.

Finding the Hidden Village
2nd in a series of local walks and bike rides by Explorer

In medieval times there was a village, Thornton-on-the-Hill, only a mile or two away from Husthwaite. In the fields around High House Farm, where our route takes us, few traces remain today except a few hillocks and hollows. No ruins. On Gibbet Hill, between Kendrew Green and the T junction and as you look at the signpost by the farm gate, follow the left-hand footpath sign of the two to the bottom corner of the field. Through a small gate, go R for a short distance along the field edge until the tree with yellow arrow, where you then take a cross field footpath to a post and then up on the boundary between two fields.

At the top, near The Old Lodge, go R and towards another large tree (yellow arrow) and straight on towards a white metal farm gate. L along the hedge, through another farm gate, and then down the hill towards a stile and footbridge across the stream (slightly to the R of the fields L corner). Follow the boundary L up the hill (traces of village around here) to the farm and a gate on the L. Go through this gate and straight along past the farmhouse and buildings, another gate, and you reach the road. L downhill and then up to a small crossroads, with spring, once reputed to supply the finest water in the area. Theres a choice of three ways back to Husthwaite. Take the track L here to continue down through a small wood over a stream and up to (via the gate in the middle ahead of you) and L of The Old Lodge. You will see the path on which you started. Alternatively, continue up the road to the next crossroads and turn L. Or, continue straight on until the bridleway cutting back on your L, along Beacon Banks and back. Whichever you choose this walk will take between one and two hours at most.

Birds Eye View

On the 9th May I woke to hear the cuckoo calling. We scrambled out of bed to take our Canadian visitors in search of this long-awaited newcomer. From our vantage point on Beacon Banks we identified the tree at the Vicarage chosen as the song post. After a while a large grey-speckled bird with a long straight tail flew up towards us, rewarding us with a very clear view. We knew this was the cuckoo as we watched its strangely erratic flight, now right overhead, and we saw it descend to Sandy Hill, where the calling started anew. Cuckoo! Cuckoo!

Hearing no answer, our bird has flown. It was here and is gone.
Stars
Lucy Collins

At school all the children took part in a poetry camp. We found out who had won a place in a poetry book. It is called Little Laureates North Yorkshire. I found out that my poem, along with others, is going to be published. We all got a bookmark and a certificate to mark our achievement. My poem is called Stars.

They are bright
Shining in the night

Loads of little lights

They shine way up high
Right up in the sky
They lie in the sky.
Theyre like little suns
Theyre not buns

But they are as little as plums

A Call to Dance
Sarah Aspinall

The Friends of Husthwaite School invite everyone in the village to a ceilidh and hog roast at the school on Saturday 16 June, 5.30-10pm. The very popular Byland Rigg (we had to book them a whole year in advance!) will provide the musical entertainment and Simon Swiers of Easingwold will be cooking the dinner so it promises to be a top evening.

Tickets are just 7.50 adults and 5.00 children if bought before 11 June (8.50 and 6.00 after that and on the night). This includes the hog roast meal with some additional salads provided by the Friends. Tickets can be obtained from the school office or from Vikki Nixon (868740) or Sarah Aspinall (868155). There will also be a bar selling wine, beer, fruit juice and various pudding options on sale including strawberries, ice creams and brownies and coffee. We suggest people bring picnic rugs so they can sit out on the grass. However, we will go ahead if the weather is poor dancing in the hall and dining in the other areas of the school.

As everyone probably knows (!) parking near the school is very limited so we urge everyone to walk and/or share lifts and park considerately. We do hope you can join us.

Parish Plan Launched
Jan Coulthard

On Saturday 31st March the Village Hall was the venue for the launch of the Husthwaite Parish Plan. The real treat was receiving a copy of the Plan, one for each household. What a well-designed, informative and beautifully illustrated publication this is! It contains the collated views of the villagers, and includes action plans for how to move forward on ideas for Husthwaite’s future.

Peter Davison thanked all those who had responded to the questionnaire, worked on the plans and attended the meetings. The level of response to the questionnaire was excellent (85%) and a great many useful ideas were generated.

District Councillor Percy Featherstone congratulated the Steering Group and spoke of the vision the Parish Plan offered, to preserve our heritage and to look to the future.

Fiona Coleman, from the Yorkshire Rural Community Council, said that our Parish Plan was a tremendous achievement, and offered a basis on which to claim funding from local and national government organisations for future projects. Husthwaite has led the way for other villages to follow, in having such good local support for its plan, an important consideration when pushing ideas forward to relevant local and national committees.

Peter Davison concluded by reiterating that the Plan was only the beginning, and that we should all help to take the ideas forward to benefit the village, for now and for the future. Every household would receive a Plan, even if people could not attend that day.

The meeting was a huge success, and thanks are due to everyone who organised and worked on the Plan, held the village meetings which brought people together and delivered the final publication, which I am sure you will agree is something for Husthwaite to be proud of.

Time for Action - Peter Davison

At the 15th May PC Meeting two decisions were made concerning the Parish Plan.

* The Parish Council formally adopted the Plan, with a commitment to work towards implementation.

* In order to address the identified priorities systematically, special meetings will take place during the months between the usual 2-monthly PC meetings. The first of these will be held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Tuesday 19th June.

As with the regular meetings of the Parish Council, residents are warmly invited.
Wilf Hutchinson, carver and furniture maker of Husthwaite, celebrates 50 years of craftsmanship in wood this year.

Wilf's trademark carved squirrel has adorned every piece he has made over the years, and he reckons to have carved about 10,000 of them on furniture that has been sold at home and abroad. There are Hutchinson items in homes as far away as Texas and Australia, each piece unique and hand crafted to the highest standards, made to last for generations to enjoy.

The story begins in Husthwaite, where Wilf went to school until he was 15. His father ran a motor engineering business here, but Wilf didn't fancy going into that so he his dad suggested they should see if Robert (Mousey) Thompson would take him on as an apprentice. One night they went to see Mr Thompson, who said he would think about it and let them know. Three days later they got word that Wilf was to start work, and were told later that Mousey Thompson had checked up on Wilf in that time and he had obviously passed muster.

At Thompson's workshop Wilf got a proper training in carving and furniture making, getting only 30 shillings for a 44 hour week in his first year. The work was hard, and Wilf said he learnt more from an older man who was calm and patient with him than from another who shouted and got angry when a mistake was made.

After a day's work he chopped kindling and got the coal in for Mr Thompson, then cycled home. He stayed at that workshop for six years, until 1957, when he decided to set up his own workshop. This he did, in a disused stableyard with buildings, helped by a loan from his father.

Wilf decided to work in oak, the greatest wood for endurance and beauty, he says, and he has continued to use oak to this day, in furniture for family homes and for large ecclesiastical commissions. The squirrel and acorn trademark relate to the oak. His raw material is stacked around the outside yard to air dry for a period of years before use. He says kiln-drying destroys the natural texture of the wood.

After 50 Years and 10,000 Squirrels
Wilf Keeps on Carving

Jan Coulthard

Wilf Hutchinson, carver and furniture maker of Husthwaite, celebrates 50 years of craftsmanship in wood this year.

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Around Wilf's home and workshop are wonderful examples of his art: a beautiful carving of an accordion player, done when he was 19 and admired by Robert Thompson himself, a carved fireplace and handmade furniture he used every day; his one foray into different wood, a walnut grandfather clock, with an old movement bought by his father from the Blacksmiths Arms in the village, with which he proudly won a competition in 1968.

Trevor and Wilf with a handmade seat on its way to St Gregory's Oratory, Malton.

Photo: Jan Coulthard