

## Your Councillors 2016 - 2017

### Barkisland

Councillor Susan Russell  
Councillor Melvyn Smith JP  
Councillor Alan Watson

### Ripponden

Councillor Geraldine Carter  
Councillor Steve McCarley  
Councillor Jayne Smith

### Rishworth

Councillor Peter Hunt  
Councillor Craig Johnson  
Councillor Geoff Potts

### Soyland

Councillor Jane Moran  
Councillor Andrew Naylor  
Councillor Sharon Robins

## Grants

Grants totalling £6,066 have been made during 2016/2017 year to the following groups:

- Barkisland Old People's Welfare
- Ripponden Children's Day
- Ripponden Festive Market
- Ryburn United Football Club
- Young at Heart Group
- In Bloom Groups for Barkisland, Soyland and Ripponden
- Rishworth Environmental Group
- 1<sup>st</sup> Ripponden Brownies
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Ripponden Cubs

## Getting in touch with the Parish Council

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[www.rippondenneighbourhoodplan.co.uk](http://www.rippondenneighbourhoodplan.co.uk)

## Have your Say!

The Parish Council welcomes feedback on this publication and other issues local residents have on matters concerning the Parish Council.



**Ripponden**  
Parish Council

The Parish Council would like to thank everyone whose photographs have been used in this publication.

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Parish Council



2016 - 2017  
**Annual Report**

## The Council and Its Work

Welcome to the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Report from Ripponden Parish Council, summarising the work carried out by the Council over the past year.

The Parish Council is made up of 12 volunteers led by our chairman for 2016/17 Cllr Jayne Smith and supported by our Clerk and Responsible Officer, Anne Haynes.

The full Council meets every two weeks on Thursday evening, and has a number of smaller committees which report to the full Council and manage different areas of work, some of which include:

- Environment
- Events
- Civic Events
- Christmas Lights
- Communications
- Buildings
- Neighbourhood Planning

We have representatives on the following Committees:

- Soyland Charities
- Yorkshire Local Councils Association
- Calderdale Council's Town and Parish Council Liaison Group

## Around the Parish

The Parish Council successfully obtained a Tesco Bags of Help grant of £12,000 which has been used to assist in the refurbishment of the Mill Fold playground, with some additional costs met from Parish Council funds.



Many local residents are involved in our In Bloom groups which make a huge difference to the area by planting and managing planters and public areas such as the garden opposite the Co-op. After many years of hard work Ripponden achieved a Gold Award in

2016. Well done and thank you to all volunteers of the Parish for the work that you do.

At our Annual Michaelmas Show in September, we were impressed by the huge number of entries in the children's classes and the photography class. The prizes for our annual Garden Competition were also presented at the show.

Once again Diggle Band were key to our Remembrance Sunday services, held at Rishworth, Ripponden and Barkisland War Memorials, in addition to the service held at Ripponden church. For the first time road closures took place for the Act of Remembrance.

This year's 'Christmas Lights Switch-On' was a great success, with several hundred people attending both the switch-on and the carol concert at St. Bartholomew's Church that preceded it.

## New Initiatives

The Neighbourhood Planning Committee was set up to develop a Neighbourhood Plan (NP) in consultation with residents. We are keen to have as many people as possible tell us what is important to them about planning and development in the Ripponden Parish. Once the NP is in place it will form a part of the planning policies for this area. Get involved now as this has the potential to be really powerful in directing development in Ripponden Parish. Visit [www.rippondenneighbourhoodplan.co.uk](http://www.rippondenneighbourhoodplan.co.uk) or call at the Council office. Our thanks go to Hebden Royd Town Council for sharing its experience and knowledge to help progress our Neighbourhood Plan.

The Council has committed to an action plan to increase awareness of dementia and encourage our four villages to become dementia friendly communities. Already four dementia awareness training events, open to the public and local businesses, have been held. We have set up a committee to guide this initiative with representatives from our churches, old peoples welfare, parish councillors and medical professionals. As part of the initiative, a dementia friendly café, 'The Riverside Café', has been set up by St Bart.'s church, open on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month. It looks like being an invaluable facility for people with dementia and their carers.



## The Good Citizen's Award 2016

This year's winner of the Good Citizen Award, Mrs Susan Bell, has for many years been a Community First Responder, attending local emergency calls and providing life saving first aid in those vital minutes before an ambulance arrives. She is now an NHS emergency care technician. Sue also does voluntary work for the British Heart Foundation training people to use defibrillators and organises First Aid courses.



Mrs Sue Bell receiving her award

## The Civic Ball

The annual Civic Ball was held at the newly refurbished Venue at Barkisland and was a great success. Proceeds this year went to the Chairman's Charity –

Local Youth Groups within the Parish and, together with donations, the evening raised an impressive sum of £900.