Harewood Parish Council Annual Report 2025

Dr Kate Hill, Chair of Harewood Parish Council, is pleased to share the Annual Report she presented at the recent Annual Parish Meeting. Click on the link below to read the report.

Chair's Annual Report 2025

Parish Council Annual Accounts 2024 – 2025

The Annual Accounts for 2024 – 2025 of Harewood Parish Council are now published. They are available using the following link.

Harewood Parish Council Annual Accounts 2024 – 2025

New support for victims of road crashes in West Yorkshire

More support services are being offered to victims of serious road crashes with the creation of a new role.

West Yorkshire now has an Independent Road Victim Advocate (IRVA).

The new position will offer face-to-face help following referrals from Police Family Liaison Officers (FLOs), who have first contact with road victims.

It means families of people killed or seriously injured on the county's roads, as well as people who have been seriously injured themselves will be able to access:

• Emotional support.

• Practical support.

• Help understanding procedures, such as criminal prosecutions or court cases.

• Support seeking and using lawyers.

• Family support, for example with children or the elderly.

• Injury rehabilitation.

Jan Vekaria, from Shipley, received support after losing her husband, Parv, in a car crash caused by a dangerous driver on the wrong side of the road.

Jan said: "It made a massive difference, I couldn't have got through this without Brake.

"I remember the first few visits and I probably just cried a lot. I just needed someone there who understood and was really sympathetic.

"My support worker was so good at helping me by explaining what was going to happen. She helped me so much and I've been able to continue to speak to her."

Road victims face many complex practical procedures after a crash, in addition to ongoing trauma from the incident itself. Victims may have to identify a loved one's body, attend a criminal or inquest hearing, get a loved one's property and clothing returned, understand how a collision happened, and provide a Victim Impact Statement in court.

The new position is managed by the road safety charity Brake and has been funded by the West Yorkshire Vision Zero Partnership.

Alison Lowe, Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime and Chair of the West Yorkshire Vision Zero Board, said: "I know first-hand what it's like to lose a loved one in these circumstances.

"The pain and devastation is immeasurable and we must do all we can to support people affected by these tragedies.

"I am pleased we have been able to secure the new role which will make a real difference in our communities as we work together to reduce road death and serious injuries to zero."

Ross Moorlock, CEO at Brake, the road safety charity, said: "We are so grateful to Jan for sharing her experience and helping people understand how the support she received from Brake has helped her.

"We know that the right support at the right time can change the course of someone's life. For Jan, being able to access specialist, trauma-informed support delivered by Brake has made such a difference. We know that there are many other families out there who need our help after a road death or serious injury, and we are here to support them in their darkest and most difficult times.

"We are proud to be partnering with the West Yorkshire Vision Zero team and we look forward to working with the team to support families in need. Their support for the plight of road victims is very evident and we are thankful that they have chosen Brake to provide support for families in West Yorkshire, through a local caseworker."

To find out more about the support options available, visit https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/vz-useful-links.

Brass Band Concert 22nd June in Wigton Moor – Event Postponed

Harewood Parish Council regrets to inform you that the concert advertised below will now not take place.

This arises for reasons outside our control. We hope that this is just a postponement and as soon as any further information becomes available we will publicise it on this web site and with notices around the parish.



Are you interested in a job that

supports the North Leeds Community?

There is a vacancy for a senior member of staff at MAECare, the organisation based at Cranmer Bank Leeds 17 which is a charity supporting elderly people in North Leeds.

Interested? Go to https://maecare.org.uk/about-us/vacancies and see if this is a role that appeals.

Don’t make it too easy for burglars

The following advice has been provided by West Yorkshire Police.

Do you leave your doors/windows unlocked in any of the following situations?

- *Just got home from work?*
- *Doing a bit of gardening?*
- *Nipping round to the neighbours for a chat?*
- *Going to the local shop – only going to be 5 minutes?*
- *Your friends are due to call round, so you leave the door open so they can let themselves in?*

Sound familiar? If yes, please get into the habit of locking your doors and windows at all times – it literally only takes a minute of your time and could prevent you from becoming a victim of burglary.

If you do have to leave your doors unlocked, think about an alarm sensor on the door, a bit like on a shop door when someone enters.

For more information see our website

https://www.westyorkshire.police.uk/…/insecure-burglaries

Beware of Holiday Fraud

West Yorkshire Community Alert has asked local councils to alert residents to the risks from fraudulent organisations offering holidays. Over £11 Million was stolen from people last year. The information below has been published Action Fraud, the national fraud and cybercrime reporting service.

People looking to snap up online holiday deals ahead of the summer are being warned to stay extra alert and do their research before booking their getaways, as new data reveals victims lost a total of over £11 million to holiday fraud last year.

Action Fraud, the national fraud and cybercrime reporting service, has launched a holiday fraud campaign, urging the public who are looking to snap up their next holiday deals online to look out for suspiciously enticing offers online, including on social media, and do their research before booking their getaways.

New data shows there were 6,066 reports of holiday fraud made to Action Fraud last year, with July recorded as the highest month of reporting with 647 reports. Holiday makers lost a combined total of £11,183,957 in 2024, which is comparatively less than the £12.3 million lost in 2023. Despite, the drop in reported loss, the average loss per victim remains at similar levels, with £1,851 the average in 2023 and £1,844 in 2024.

What can you do to protect yourself from holiday fraud?

Check the travel company is legitimate: *about to book a holiday? Do some research first to check that the company is legitimate, especially if you haven't used them before. Use consumer websites, or reviews from people (or organisations) that you trust.*

Look for the logos: *look for the ABTA, ABTOT or ATOL logos on the company's website. If you're unsure, you can use the links below to verify membership:*

• ABTA – https://www.abta.com

• ABTOT – https://www.abtot.com/abtot-members-directory/

• ATOL – https://www.atol.org

Use a credit card to pay: *use a credit card for payments (if you have one). Many of these protect online purchases as part of the Consumer Credit Act.*

Only provide required details at checkout: *when making your payment, only fill in the mandatory details (often marked with an asterisk) such as your address. Unless you think you'll become a regular customer, don't create an account for the store.*

Keep your accounts secure: *create a strong and unique password for your email. If 2-step verification is available, always enable it.*

Watch out for suspicious links: *whether it's in an email or social media post, be wary of promotions for unbelievably good holiday offers. If you receive a suspicious email, report it by forwarding it to: report@phishing.gov.uk*

Find out how to protect yourself from fraud: https://stopthinkfraud.campaign.gov.uk

If you've lost money or provided your financial information to someone, notify your bank immediately and report it to Action Fraud at actionfraud.police.uk or by calling 0300 123 2040. In Scotland, call Police Scotland on 101.

Sign up to West Yorkshire Community Alert

West Yorkshire Community Alert is a messaging system brought to you by West Yorkshire Police and Partners for our communities.

By registering with WY Community Alert, you can choose to receive news and appeals, local crime information and/or prevention advice direct to you by email, text or voice message.

Registering for alerts is completely free and once you have signed-up, you can choose how you want to receive the messages and what you want to receive messages about.

To sign up, please visit the West Yorkshire Community Alert Home Page

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Councillor Vacancy Notice

Harewood Parish Council

Vacancy for a Councillor

Notice is hereby given that due to the resignation of Councillor Bystryakov a vacancy exists in the office of Parish Councillor for the Parish Council of **Harewood (Wigton Ward)**

The vacancy will be filled by election if any ten local government electors for the said area submit a written request to that effect in the manner prescribed below and if no such request is made the vacancy will be filled by the Parish Council.

Any request for an election to be held to fill the vacancy must be in writing and must reach the Returning Officer, Leeds City Council, Electoral Services, Civic Hall, Calverley Street, Leeds LS1 1UR by no later than **3rd March 2025.**

Dated: 11 February 2025

Signed: K Sedman (Harewood Parish Council Clerk)

Address: 36 High Ash Mount, Leeds LS17 8RW

Sunday 10th November – Remembrance Day Ceremony

A Remembrance Day Ceremony at the Memorial Garden, Harewood (opposite the Harewood Arms) will be held on Sunday 10 November commencing 10.45am.


LEST WE FORGET
TO
THE MEMORY
OF THOSE FROM
HAREWOOD PARISH
WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES
IN THE SERVICE
OF THEIR COUNTRY