



Ripley Town Council



March 2022

Welcome to the March 2022 edition of the Ripley Town Council newsletter. We aim to make Ripley a better place. We will try and help all those who need it, by building and strengthening relationships with individuals, groups and communities. We aim to create a more secure and inclusive Ripley by helping individuals, families and communities to thrive. We will work towards a more fairly shared society seeking to strengthen opportunities for all in education, health, housing, employment, transport, leisure and culture.

Greenwich Community Centre

Ripley Town Council Annual Budget Consultation

We are pleased to report that there will be a **0% increase** in the Ripley Town Council aspect of the Council Tax for the financial period, 2022 - 2023.

After a couple of years of negotiation, Ripley Town Council is now the owner of the cricket ground and building at Greenwich Recreation Ground on Nottingham Road in Ripley.

The building on the recreation ground will now be known as Greenwich Community Centre, emphasising that the building has many uses for everyone and is not just a changing facility for sports clubs that use it. There is a kitchen and bar facility that is available for hire by any group or individual. It is typically used for business meetings, community groups, training events, and parties.



Greenwich Community Centre, Nottingham Road, Ripley

The room holds up to 70 seated around large round tables for a dinner or buffet and it comfortably seats 80 for conferences, courses or meetings. It has a projector screen, large TV, speakers and a projector. Car parking is available for 50 cars.



These are held in trust of the Ripley Recreation Ground Charity (Charity Number 520502). The purpose of the charity, as defined in the managing scheme is, *"the provision and maintenance of a recreation ground for the benefit of the inhabitants of Ripley and its neighbourhood with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants"*.

We are pleased that we have been able to secure the long term future of the land as a sports and cultural hub for the Ripley community.

The Charity has now granted a licence to the Greenwich Park Sports Partnership to continue its good work in running and maintaining the whole grounds and building.

Book the Community Centre by contacting:

Tel: 07380 341723

Email: greenwichparksp@gmail.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/greenwichparksp

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Please recycle this newsletter

Welcome to Street Lane

We invite you to read on and find out more about the history of this area.

Roman soldiers will have marched up this straight road during the period 43 AD to 410 AD. This was a Roman road called Ryknield Street and is known as Street Lane from what is now Station Road at Smithy Houses in Denby to its junction with Heage Road known as Chadwick Grave.



Roman Soldiers

The Roman road runs from the Fosse Way at Bourton on the Water in Gloucestershire to Templeborough in South Yorkshire. Locally the route was from Chester Green to Breadsall, to Smithy Houses and up to the Roman Camp at Conegrey. From there it passed Oakerthorpe and Higham and onto Clay Cross and Tupton to Chesterfield, where there was a Roman fort.

At the Southern end of Street Lane is Denby Railway Station. It was opened in 1856 as Smithy Houses by the Midland Railway on its Ripley branch from Little Eaton Junction to Ripley.

The railway provided a siding for the Denby Iron and Coal Company and there was also a facility for processing the slag from the iron production. In 1901, the Nottingham surveyor Edgar Purnell Hooley was visiting the site and noticed some tar that had been spilled and covered with iron foundry slag. A major trouble with highways at that time was the dust raised by increasingly speedy vehicles and various ways had been tried unsuccessfully for binding the road surface. He noticed that this surface had withstood the passage of traffic and obtained a British patent for producing what he called Tarmac. In 1903 he formed the TarMacadam (Purnell Hooley's Patents) Syndicate Limited.



Denby Street Lane Station 1910 © picturethepast.org.uk

Passenger services finished in 1930, though the line remained open - primarily for the coal traffic. Among the numerous coal workings in the area, the Butterley Company's Denby Hall Colliery, a mile north of the station, was perhaps the most productive. Investment continued during and after WW2, with a washing plant for the colliery. The facility continued in use until after the station was finally closed in 1965. The track north of the station was lifted completely in 1968 leaving a short length of line in the remains of the station. The station house still survives as a private home, with both platforms greatly overgrown.

At the northern end of Street Lane we can still see the remains of the Morley Park furnaces. These were cold-blast and coke-fired iron smelting furnaces. These are Grade II listed and are also a Scheduled Ancient Monument.



The remains of the Morley Park Blast Furnaces © DCHO

The first Morley Park furnace was built for Francis Hurt of Ambergate in 1780 and the second added in 1818. Iron ore and limestone were tipped from the top into charging holes and the blast was introduced by a battery of engines. The furnaces were supplied by a series of banks of coke ovens and 3000 yards of wagonways. Production stopped in 1874 but the furnaces were restored in 1986, so they can still be visited today.

It is believed that the works supplied much of the iron used in the construction of the Derwent Valley mills.

The area between Street Lane and Marehay has long been industrial land, with various collieries and brickmaking works. There was also a coal mine near the junction of Street Lane and Heage Road. There were large expanses of opencast mining in the last third of the 20th century with much of the land now used as industrial estates.



Installed by Ripley Town Council. Written by Jan Fisher, an author and local historian. The Ripley District Heritage Trust for their assistance and information and to all those who have given permission for illustrations to be used. For more information please scan the QR code or visit www.ripleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Community Matters

Staff from Ripley Town Council recently met with representatives from the Ripley SNT (Safer Neighbourhood Team).

We came together to discuss how both parties can work more collaboratively to share and communicate safety information. We also discussed initiatives the Ripley SNT team is working on and crime prevention, to members of the public.



Keep your eye out online and around town for details regarding 'Cuppa with a Copper' dates at Costa on Oxford Street in Ripley. This is where members of the public can go and meet a member of the Ripley SNT team to discuss crime-related issues with them. The most recent event was a huge success with lots of engagement with the local community.

The Ripley SNT team would like to encourage our community to sign up to Derbyshire Alert. This is the community messaging system for the whole of Derbyshire. By registering, you can receive news, local crime information, and prevention advice direct to your email address.

www.derbyshirealert.co.uk

Registration is completely free, and not only allows you to receive messages about your local area but also allows you to feed back information to your local policing teams to help them better look after your neighbourhood.



Sign up today... to be aware of crime updates and local policing news in your area

Ripley Hospital Update

You may recall in our last newsletter of 2021, we reported that the Butterley Ward at Ripley Hospital was temporarily closed until March 2022. This ward was built and paid for by money raised through the Ripley Hospital League of Friends (RHLoF). Concerningly, no consultation regarding this closure has taken place with RHLoF nor other local stakeholders.

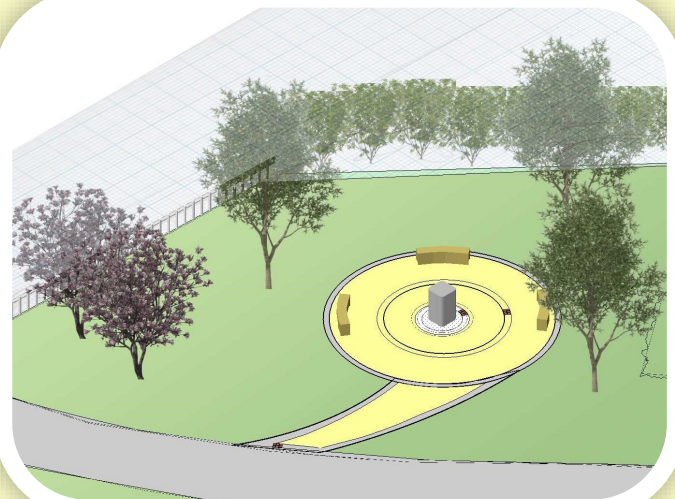
We mentioned that we were waiting for a response back from Nigel Mills MP (Amber Valley) for more information and reassurances that the Butterley Ward will not be closed permanently. We are frustrated to report that we are still waiting to hear back from our local MP regarding this matter. Please rest assured that we will not be letting this matter be dismissed. We will continue pursuing Nigel Mills MP for a response and report back soon.

Area of Reflection

Ripley Town Council is proposing to create an Area of Reflection for our community to visit, on Ripley Greenway at the junction with Albion Street.

The area will incorporate sustainable seating in a welcoming environment surrounded by trees and wildflowers. The centrepiece of the area will be a stone, dedicated to those in our community who have died from Covid and as a result of war.

If you have any comments regarding our proposed Area of Reflection, please let us know by email no later than 1st April 2022 at townclerk@ripleytowncouncil.gov.uk



Proposed Area of Reflection on Ripley Greenway, with the junction with Albion Street

Highly Commended Award for Councillor

The Derbyshire Association of Local Councils (DALC) selected Ripley Town Councillor Ian Fisher to receive the Highly Commended Award for Derbyshire Councillor of the Year 2021.

Waingroves resident, Cllr Fisher has volunteered as a Councillor for many years. Throughout the past year and a half, he has dedicated his time to researching and writing a new Ripley Town Guide and text for new information boards about the history of our Township, which have been installed at various places in the Ripley area.

Cllr Fisher's vision is to educate our local community about the rich history of Ripley and the surrounding villages. He feels it is important for people to know about how our town grew and its historical industrial significance.

Free copies of the Town Guide can be collected from Ripley Library or it can be read on our website.



Councillor Ian Fisher pictured with award

Proposed dates for Ripley Town Council events in 2022

Our Events Committee meet regularly to plan and discuss our exciting 2022 events programme (subject to Government guidelines). Please pencil these proposed dates on to your calendar and we will update you regarding details via our newsletters, website and social media:

Spring Market & Well Dressing - Sun 15 May

Wool Bombing - Sun 15 May - 12 June 2022

Big Day Out - TBC

Bands on Crossley Park - Various Sundays throughout the summer

Outdoor Cinema - Fri 9 Sept 2022

Remembrance - Sun 13 Nov 2022

Christmas Light Switch on & Market - Sun 27 Nov



RIPLEY TOWN COUNCILLOR CONTACT DETAILS

BHIB Derbyshire Council of the Year 2020 & 2018 & Highly Commended 2019

AMBERGATE WARD

Cllr. Christine Worth | 01773 853571 (Lab)

Cllr. Nigel Weaving | 01773 856375 (Lab)

BUTTERLEY WARD

Cllr. Steve Freeborn | 01773 749000 (Lab)

Cllr. Tony Holmes | 01773 742574 (Lab)

CENTRAL WARD

Cllr. Ron Ashton | 01773 745420 (Con)

Cllr. Lyndsay Cox | 01773 742574 (Lab)

EAST WARD

Cllr. Sean Carter | 01773 741600 (Con)

Cllr. Matt Jones | 01773 742225 (Lab)

Cllr. Roland Emmas-Williams | 01773 746543 (Lab)

Cllr. Ian Fisher | 01773 745221 (Lab)

Cllr. Steven Williams | 07837 263344 (Con)

ELMS WARD

Cllr. Matt Allwood | 07426 027184 (Lab)

Cllr. Janis Gregory | 01773 744477 (Lab)

Cllr. Trevor Spencer | 07982 943944 (Con)

HEAGE WARD

Cllr. Tony Harper | 07730 044021 (Con)

Cllr Paul Lobley | 01773 856874 (Lab)

Cllr. Lynn Joyes | 01773 857320 (Con)

MAREHAY WARD

Cllr. Mick Wilson | 01773 772712 (Lab)

NORTH WARD

Cllr. Paul Moss | 01773 748827 (Con)

Cllr. Matt Murray | 07598 284313 (Con)

WAINGROVES WARD

Cllr. David Williams | 01773 744754 (Lab)

The postal and email address for each Councillor can be found on the Ripley Town Council website.



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townclerk@ripleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Mon - Fri
10am - 3pm

www.ripleytowncouncil.gov.uk