

**Upcoming meeting dates**

21 November 2023, 16 January 2024  
 20 February 2024, 19 March 2024, 16 April 2024,  
 Annual Meeting 21 May 2024

All meetings start at 6.30 p.m. in Edenfield  
 Communal Room, West Pelton.

Beamish - High Urpeth - High Handen Hold - Urpeth Grange - (Parts of) Pelton Lane Ends & West Pelton

**URPETH PARISH  
 COUNCIL**

**Chronicle**



Welcome to our first ever newsletter. We wanted to take this opportunity to show you some of things we have been working on this year to make our villages the very best they can be. I have found that since joining the Parish Council, that not a lot of residents know who we are, or what we do. I hope that this will give you an insight into our work but ultimately, we are here to represent you. If there is something you would like to see in your community, please contact us or attend one our meetings to get involved.

Best wishes Cllr Gemma Holmes-Wood.

**BMX TRACK**

We are delighted that the new BMX Track has been installed on Urpeth Grange. This project has been in the works for several years with initial funding awarded by former County Councillor Colin Carr, as well as County Councillor Alison Batey and County Councillor Danny Wood. As a Parish Council we have also provided funding towards this project, as has Ouston Parish Council. We are delighted that it has now been installed and hope that it will be used and enjoyed by young people across the Parish for years to come.



**HIGHLIGHT  
 Flower Beds**

We have received lots of positive feedback from residents about the flowerbeds around Urpeth Grange. We are looking to have more beds installed at other locations in the parish. If you would like to suggest a potential location, please contact us to let us know.



**BEAMISH COMMEMORATIVE STONE**



On Remembrance Sunday we hold an annual Remembrance Service at 1.00 p.m. We are often joined by Kevan Jones MP and the Special Constabulary who stand with us in observing a two-minute silence to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice. Each year we apply for a road closure for Beamish Village to ensure this can take place.

**Our service this year will take place on Sunday 12 November 2023 at 1.00 p.m.**

**We hope you can join us.**

We have over recent years made some improvements to the memorial landscaping and earlier this year planted some King Charles Roses in commemoration of the Coronation of King Charles III.

Scan this QR code to visit our website, view our meeting timetable, agendas and minutes.



## FUTURE PLANS

One of the big projects we are working on is the refurbishment and extension of Eden Place Car Park. On the doorstep of Beamish Museum this is a vital access point to the Coast to Coast cycle track and the woodland around Beamish. We feel that in its current state, it reflects poorly on our local community and we would like to refurbish and improve it. Unfortunately the area has been leased to Beamish Museum and we are in talks with Durham County Council to have this transferred back into their ownership so that we take this project forward.

If you would like us to look into a project or issue in your community, please contact us.

## BEAMISH MUSEUM

The parish council invited representatives from the Museum to a recent meeting to discuss issues impacting our residents such as traffic, parking and woodland management. The council and Museum have established a working partnership and will meet regularly to provide a valuable link for the community.



As a Parish Council we are delighted to support the Marching of the High Handenhold Banner at the Miner's Gala. This is a really important part of our local history and the banner itself features Aneurin Bevan who founded the National Health Services.

We are always looking for volunteers on Gala Day and some years have also been able to take the West Pelton School Banner with us.

If you would be interested in supporting the banner next Gala day, or would like to be involved in setting up a formal banner group, please let us know. We'd love to hear from you.

## DID YOU KNOW...

We have been proud to support Ouston Community Centre with a number of projects over the past year. This is the local community centre for the vast majority of our residents and is a really well used communal facility.

In response to concerns raised by local residents we have replaced the four gates at our Allotment site in High Handenhold and have also contributed alongside County Councillor Danny Wood to the new fencing at Baytree Terrace to help keep the village clean and tidy.

Each year we undertake a Big Spring Clean with volunteer litter pickers and we'd love to hear from you regarding any areas which you think require a bit of a clean up. Scan the QR code below to offer your feedback.

## URPETH GRANGE PLAY AREA

We have worked with County Councillors, Durham County Council and the Urpeth Grange Residents Management Company and together we have had the play park transferred into the ownership of Durham County Council. Unfortunately, instead of paying a commuted sum to the local authority, the developer passed the cost of maintaining the park onto residents through a service charge, resulting in just 42 properties having to play for a play area on an estate of over one thousand homes. Now that the park has been adopted we have been able to ensure it is protected and will be maintained for years to come.



## Have your say.....

We'd love to get your views on a number of issues, including our priorities and council tax.

Scan the QR code to complete a short online survey.

If you require a paper copy please get in touch.



## USEFUL CONTACTS

<b>Parish Clerk</b>	urpethparishcouncil@gmail.com
<b>Police</b>	101 non emergency
<b>Durham County Council</b>	<a href="http://doitonline.durham.gov.uk">http://doitonline.durham.gov.uk</a> or 03000 260000
<b>NHS</b>	111 for non emergency
<b>Northern PowerGrid</b>	0800 668877 (24 hours)
<b>Ouston Community Centre</b>	0191 4105183
<b>Karbon Homes</b>	0808 1640111