

June 2014

Edition 6

Eldon News

Published by Eldon Parish Council

Special Interest Articles:

Garden Competition

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Your Council

Eldon Community Centre

Did you know that Eldon Community Centre has a Cafe which is open on Wednesdays & Fridays between 9.00 a.m. and 12.45 p.m. for breakfast, lunch and take-away meals at very reasonable prices?

The Centre can also cater for special occasions, including - weddings, birthdays, engagement parties, social events, children's parties, bereavement receptions and company meetings or conferences

Catering hygiene at the Centre has been awarded 5 stars, so you can book your event with confidence.

Room hire, buffets to order and a bar service are all available. Community Centre telephone – 01388 775955 or ring Diane on 01388 773309.

Garden Competition

It's that time of the year again! The Parish Council garden competition will be judged on **5th July 2014**.

There were some great gardens last year in Eldon and Old Eldon.

Anyone who lives in the Parish is included in the competition and Councillors were so

impressed with some of the new gardens created by residents last year that they decided to add an extra category.

If your garden can't be viewed from the highway and you want to enter, you need to allow us access, so please contact the Clerk before the judging date to make arrangements. Also

tell us about your new or replanted garden.

Categories this year are:

- Best Kept Garden
- Best Flower Garden
- Best Vegetable Garden or Plot
- Best New Garden

There is a prize of £50 in shopping vouchers for the winner in each category.

Village Fun Day

The Village Fun Day, organised by the Parish Council and Eldon Community Partnership, is being held on **Saturday 19th July 2014 from 11.00 a.m. until 2.00 p.m.** at the Community Centre and on the adjoining village green.

There will be a free bouncy castle and slide, fairground rides, face painting, magic shows and balloon modelling, cake stall and tombola.

This year we have decided, on a trial basis, to run some competitions

as part of the fun day. We hope you will take the opportunity to submit entries in at least one of the classes and show us (and all your friends and family) what you're best at!

The winner in each category will receive a trophy and voucher for £20.

The classes for adult entries (over 16) are:

- Baked item (savoury)
- Baked item (sweet)
- Photograph – any subject

Classes for children and young people (up to 16) are:

- Decorated paper plate
- Baked item (savoury)
- Baked item (sweet)
- Photograph – any subject
- Poem about Eldon 6-11
- Poem about Eldon 12-16

All entries must be handed into the Community Centre between 8.00 a.m. and 9.45 a.m. on 19th July.

Entries will be anonymised and judged by non- Parish Councillors.

If we have a decent amount of entries this year we will repeat the competitions again next year, so please submit an entry - and the very best of luck!

Your Parish Council in 2014-2015

This May saw the annual meeting of your Parish Council.

Councillor John Gibson was elected as Chairman of the Parish Council, with Councillor Rose Scaife as Vice-Chairman.

We currently have a vacancy for one Parish Councillor. Please get involved in your local community and if you are interested, let us know.

Meetings are held on the last Tuesday of July,

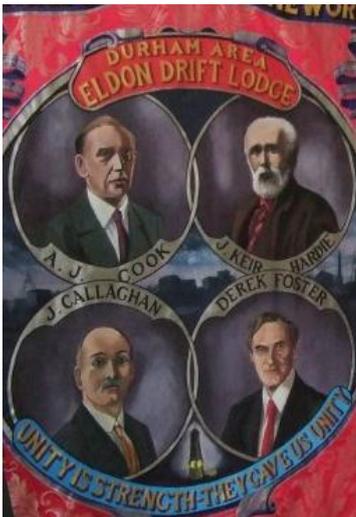
September, November, January, March and May at 7.00 p.m. in the Community Centre. You can attend and can also ask questions subject to giving us prior notice.

Details are on the Parish notice-board.

Durham Big Meeting

A bus has been provided from Eldon Community Centre to take the banner and band to Durham Miners' Gala on Saturday, 12th July. There are still spaces available for local people.

The bus will leave the Community Centre at 9.00 a.m., returning from Durham at 4.00 p.m. If you are interested in booking seats, please contact the Community Centre, or Diane, at the telephone numbers overleaf to make a reservation.



Councillor Vernon Chapman – Memorial

Following the death of Vernon Chapman, Chairman of Eldon Parish Council, in March 2013, the Parish Council has decided to erect a seat in his memory at the Community Centre.

Arrangements for an unveiling ceremony are currently being organised.



Parish Council Website

Well, it had to happen eventually – Eldon Parish Council now has a presence on the web in the form of our new website!

We have been working on a website for some time now as it is one of the ways in which we can communicate with electors in our Parish and tell you more about what we are doing, as well as giving

you the opportunity to contact us.

The new website will be hosted by Durham County Council and contains information about who we are; what we do and how you can get involved.

We also aim to help in advertising suitable local community events and are always happy to receive

information and photographs about local issues, although we reserve the right to edit these if necessary. Check out our website on:

<http://parishes.durham.gov.uk/eldon/Pages/default.aspx>

We understand that not everyone has internet access so will still issue an occasional newsletter.

Former Children's Playground at Eldon

We are delighted to report that the Parish Council has now been registered as owner of part of the former Children's playground land at Eldon.

This land lies to the west of Pasture Rows and is next to what was the former miners' recreational land in the village.

The remaining part of the Children's playground was

incorrectly registered in the 1980's by Sedgfield Borough Council and is now owned by Durham County Council.

The County Council has recognised that this remaining area of land belongs to the Parish Council and arrangements are in hand for the transfer of ownership.

This means that the

Parish Council will own three areas of land in Eldon and it hopes these can be used for future development to provide affordable housing for older residents and young families, as identified in the Parish Plan.

We hope to work with other landowners and with developers to create new housing locally in the future.

Eldon Gateway/Crossroads

The Parish Council is responsible for the flower beds at Eldon Crossroads and has contracted Durham County Council to maintain these areas.

We also hope to purchase a number of large wooden planters to be placed at locations around Eldon and Old Eldon to improve the environment.

We are still working on the arrangements for this, but hope in some way to involve young people in planting and caring for the flower tubs.

Local Activities

The Parish Council is funding a weekly multi-sport session for boys and girls from 4 years upwards every Wednesday evening between 5 and 6 p.m. at Eldon Community Centre from 25th June until the end of the summer holidays. The sessions (to be delivered by Shildon AFC), are **free**. The Centre is also hosting Zumba Gold sessions for people of **all ages** on Mondays from 10 to 11 a.m. Charge - £1.50 per session.

Help! - Your Community Centre Needs You

We have a fantastic Community Centre in Eldon.

The Centre gets no funding, other than grants from the Parish Council; all other income is from functions,

lunches and events, including bingo.

The Centre is run by unpaid volunteers and desperately needs others who can spare a few hours each week.

Please help – more volunteers means more things going on at the Centre.

If you can help, please ring Diane on 01388 773309. Thank you.

Contacts:

Councillor John Gibson (Chairman) – Telephone: 01388 774358

Tom Bolton (Clerk) – Telephone: 01388 710737 Email: tomantb55@btinternet.com or eldonpc@btinternet.com