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Kirklevington Village Newsletter

We are pleased to see the Arriva bus service has started and is being regularly used, largely by the school children but also by residents. Following only a couple of teething problems the service seems well under way – the route into and out of Yarm can be a little convoluted as the service continues to serve Willey Flatts – we have created a page on the website for bus related information such as the ability to print off the timetables and examine the route better- this can be accessed from the website homepage www.kirkcommunity.co.uk. It was our intention to share a copy of the timetable with every household but the text size is so small it is almost unreadable, there is a larger text version available on our site but that is 9 pages long and impractical to try and print for everyone – instead we have printed and laminated copies at the bus stop on the Green, the Village Hall entrance and also in the Crown. Reminder to all concessionary bus pass holders that Journeys starting before 9.30am Monday to Friday have a fixed fare of 30p. Details on this and how to get a bus pass are on our website.

We hope you have been able to see the new village Christmas tree in the playpark? Currently there is fence around it to protect the tree and the power/lights.

We mentioned in our last newsletter that the footpath to the southside of the school was getting waterlogged. It does seem to have solidified now but we will continue to monitor it.

We have all noticed and been subjected to a significant increase in the number of HGV movements in the village heading in to the Taylor Wimpey site, this is because their SuDS rainwater storage is not connected to the main drainage supply and is now at risk of flooding the nearby properties, the tanker lorries are needed to remove the excess rainwater quickly to prevent this – TW may now have gained permission to pump it directly in to a road drain which could reduce the tanker movements at least. Sadly Taylor Wimpey seem to be a law unto themselves at the moment, aggravating everyone they come into contact with and the Parish Council are powerless to do anything about it. The best we can continue to do is report their violations to SBC who can impose restrictions on them, but this is a very slow process.

We are thinking of installing some outdoor exercise equipment in the playpark for use by children and adults alike, we are keen to help promote healthy living and nearly 40% of the residents favoured the idea when replying to last year's Parish questionnaire. We think this might be a good asset for everyone; but we would welcome your views, if anyone has any objections please let us know (email, or pop a note in the letterbox in the VH entrance) or feel

free to use the voting buttons on our website to register your opinion. The equipment would lend itself well to some taught group exercise classes, more so for the elder residents?

This year's Halloween competition did not disappoint, there were so many people seen walking the streets looking at the displays, many from outside the area too. One piece of feedback received by numerous different people is that next year we should not make it a competition but just leave it 'open' as many people decorate their houses without wanting to be in the competition and many that do enter are not doing it for the prize. We have a mixed opinion about this in the council so would welcome your feedback as to what to do next year?

"Thank you to everyone who came to support the Service of Remembrance and laying of wreaths at St Martin's on Sunday. It's wonderful to see people coming together as 'community' on these occasions. It was great to also have the Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Guides with us. £710 will be sent to The Royal British Legion from our service and the one held in Worsall. Thank you for your generosity. It is going to an excellent charity." **Rev Kate**

Another polite reminder to all dog owners, with the dark nights we have seen a huge increase in the amount of dog mess left not just on the pavements but also St Martins Green's field and the back fields around the Story development. It is totally irresponsible and unfair on everyone else to not pick up after your own dog – this is by far the biggest complaint we receive in the council and really gives all other dog owners a bad name – **PLEASE PICK IT UP!**

Dates for your diaries

Our annual Christmas event will be held on the afternoon of Sunday 11th December from 5pm onwards, our amazing Kirklevington choir will once again be singing our favourite carols around the tree to open the event and then Santa will be in the Village Hall grotto with presents for kids. Refreshments will also be served - mince pies/mulled wine for the adults, hot dogs and juice for the children, all free-of-charge courtesy of the Parish Council.

St Martins & St Hilary Church Christmas events.

Friday 9 th December	Christmas Concert	19:00
Sunday 11 th December	Christingle	10:00
Monday 19 th December	Carol Service	19:00 (with mulled wine & mince pies)
Christmas Eve	Crib Service	15:30 (visit from Father Christmas too!)
Christmas Day	Communion with Carols	09:30

It will be the coronation of King Charles III on the weekend of 6th May, we will be planning an event to celebrate this over those dates, again thoughts welcomed.

Next year Kirkfest will be held on the weekend of 24/25th June 2023 – please make a note of this as it's been selected specifically so the children are still at school and therefore not likely to be on holidays and miss the events.

Season's greetings to all our residents from everyone here on the Parish Council