

LUDDENDEN CONSERVATION SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER – JULY 2008

MUSIC FOR ALL

The Music for All day took place at the end of June as described in the last newsletter. In spite of the awful weather, the day was extremely successful, and the organisers are to be greatly congratulated and thanked for putting on such a successful event for everyone in the village to enjoy, whatever sort of music they may like.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There have been no planning applications submitted to Calderdale for this area since the last newsletter.

The Society has now been informed by Calderdale that the Public Enquiry into the refusal by Calderdale to grant planning permission for a fence up New Road opposite the entrance to Carr Field Drive and above the new dwelling at Snail Quarry will be held on September 2nd. Further details of place, time etc will be provided in the next newsletter at the end of August.

CALDERDALE COUNCIL AREA FORUM

Last Saturday, Calderdale held an 'area forum' in which groups and any interested individuals were invited to a meeting at St. Michael's Church, Mytholmroyd to discuss with Councillors and Calderdale officials issues which we see as being important to and affecting our area. At the end of our discussions, we were asked to talk about the three most important items that had been raised, and these would then be considered in Council, with an aim of trying to take some action on them if this is possible, and the issue is something which Calderdale can deal with.

The three issues which all the people from Luddenden and Luddendenfoot considered most important were

1. Whether Luddenden would be expected to have wheelie bins when these are introduced shortly. We pointed out the difficulties which these would make in a hilly area, where the majority of houses open directly onto the road. We were told that it is expected that about a quarter of houses in Calderdale would not have these and an inspection would take place of every area beforehand. The Society will do their utmost to make sure that they are not introduced where it is entirely inappropriate.
2. The second concern was the speed of traffic and road safety down the local hillside roads, and the inappropriate parking of cars on road junctions, where it is a very definite traffic hazard. The Society has had very many complaints, for example, about traffic parking on the corner of New Road and High Street, making it totally impossible for anyone coming out of High Street to see whether anything is coming up or down New Road, and there have been a number of accidents because of this. Calderdale will be taking a look at this, and meanwhile ask that people should be reminded that the Highway Code states that there should be no parking for 15 yards above and below such junctions.
3. The third concern was the lack of activities and play equipment for young people, and the consequent vandalism and misbehaviour, particularly during school holidays. This was a common theme for most of the groups present, and again, it is hoped that something may come out of this.

There will be another such Forum in September, and a report back on action from this first. It is too early to judge whether these will be useful, but they certainly led to the officials being made aware of the many concerns that people have about our area and problems that are arising.

MINK IN THE RIVERS

There has been quite a problem around the river Calder and its feeder streams of wild mink. Some years ago, some animal rights activists let loose a whole lot from a mink farm at Old Town, and these have now become a great problem, in that they are killing wildlife such as water hens, ducklings etc. The possibility of the Society purchasing one or more traps to catch some of these locally has been suggested – any comments on this would be welcomed by the Society.

ENVIRONMENTAL GREEN ISSUES

The Society, at the last meeting, decided to set up a small committee to look at how some of these issues, e.g. the use of windmills on houses, might affect the village, as it was thought useful to consider the issues and our attitudes towards them before they actually arise. The committee will report back.

AUGUST MEETING

The August meeting will be the second in which we have invited a guest speaker – in this case two. The speakers will be brothers Michael and Graham Newton, who will give an illustrated talk on the Natural History of the Luddenden Valley. This will be followed by them leading a guided walk up the valley the following Thursday, September 4th. Both our speakers are very well-known naturalists and wildlife photographers, and the last talk they gave to the Society on the subject was extremely successful and very well attended, so please put these dates in your diary if interested.

NEXT MEETING of the Society will be held in the **Lord Nelson**, at **7.45pm on Thursday, July 31st. All are invited.**

Luddenden Conservation Society

Founded 1975; Registered Charity Number 504387

Officers: Rodney Collinge (President and Newsletter Editor); Trevor Oaten (Chair), Steve Thompson (Secretary); Tony Hillyard (Treasurer and Website Manager), Rick Painter (Planning Applications Officer), Jason Boom (Luddenden in Bloom)

For more local and Society information, visit our website www.luddenden.com
[http://www.luddenden.com/](http://www.luddenden.com) sponsored by local firm Rockmill Webspinners