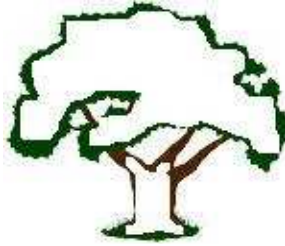


LUDDENDEN CONSERVATION SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER – MAY 2008

LAST MEETING

The Society has, as mentioned in the last newsletter, decided to try a few meetings this year of a different nature. The last meeting was the first of these, and Clive Lloyd and David Cant gave an illustrated talk on 'A Springtime Saunter Revisited' to an absolutely packed room in the Lord Nelson. In 1913, the book 'A Springtime Saunter in and about Bronte-land' was published, and over the years, this has become a local classic. The author, Whiteley Turner, started out in Mount Tabor, and wrote of all the characters, events and items of interest in Luddenden Dean, Wainstalls, over Fly Flatt to Oxenhope and then on to Haworth. Clive and David retraced this journey today, and showed how many of the places mentioned in the original book are no longer present, but also talked to the people living in many of those which do exist, and other interesting characters they met on the route.

The meeting was declared a resounding success, and it was agreed to continue with meetings of this type every three or four months. The next will be held at the end of August, and will be on the subject of 'The Natural History of the Luddenden Valley'. It will be given by two very well-known naturalists and photographers – Michael Newton of Hebden Bridge and brother Graham of Greetland, and shortly afterwards they will follow it up by taking a trip up the valley for anyone interested. Our annual meeting takes place in September, and it is hoped by then to have fixed the dates of this series of meetings through till September 2009.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The last newsletter mentioned that the Society had objected to an application for a detached garage and stable at The Old Coach House, at the side of Woodlands between Luddenden and Booth. We have now been informed by Calderdale that the application has been refused on the grounds that the site lies within the green belt and would harm this. It was also stated that there was insufficient information given.

There have been no further planning applications in the area since the last newsletter.

MIDGLEY POST OFFICE

Many people may have heard that as part of the Government closures of Post Offices, it is now proposed that the Post Office at Midgley Community Shop will be closed. People may be aware that when the former Midgley Post Office and shop closed down about five or six years ago, the community in Midgley banded together to open a community shop, with a Post Office attached which is currently open for five half days a week, and is run in conjunction with the Post Office at Wainstalls, which is open for the other five half days when Midgley is closed. If the Post Office in Midgley is closed down, it is questionable as to whether the community shop will be able to survive, particularly as they are having to find new premises.

Quite a number of people from Luddenden use the Post Offices in both Wainstalls and Midgley, and anyone who feels strongly that this Post Office should not be closed down can write to Post Office Ltd., Freepost Consultation Team, (no stamp needed), or email consultation@postoffice.co.uk. In addition, there will be a meeting open to all at Luddendenfoot Civic Centre, run by Calderdale Council, at 6pm on Friday 30th May. In view of the fact that the closure may also lead to the closure of the community shop, and make it uneconomic for someone to run a Post Office at Wainstalls for only two and a half days, help towards its preservation may be something which local people will feel able to support.

NEXT MEETING of the Society will be held in the **Lord Nelson**, at **7.45pm on Thursday, May 29th**

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
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