



Great Aycliffe Town Council

Council Offices - School Aycliffe Lane - Newton Aycliffe - Co. Durham DL5 6QF

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21st March 2014

NEW GOLF MANAGER FOR THE OAK LEAF GOLF COMPLEX

The Council would like to welcome Julie Welch as the new Golf Manager/Head Professional at the Oak Leaf Golf Complex. Recently at Ramside Golf Club as a teaching professional, Julie has also worked at Sharpley and Ingleby Barwick golf clubs. Julie has a number of aims she would like to achieve at the Oak Leaf Complex:



‘Golf development is high on my agenda with particular emphasis on attracting new people to the game such as Children, Ladies, Disabled and all other beginners. A Ladies’ Section has recently been established at the Oak Leaf Golf Club and a ladies-only ‘get into golf’ session commences in March, with a number of ladies already signed up to take part.

Junior coaching sessions are also being held, which are proving popular and attracting young people new to golf. In addition, I have secured £1,000 funding to teach golf in schools and a new disabled project is also in progress, with more details to follow.

I aim to make the Oak Leaf Golf Complex a family-friendly environment which will attract members of the local community – whether experienced golfers or those new to the game.

In the golf shop, we stock a wide range of brands in both clothing and clubs - even if the brand you want is not on display do not be afraid to ask or haggle for a bargain! New stock is arriving weekly and demonstration evenings will be organised in the near future if you want to try before you buy – details to be announced soon.

Joining my team is Phil Maitland, Assistant Professional from the Hobson Golf Club, Sean Hardy, an apprentice looking to study for his PGA qualification along with Ryan Coles and Stewart Franks who have been retained from the previous professional.’



Teaching ADULT COACHING

Julie Welch - Head Professional

Individual 30 minute lesson: £20

Special Offer: 6 Lessons for the price of 5

“Get into Golf” for beginners: £25 for 5 one hour group lessons



Phil Maitland -

Assistant Professional

Individual 30 minute lesson: £15

Special Offer: 6 for the price of 5

JUNIOR COACHING

£5 per hour group coaching



In our shop we stock a wide range of brands in both clothing and clubs.

Oak Leaf Golf Complex, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe DL5 6QF



2014/2015 Season Tickets Unlimited Golf until 31 March 2015

18 hole course with floodlit driving range, buggy hire and changing and shower facilities. Bar and catering available at the Oak Leaf Sports Complex.

Fully stocked shop and coaching from our new PGA Professional and Golf Manager, Julie Welch

SEASON TICKETS

Adult 7 day	£325
Adult 5 day	£280
Seniors (over 60) 7 day	£280
Seniors (over 60) 5 day	£230

VISITING PARTY PACKAGES AVAILABLE

Driving Range £2 Small - £4 Large

Green Fees Frozen

Mon - Fri £13 • Weekends £16

JUNIOR SEASON TICKETS

18 - 21 (in full time education)	£175
14 - 18	£75
10 - 14	£55
Under 10	£35

Season ticket prices include Membership of the Oak Leaf Golf Club



Tel: 01325 310 820 or see www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk for further details

2014/15 Council Budget

“New Government legislation leaves the Town Council with no choice but to increase the Council Tax for the first time since 2009”

The Town Council has recently agreed its Revenue and Capital Budget for 2014/15. The budget has been prepared on the principle of protecting and maintaining all services at existing levels next year.

Unfortunately, however, the Council is setting its budget at a challenging time for local government and the town and parish council sector.

The Council is facing a cut to the government funding on which it is now reliant as well as a number of unavoidable increases in costs, and has been left with no choice but to increase the Town Council proportion of the Council Tax next year.

The Council has been managing its finances prudently for a number of years and this is reflected in the fact that it has not increased the Council Tax for five years. Further savings have been delivered in the current financial year and these have been utilised in restricting the amount by which the Council needs to increase the Council Tax.

However over the last two years the Council has seen its income cut by more than £100,000 as a result of changes in Government legislation regarding the Council Tax Benefits System and the subsequent reductions to the Council Tax Support Grant. It also faces a number of other budget pressures next year including pay awards, inflation and pension reforms such as the requirement to implement automatic enrolment.

This situation is unlikely to improve in the coming years with further cuts expected to funding and on-going pressure on spending budgets.

As a result the Council has taken the difficult decision to offset the budget pressures faced via a combination of savings and budget reductions and an increase in the Council Tax.

The Council does not take this decision lightly, and in keeping the increase broadly in line with the current rate of inflation at 2.49%, the impact on the Council Tax Bill at Valuation Band A will be limited to around £3 per year or 7p per week.

This increase will ensure that all of the important services currently provided by the Town Council to the community of Great Aycliffe can be protected and maintained.

The Council is shortly due to commence the process of updating its Medium Term Financial Plan which will look ahead over the next five years at how the Council's budget may need to change to meet the challenges that lie ahead.

I will keep local tax payers updated on the future financial outlook for the Council in subsequent newsletters.

Councillor Bob Fleming

Chairman of Policy and Resources Committee

Seven Hills Improvements

Great Aycliffe Town Council took over the ownership of small woodland known locally as Seven Hills at the end of 2013. The site is located to the rear of Palmer Road and since taking over the area from Livin Housing Association the Council has been busy tidying up and improving the site.

Initially the main task was to remove the build up of litter and fly tipped household waste. Local schools and nurseries assisted in planting spring woodland bulbs such as snowdrops and bluebells which are now either in flower or starting to emerge.

There has been an ongoing tree maintenance programme to make safe any potentially dangerous trees as highlighted from a professional tree survey. Gates have also been installed at the two entrances at Clarence Corner and Cosin Close to restrict access to motorised vehicles and reduce other anti social behaviour. Further ongoing improvements are planned for the site in the future such as installation of nest boxes.

Great Aycliffe Town Council would recommend that local residents visit the site to have a look at the improvements and enjoy the peace and quiet of this little wildlife haven.



Getting Creative

Recently a series of public events have been held at Moore Lane Eco Centre to create a stunning felt wildlife banner which was designed by local artist Susan Warlock. The banner took almost 6 hours to create and was built up using thousands of tiny sticky bits of coloured felt. Participants came from across the town and beyond to assist in the creation of the banner which depicts a countryside view with many of the animals which, if lucky enough, can be found around the town.



Visitors to Moore Lane Eco Centre will be able to view the banner which will take pride of place in the centre's main classroom during public events over the Easter holidays. Susan will also be coming back to the centre over Easter for a further public event to help create some stunning Easter artwork.



Easter Countryside Activities

We have again provided a selection of popular countryside activities to keep all the family entertained over the holidays. All activities are free, booking may be essential if stated. To book your place or find out more information please contact Great Aycliffe Town Council on 01325 300700.

EASTER NATURE CRAFTS WORKSHOP

Monday 7th April 9.30am- 12.30pm

Professional Artist Susan Warlock will be visiting Moore Lane Eco Centre to help participants to create an assortment of Easter creations which are inspired by nature. Places will be limited and booking essential by contacting Great Aycliffe Town Council.

KRAFTY KRITTERS

Wednesday 9th April 5.30pm – 6.30pm

Krafty Kritters are coming along to Moore Lane Eco Centre with some of their exotic animals to explain how their British cousins make this area their home. Booking is essential as places are limited, reserve your places by contacting the Council on the above phone number.

NATURE PARK POND

DIPPING

Monday 14th April 10.30am- 12 noon

Here is your opportunity to join the Council's Environment Officer to discover what life has returned to the Nature Parks' pond this spring. Please bring along your wellies, nets and buckets if you have them. Meet at the ponds, off Travellers Green.



AYCLIFFE'S DUCK RACE

Wednesday 16th April 10.30 – 12 noon

This is a great fun event for all the family; we'll be meeting at the bridge over the burn near Humphrey Close and race rubber ducks down the burn to the next bridge at Burn Lane. The natural obstacles such as rocks and stones does make this event very exciting



and it can become quite competitive. Due to safety reasons this event may be weather dependent, please contact the Town Council closer to the date or visit facebook- Aycliffe Moore Lane Eco Centre to keep up to date about what is happening over the holidays.



SENIOR CITIZENS' EXCURSIONS

The Senior Citizens' Excursions are one of the most popular events organised by the Council. Each year, we organise a series of free excursions for the senior citizens (60 years or over) who live in our Parish. This year the Excursions will start on Monday 2nd June and finish on Friday 4th July.

The application forms and information booklets will be available on April 29th from the Council Offices, Golf and Sports Complexes, Recreation Centre (Beveridge Way) and the Library in the Town centre.

This year, residents have the choice of visiting Whitby, Northumberland, Skipton, Scarborough or South Shields for the day with a three course meal and tea or coffee provided in a good quality hotel with disabled facilities.

Some of the excursions have comfort breaks where tea or coffee with biscuits is provided by the Council.

The coaches provided are 49-53 seater executive coaches with toilet facilities. There is also a 53 seater executive coach with a wheelchair hoist to each destination. This ensures that even people with severe mobility problems can enjoy a day out. The hoist can be used to assist passengers who need to travel in their wheelchair, or may be used by people who cannot manage the steps on the coach.

Each person who qualifies is entitled to one 'trip'. To qualify you must be aged 60 or over and must have lived in the electoral parish by 1st April 2014.

In 2013, we received 1364 applications so please make sure you apply in time to get the excursion date you would like. The closing date for applications is Friday 16th May 2014.



MAYOR'S CHARITY CIVIC DINNER

The Annual Mayor's Charity Civic Dinner was hosted by the Mayor of Great Aycliffe, Councillor Barbara Clare, on Friday, 21st February 2014 at The Aston Hotel, Newton Aycliffe. Entertainment was provided by Samantha Mac with dancing to Boogie Box.

The fund raising at the event was in aid of the Mayor's nominated Charities during her Year in Office and this year the Mayor has chosen the St. Clare's Food Bank (Durham Christian Partnership) and the Cardiothoracic Unit at James Cook Hospital.



A special thanks must go to Barclays Bank who match funded the evening's fund raising when a total amount of £1,408 was made for the charities.

Mr. Geoff Batchelor, President of the Rotary Club of Newton Aycliffe gave an excellent response to the Mayor on behalf of the guests.

Councillor Mrs. Clare would like to take this opportunity to thank The Aston Hotel, Heineken Breweries, Nedco, Whitehouse Funeral Services and fellow Councillors and friends who have supported her during the year by donating gifts for the fund raising.



MAYOR'S CHARITY CABARET NIGHT

The Mayor of Great Aycliffe will be holding a Cabaret Night at the Royal British Legion Club on Thursday, 1st May 2014 commencing at 7.30 p.m.

The event will be in aid of her nominated charities:- St. Clare's Food Bank and the Cardiothoracic Unit at James Cook Hospital. Tickets are £5 and will be on sale from the Council Offices and the Royal British Legion. Entertainment for the evening will be from 'Stan Fuller' together with a supporting artiste. Pie and peas are included in the cost of the ticket. A fund raising raffle will also take place along with a game of Bingo.

Tickets are limited and will be on sale on a first come first served basis.



GREAT AYCLIFFE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Town Council are hoping to appoint a Community Neighbourhood Engagement Officer in the near future to assist with the preparation of the Great Aycliffe Neighbourhood Plan. The Great Aycliffe Neighbourhood Plan (GANP) will become a planning document for the future of Great Aycliffe

We will be seeking to gather your view on a wide range of issues over the coming months. A range of events and activities will be planned to give you the opportunity to have your say and shape Great Aycliffe for future generations. Events will be publicised in our newsletter, the Newton News and on the Town Council website. If you have any ideas you want to share please let us know at info@great-aycliffe.gov.uk.

FUNDING AVAILABLE FROM AYCLIFFE YOUTH COUNCIL

Aycliffe Youth Council has small grant funding available for voluntary and charitable groups or organisations which are based in the Great Aycliffe parish area. The grant should bring direct benefit to the young people of Great Aycliffe and individuals may apply but each case will be considered on its merits.

Applying is easy. For more information go to www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk/info/council-and-democracy/community-engagement/aycliffe-youth-council.html you can apply in writing to Great Aycliffe Town Council, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe DL5 6QF or telephone **Chrissy Walton 01325 300700** who will be able to provide you with more information.





Oak Leaf
Sports Complex
01325 300600
www.great-aycliffe.gov.uk

DROP IN SESSIONS

FOOTBALL FUN

Mondays 4.00pm - 5.00pm
Aged 4 to 7 yrs - Only £1.00

SQUASH COACHING

Tuesdays from 4.15pm - 6.10pm
Ages 8 to 15 years
£2.40 members £2.75 non members

PASS - SATURDAY CLUB

9.30am - 11.00am
Ages 8 to 15 years - Only £2.00

SUPER SPORTS SKILLS

during

Easter

BALLS OF FUN

Monday 7th April • 11am - 12pm
8-15 years

ARCHERY

Tuesday 10th April • 9.30am - 11.30am
Tuesday 15th April • 9.30am - 11am
8-15 years

MINI ACTIVITY SESSION

Wednesday 9th April
9.30am - 11am • 4-7 years

CRAFTY KIDS

Thursday 10th April • 9.30am - 11am
8-15 years

GOLF

Friday 11th April
10am - 11am • 4-7 years
11am - 12pm • 8-15 years
FREE TASTER SESSION
Places are limited, booking essential

RACKETS AND BATS

Monday 14th April • 11am - 12pm
8-15 years

You can enter our draw to win a Bike!

JUNIOR ARCHERY COACHING



6 WEEK COURSE

Only £25.00

With Stephen Waddingham
Starting Tuesday 3rd June
4.30pm - 5.30pm
8 - 15 year olds

Booking is essential as places are limited

ACTIVITIES

Body Fit

for the over 50's

Wednesday
4.30pm - 5.30pm
£2.00 per session

Improve your movement, flexibility, muscular strength and endurance.

Meet new friends while you improve your health and tone your body.

Suitable for all ages.

Oaklife

Over 50's Club

Thursday
10am - 12noon
£3.00 per session
includes a hot drink

Activities include Bowls, Table Tennis, Archery, Badminton and much more.

Ideal for people with time on their hands who would like to feel a little fitter but the gym isn't for them.

Adult Squash

Drop In
for beginners

Thursday
6.15pm - 7pm
& 7pm - 7.45pm
£1.00 per session

All over 16's welcome and all equipment will be provided.

Squash player's will be on hand to give any advice or guidance that is needed.

PILATES at Oak Leaf

Pilates is an exercise method that emphasises the balanced development of the body to improve strength, flexibility and mobility and helps to create a sense of wellbeing. Regardless of age, ability or fitness level, Pilates can help everyone move and feel better.

FREE TASTER CLASS SUNDAY 23rd MARCH

Classes on Sundays
from 6pm - 7pm
Booking Essential

For further information please contact
Instructor, Ione Hannam on
07932 78 01 16
totalbalancepilates@gmail.com



Nia is a holistic fitness for body and mind, blending the joyfulness of dance with energy yoga and martial arts.

Fun, low-impact, easy to follow cardio workout, to inspiring music from around the world. No experience required. Suitable for any shape, age or fitness level.

**6 WEEK COURSE for only £30
or £6.50 per class**

Tuesdays from 5.30pm until 6.30pm

For further information please contact
Instructor, Anne Cosgrove on
07762 148 661

MEMBERSHIPS at THE OAK LEAF

They are great value at only £13.00 for an adult and £7.00 for a junior or senior citizen

Re-new your membership from 17th March

The benefits of being a member are:
Book 14 days in advance • No advance payment necessary
Reduced rates for all bookings and equipment hire

This is the perfect time to join our membership scheme!

Take out new membership from 24th March

New! Kids Menu

Kids will love our new 3 step pick & mix menu

1. Pick a main 2. Add a side 3. choose a veg

All for £2.99

Fancy a dessert, choose from

Vanilla Ice Cream, Iced Lolly or Custard Face

For only £1

2 for £9.50

On meals from our 'Specials' on the black board.

Anytime of the day or night, when the kitchen is open.

Oak Leaf Sports Complex, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham DL5 6QZ.
Tel. 01325 300600