

# WETHERBY



Boys  
Will Be  
Boys

ISSUE 45 until Fri 9 June '23

# Free Press

Est 2021 Facts & Integrity

**We Say What We See**

Contents overleaf



Read Full Issue at  
[www.pkmarketing1.com/wetherby-free-press](http://www.pkmarketing1.com/wetherby-free-press)



## Big Refurb at Morrisons this July

The supermarket has announced on Facebook Group Wetherby Grumbler: "Morrisons would like to make you aware that there will be a big refurbishment **starting Mon 3 July**. This will involve new fixtures, fittings, fridges and freezers. Also some sections will need to be moved. We will minimise disruption as much as possible. Thank you."  
*We asked for more details but they have yet to be finalised. Watch this space.*

## No Apology from Town Hall for Meeting Confusion

There was confusion about the start time of the Annual Town Council meeting on 16 May. This is the main meeting for residents to question our town representatives. Was it 6pm or 7pm? The calendar, right, on the website stated 7pm, which is what we published. It was wrong.

It transpired that there were 2 meetings that evening. The first at 6pm was the Annual Public Meeting and following that at 7pm was the normal monthly Town Council meeting (which the public can also attend).

The fact there was two meetings taking place that evening was not made clear on the website or anywhere else but Cllr Harrington or the Town Clerk, Iona Taylor, would not say sorry for the confusion. At least one lady thought it was 7pm and would have missed the main one if the WFP had not clarified it for her.

*A tea-time start at six o'clock is very early, especially if you are working in Harrogate, York or Leeds. And more people may have attended if the Annual Report for 2022/23 was available to read BEFORE the meeting. It was not on the website or printed anywhere. Did they expect people to digest it and then ask questions about it at the meeting itself?*

*This report should clearly spell out why the Conservative Town Council raised their part of the Council Tax by 83% this year in a cost of living crisis. And why they are one of the few town councils in the country who need a Communications Officer (£27K+).*

MAY 2023 - TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Early May Bank Holiday	2 3.00pm - Planning Committee 4.00pm - Planning Committee 5.00pm - Town Hall Management 7pm - Markets Committee	3 Elections	4	5	6
7	8 Coronation Bank Holiday	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16 17PM - ANNUAL TOWN COUNCIL (6pm - 8pm & 6pm - 7pm)	17	18	19	20
21	22 4.00pm - Planning Committee 5.00pm - Planning Committee 7.00pm - Climate Emergency	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 Spring Bank Holiday	30	31			

Wrong Time on Town Hall Website



2.30 - 4.30  
Sun 28 May York R'way  
Mon 29 May Kippax  
Sun 4 June Dronfield

Drighlington Band May 23

Again, on the subject of transparency, the minutes of the previous Council meeting in April were not available on the website, even in draft form. *This is most unusual.*

*We hope our new Town Councillors will find the answers to these and previous important questions of performance and accountability. We recognise that councillors are volunteers but they are responsible for what goes on in the Town Hall.*

### Otley - Open & Accountable



Town Clerk for Otley  
Image on their Website



Still No Images of any Staff on  
Wetherby Town Council Website

**Lucky Duck**  
at **CANCER RESEARCH shop**  
on **Sundays**

**£1**

**Duck Food**

**Brass Band Concerts by the River**

**Christine Talbot on Page 3**

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Squeaky Bum Time

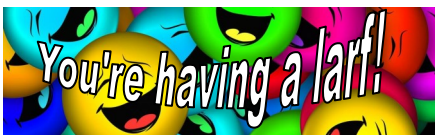
## SPORT

Out of Cup



Page 10

This week's so-called 'Wetherby News' (£2) has only 2 items relating to Wetherby. Both are copied and pasted charity press releases. There is nothing about last week's Annual Town Council meeting. They are not even informing us, let alone making our elected representatives accountable. No letters from Wetherby for months either. The evidence points to the town giving up on them (not sending them news) and they've given up on the town.



A Real Local Paper in a Cheshire town.  
Would ours from Harrogate print this story if it happened in our town?



## Elderly Caring & Domestic Help

15 years Experience



NVQ Level 2 Qualification

References available

Call Kerry on 07876 525 589

## Wetherby Town Council Mtg - April

MINUTES PUBLISHED 6 WEEKS AFTER IT TOOK PLACE

### WHY SO LATE?

Normally it takes 4 weeks max. They need them for the following monthly meeting

No explanation on Council website

They were published the day before we publish - coincidence?

*We will review them in next issue*

*We still need 4 more councillors - details on how to apply before 5 June on next page*



Opens 7am

£1 entry for buyers over-16s

Sellers: from 6am No booking necessary

£12 cars, £16 vans, +£3 trailers

Please have exact money

Dogs welcome on a lead

Ample parking, refreshments & toilets



Amazing Variety of Old & New Items to Buy Every Week!

Postcode LS22 5EJ

Tel: 07990 938142

Facebook: W'by Racecourse Car Boot

We Are Not-For-Profit

2

We Do It Purely for the Community

# Kirk Deighton Charity Success with help from Christine Talbot

**VOLUNTEERS** in Kirk Deighton have raised hundreds of pounds for charitable organisations following a Coronation celebration, which drew crowds from across the Parish.

**Organisers were joined by special guest, TV presenter and journalist Christine Talbot** on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May, raising money for Kirk Deighton Rangers FC who are in need of cash to fund a new roof on their clubhouse. The Prince's Trust is also set to benefit from a generous donation thanks to the hard work of village locals.

**Christine Talbot said:** "The community spirit in Kirk Deighton is second-to-none. There is a real, genuine sense of wanting to come together and participate in these wonderful social activities. It was my honour to be there and help the volunteers raise some money!"

**The event was arranged by community group 'KD Events'**. Formed in the wake of the pandemic in March 2022, the group give their own time to put on social gatherings and activities with a sole aim of bringing the village community together. To date they have held a successful Jubilee Party, cricket fun-day and Christmas lights switch on.

**Guy Roberts, who chairs the KD Events team** said, "We are enormously thankful to the people of Kirk Deighton and beyond who attended Sunday's event at Kirk Deighton Rangers football club. Without them we



wouldn't have raised so much money for charity. It was fantastic to see people enjoying themselves, celebrating in the sunshine."

**Village pub, The Bay Horse, donated and cooked BBQ food** for the day, while the celebration also saw a pop-up bar stocking local ale from Wetherby based Bosun's Brewery.

**There were spring-time staples including cake sale, welly-wanging, tug-o-war, a craft stall** run in conjunction with All Saints Church and an exceptional raffle with a mountain bike as the star prize, donated by the Bike Shack.

**Local Country Rock musician Luke Flear, 21,** provided entertainment

for the day, performing his own original songs as well as a range of crowd pleasers!

**The team are now looking ahead to their next event later this year** and are already in talks with the Wetherby Lion's about a visit from Father Christmas in December.



Christine Talbot at the event

Free Family Event

## Wetherby Drovers Day

Saturday 1 July

Town Hall 11am - 5pm  
Bandstand 4pm - 9pm

Be part of it leads0003.co.uk

# Wetherby 'The Drovers'

Wetherby 'The Drovers' Brass Band Marching Contest, Saturday 1st July from 16:00 - All new to Wetherby in 2023. Your Hosts are ready to bring a Brass Band Marching Contest to the town for the first time. From 4pm around 16 bands are signed up and ready to compete and entertain the thousands of visitors. In the style of Lancashire's famous Whit Friday Marches we will bring you closed street marching, in a Yorkshire riot of Colour and up-beat sound along the length of Wetherby High Street and then down to Wetherby Bandstand for two further 'stood' tunes.

## WETHERBY THE DROVERS

### BRASS BAND MARCHING CONTEST

Saturday 1st July 2023. 4pm 'till dark

That's not all. The town's market square is closed for the food, drink, music and craft exhibitions and sales for the whole afternoon. The theme is the Cattle Droving cultural history which brought, over the course of 200 years, helped to bring the developing markets town its prosperity and notable position mid route between Edinburgh and London on the Great North Road - You can read more about this on their Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/events/3097359673895465/permalink/3097359693895463>

# Brass Band Marching Contest

## We are Still 4 Cllrs Short!

According to the Town Council website, the 4 remaining vacancies can be filled by co-option - a process whereby the council considers applications from interested persons and can then select people to fill the seats. Information about the varied work and role of a local councillor can be found in the 'Good Councillor's Guide'. If you have any further questions or would like to discuss the role, then please contact the Town Clerk, Iona Taylor or Deputy Clerk, Barry Riley.

Applications must be submitted by e-mail to [deputyclerk@wetherby.co.uk](mailto:deputyclerk@wetherby.co.uk) by **Mon 5th June**. Forms are available on the website.

Interviews will be held in the afternoon of **Tues 13th June**, with the co-options to take place at the Town Council meeting that evening.

An induction session will be held on **Mon 19th June**.

# TRANSPORT NEWS

££ Single 33  
**Bus Fares**  
**£2 until 31 Oct '23**

on almost all buses

*This only makes a real difference if you're on your own and going to York or Tadcaster.*

*£4 return is good value for those journeys. But if there's 2 of you, that's £8 and if you have a car, it may be cheaper to use it. Sadly.*

## Cost of Unleaded Correct on Thurs 25 May to nearest p

Shell £1.50 Morrisons £1.48 same as 2 wks ago

Morrisons H'gate £1.41

*Diff b/w Shell & H'gate to fill av tank is £4.70*



**MD of Connexions buses (X70, 412 & 923) Craig Temple now has a regular column in Buses magazine.** The Chief Exec of main competitor Harrogate Bus Co had a regular column in the so-called Wetherby News so we offered Craig the same opportunity in our newsletter. He wrote one 'Craig's Tales' in Dec 2021.

*It's a shame that Craig does not want to use our newsletter to inform readers (passengers and potential passengers) and tell us his views on the issues. Just a short summary of his 'Buses' column would be better than nothing. In a future issue we compare Connexions with Reliance, another small independent company in Yorkshire.*

## Reminder of the Decline in Our Bus Services in the Past Year

- ⇒ **The 7 to Leeds via Boston Spa, Clifford & Bramham reduced to every hour from every 30 mins - a major cut**
- ⇒ **The last bus from Harrogate changed from 11.30pm to 10.20pm - not late enough for a proper night out**
- ⇒ **The X98/99 stops at all stops in Leeds meaning longer journey times - the X does not mean Express any more**
- ⇒ **The 923 to Otley no longer has a Saturday service - some European countries have MORE buses at the weekend**
- ⇒ **The 412 to York no longer has a Saturday service - quite unbelievable!**
- ⇒ **Buses are still being delayed by vehicles on double yellow lines just outside the bus station - councillors doing what?**
- ⇒ **Metro / WYCA stopped printing bus timetables for the 923 to Otley - cheap effective useful marketing not used**
- ⇒ **Metro / WYCA stopped printing bus maps - invaluable for planning journeys. But can afford £millions on themselves**
- ⇒ **Metro / WYCA put incorrect info on bus stops twice. Infrastructure now a mess - incompetence but cllrs did nothing**

*It's time Wetherby Town Council had a regular agenda item at their monthly meetings to discuss these issues and keep the pressure on bus companies and Metro / WYCA to prevent even more cuts and low standards.*

*Town Councillors should either take action themselves or pass it on to one of our City Councillors. It is best for passengers to have one point of contact when we want to share an opinion or suggestion about the buses. Now that Cllr Lamb is on the board of WYCA / Metro we hope he can act on these issues on passengers' behalf.*

*We want Mayor Tracy Brabin and the bureaucratic Metro / WYCA to be accountable for their actions and we need a coherent strong voice to fight for Wetherby bus services.*

## Leeds No Comparison to Köln



**Bollener Landstr.**  
**Bf Mahndorf**

	Montag bis Freitag	Samstag	Sonntag/Feiertag
4	25: 471	25: 471	
5	05: 271 451	05: 451	
6	00: 041 30: 341	07: 25: 471	12: 401
7	00: 30:	05: 271 451	12: 401
8	00: 30:	07: 25: 471	12: 401
9	00 20: 50:	02: 241 42: 541	12: 451
10	20: 50:	12: 241 541	07: 25: 471
11	20: 50:	241 541	05: 271 451
12	20: 57:	241 541	07: 25: 471
13	27: 57:	241 541	05: 271 451
14	27: 57:	241 541	07: 25: 471
15	27: 57:	241 541	05: 271 451
16	27: 57:	241 541	07: 25: 471
17	27: 57:	241 541	05: 271 451
18	27: 57:	25: 471	07: 25: 471
19	27: 57:	05: 271 451	05: 271 451
20	25: 471	07: 25: 471	07: 25: 471
21	05: 271 451	05: 271 451	05: 271 451
22	07: 25: 471	07: 25: 471	07: 25: 471
23	431	431	431
0			

Gültig ab: 11.04.2023 - Änderungen vorbehalten  
 Hinweis: In den Sommerferien fahren viele Linien nach Ferienfahrplan und Feiertagsbed. (Dienste nach Sonderfahrplan)

The Germans do buses properly. They provide printed timetables & maps for the tens of 1000s who can't go online or find it easier not to. They even have more buses on Sundays than the rest of the week! We have none at weekends now to Otley and York.

## Bus Fire in Leeds

These dramatic pictures were put on social media by YappApp.

It happened in Middleton on a Saturday night.

It was caused by an arsonist, say Police.

(First Leeds no longer run our X98/99 bus to Leeds)

Find YappApp at @YappAppLtd on Twitter & YappApp on Facebook



One of our readers has written to us and tried to shed some light on the latest Wetherspoons' rumours. He says that the pub chain is unlikely to pull out as one post on social media has suggested.



Land Registry records show that the Angel / San Angelo building was bought by them in October 2022 for nearly £1.7million. JD Wetherspoon then announced that it was going to invest £2.25 million and create 50 - 60 jobs. Our correspondent says that with these figures, it sounds like they may want to include accommodation, like the pubs at Ripon & Thirsk. This would not be surprising as there is a lack of rooms in the Wetherby area, especially considering it is so close to the A1(M).

The company is remaining tight-lipped about the reasons for the delay. Judging from the comments on social media, most residents are looking forward to the successful company coming here. The most likely reason for the delay is that there is more work, and therefore expense, than at first thought. This matter must clearly be resolved and planning permission granted before any progress can be made.

Whatever the situation, our reader concludes 'the sooner we get cheap beer and food the better.' Cheers to that.



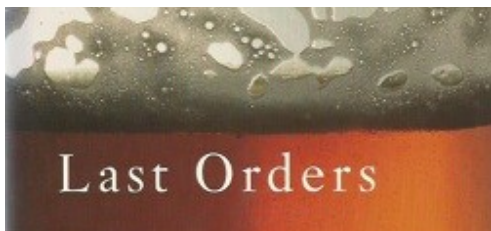
Meanwhile it was announced recently that 8 pubs/restaurants are closing every day, caused by a combination of factors. This is a depressing figure as rarely do buildings return to being pubs once they have been sold.

Soon after came the news that Black Sheep Brewery was going into administration

after failing to find an investor. This shocked many as it is a high profile popular company with a good reputation and a highly-regarded brewery tour at their Masham HQ. But they have not closed yet and recently tweeted:

"We've just had 22 tonnes of malt delivered and are busily making more

beer and can supply everyone as normal. So, if you'd like to help us, get out to your local and sup some Black Sheep!"



### Wildlife of Wetherby



The Tree Creeper

Thanks to Phill Andrews

This bird is not the easiest to spot but they are out there. They eat insects and spiders, and some seeds in winter. Thankfully, their population is stable. They lay 5 - 6 eggs and the chicks fledge after only a couple of weeks.

### A Reader Writes

Without your fantastic paper, we would be no wiser of what is going on in this Wonderful Town. It would appear that we are ALL happy to let you investigate etc, and then carry on as usual. NOT MY PROBLEM comes to mind!

WETHERBY IS SLOWLY DETERIATING FROM WHAT IT WAS YEARS AGO. Maybe, hopefully, a NEW Council !? can wake us up a little. It used to be a very busy TOURIST Town in the '90s! There was a special Coach park behind Morrisons!



Image in Pete's email

Do we need a reason to improve our LOT in Wetherby? Or are we simply happy to leave it those who can.....or WILL?

As the saying goes - use it or lose it. YOUR CHOICE. Pete.

Thanks for writing, Pete. Yes, there are very few coaches visiting now as there is no designated coach park and they go to the Services instead. All our cafes, bakers, takeaways, restaurants, pubs, newsagents, supermarkets and many other businesses have lost out because of it. Few will be attracted by the Town Council website. What is being done to attract more visitors off the A1(M)?

We agree too that you must use it or lose it, whatever 'it' is. Raising serious issues and getting your message across effectively is becoming more difficult. You soon get drowned out on social media. And chances are those who you want to hear your complaint will not see it. It's harder to not see or ignore a newsletter (though some try).

A free, independent community newsletter is vital now more than ever. You may need your story to be heard one day.

Fact: 5,000 online readers 5 in Sep & Oct 22

# THE THIN BLUE LINE



Leeds North East - West Yorkshire Police  
nel.npt@westyorkshire.police.uk

**It is not hard to see results of criminal acts in front of our eyes on the streets of Wetherby and on social media.** And to see that there is a great deal of concern about the Police's ability to deal with it.

**Two retailers in the town centre have been broken into in recent weeks** - Superdrug in the Horsefair Centre and Boot & Shoe on the Shambles, see images below.

**John Wilson, owner of the shoe shop,** said the crime was committed at 1.00 (Fri 12 May) in the morning. He says they "took most of our summer stock of Skechers, Puma, Nike and Doc Martens. The police have CCTV of the men coming in and out of the shop but they said there is not much chance of catching anyone. The building was insured but unfortunately we had let the contents insurance lapse. We have done a stock take and we have lost £3-4000 worth of stock."

### "Easy for Thieves to Do What they Want"

John is closing the shop with a heavy heart as it is not worth restocking and spending more money on extra security. He complains that "there is no external help out there anymore. Nobody polices the area, making it so easy for the thieves to do what they want."

He ends by saying they have 'met lots of nice customers' and 'made loads of new friends'. The shop is currently having a Closing Down Sale.



2 Break-ins & One Shop Closing as a Result



**Many comments on social media were sympathetic to business owners.** One asked "Are the lack of officers making Wetherby a vulnerable, easy to target community given its demographic and ease of access?". She adds "It is quite shameful that the Police Station is not used to its full potential."

Another recalled: "I worked at Wetherby Police Station in the early 1980's, we used to have 4

patrol officers & a Sergeant per shift. In 1984, there was a huge public order incident involving a stag party from Huddersfield, who had been causing mayhem in The Brunswick. I had my jaw & cheekbone fractured & other officers were assaulted. Assistance was there within minutes, the locals were helping out too! There were 23 arrested.

I don't think there would be that kind of timely response these days. Sadly, policing isn't what it used to be."

*We looked for any recent comment by Wetherby Business Association or a Town Councillor on the issue of crime affecting local businesses. We could not find any.*



tracy.brabin@westyorks  
-ca.gov.uk

john.robins@west  
yorkshire.police.uk

**A Wetherby parent has criticised the 'lack of effort' by West Yorkshire police** after their son's moped was stolen. The thieves smashed the vehicle beyond repair.

The parent complained that "We have not received one phone call or visit after providing them the information. They haven't arrested the youths involved. We have phoned 3 times for updates and still heard nothing."

### Two People Ultimately Responsible:

Chief Constable of West Yorkshire, John Robin's. His salary is £180,000+, which is more than the PM.

Mayor of West Yorkshire, Tracy Brabin. Salary of £110,000+

Still no photo of Inspector Richard Horn, responsible for our area still, we think



**Thank You for All Your Support 6 Your Kind Messages Keep Us Going**

# Wetherby Business Association - Changed its Mind Twice

Wetherby Business Association (WBA) made it clear in Feb 22 that they 'will not be making any comments or using your free press in any way now or in the future'. They wanted nothing to do with the only serious printed news source for the town. They also tried to silence us by saying 'can I ask you to ensure we are not mentioned in any future publications'.



No Support from WBA for A1(M) Sign

Jamie Hullah, Chair of the Association, provided no reasons for their non-cooperation or why a body that is supposed to represent Wetherby businesses does not want any publicity. Strange behaviour in our view. Especially when we have made many reasonable suggestions to improve our



town and attract more visitors to its businesses, including a sign on the A1(M) and making empty shops look attractive. We have a clear desire to support local businesses. We even offered 'pay what you can for advertising' for local businesses when we began and have advertised them for free in special features.

Following Mr Hullah's email in Feb '22 we featured many articles that you would expect a business association to comment on but they remained silent. Nothing on social media either - taking no part in discussions on Wetherby Grumbler or Nextdoor about issues that affect their members.

WBA are a limited company and it is, of course, entirely up to them who they deal with and who they ignore. They have refused to meet with the Town Council as well, though the exact reasons for that were not made clear.

Earlier this year, we asked the WBA for a comment on having a Big Dip event in the Wharfe at New Year, like Otley's. To our surprise, Mr Hullah replied and indeed wanted to meet with the Editor. A welcome change of tune from the WBA, we thought. But we stated that 'there is clearly a large gap in trust that must be bridged.'

The Editor suggested Morrisons café but Mr Hullah preferred a rather more upmarket café. The Editor agreed, arrived on time at 9am, ordered his expensive coffee and waited. When meeting a professional you expect to be contacted if they are going to be late. Time is money and the Editor does not appreciate his time being wasted. 20 mins later, coffee was drunk and the Editor left.

Later Mr Hullah was very apologetic and said that he 'was unfortunately held up on another matter and couldn't find a number to call you on.' So we arranged another date late February. The day before that meeting Mr Hullah wrote to say sorry but he had been called to a meeting in a northern city. 'I will come back to you as soon as I can with some alternative dates.' he said. Nearly 3 months later we are still waiting.

## Questions for Members of WBA

- What do you think of the behaviour of your Chair, as described above?
- Do you agree with his non-cooperation with this newsletter?
- Do you feel you get value for money for your £50 membership?
- Do you feel consulted on the main decisions that WBA takes on your behalf?
- The Association claim it 'is very much a part of the local community'. Do you agree and if so, could you inform us why there is little, if any, general online presence of WBA to respond to important issues affecting Wetherby eg on Nextdoor & Facebook Group 'Wetherby Grumbler'?



Looks Bad

Looks Good

## Question for Non-members

- Why have you not joined?

## Facts about WBA:

Jamie Hullah, Director & Chair of WBA since July 2021 is a director of a local telecoms company which has had contracts for Wetherby Town Council

The other directors are Stephen Kay and Angus Taylor. Darren Northfield is secretary

There are no images of the Chair or directors on their website

WBA supports events at Christmas and Bonfire night

When asked why the 'Wetherby Means Business' Facebook Group with 1000s of members suddenly disappeared, WBA made no comment

The WBA website shows no news or events in Jan - May so far this year

It has 103 members, according to their website, and hence a minimum income of £5000 per year. It does not provide figures for year on year so we do not know if membership / income is increasing / decreasing or staying the same

WBA does not have a newsletter, or an annual review showing what it's spent and achieved in the previous year

The latest accounts at Companies House shows that in Oct 2021 the company has about £30K in the bank

As a business owner himself, the Editor has considered joining this association but he is not convinced that it would benefit him, support him or represent his interests, judging by the website and behaviour described above.



No comment from WBA on empty shops and how to make fronts look better

# Local Democracy Page - Our MP & Councillors

**Alec Shelbrooke has been our Conservative MP for 13 years since May 2010.**

*In the last election in 2019 he won 58% of our vote beating Labour by over 17,000 votes. He was a Remainer. From Dec '19 to May '22 he has voted 467 times out of 560 (83%) and has rebelled once against the party whip (Mar '22). He refused to inform his constituents whether or not he supported Boris Johnson in the No-Confidence Vote. He was a strong supporter of Liz Truss in the Leadership Battle. She promoted him to an MoD Ministerial post in Sep '22, which he then quit / was sacked within 2 months.*



Very Old Photo Alec still uses

## Space for Alec

Unedited (max 400 words)

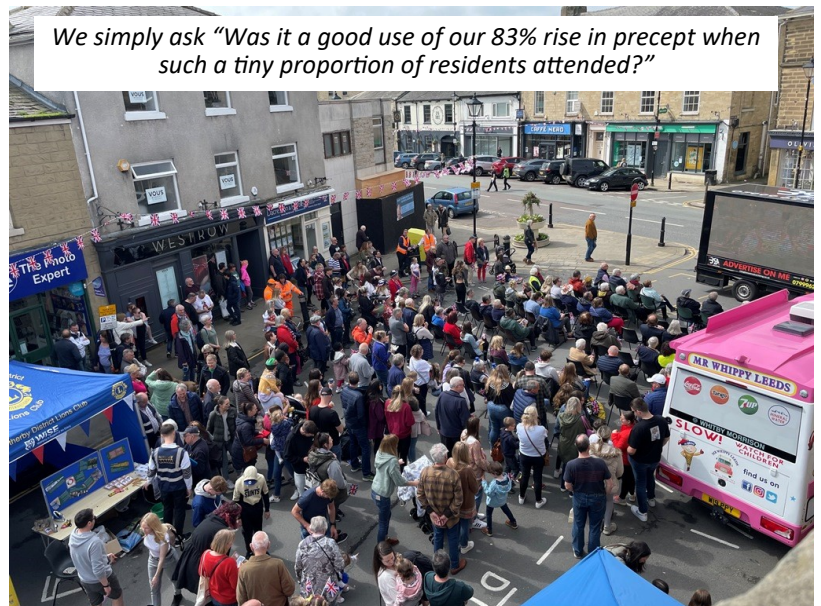
Nothing received

alec.shelbrooke.mp@parliament.uk

## Town Hall & Cllr Response to Questions from Last Issue

*We are grateful to the Town Clerk for responding to our request for information. It was 'handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000', as usual.*

- 1 Why you did not respond to my last email of 22 April? TC does 'not hold information in relation to this item' Absurd response!*
- 2 Cllr Lamb - plse provide examples of any 'unwarranted abuse and vitriol'. Cllr Lamb did not provide any, offered to meet me instead.*
- 3 Why it is not clear from the website that there is a full Council meeting, as well as the Annual one on Tuesday. 'The information for Tuesday's annual meeting of Wetherby Town Council is displayed on our website on the following page: [https://www.wetherby.co.uk/Town\\_Council\\_Meetings\\_26482.aspx](https://www.wetherby.co.uk/Town_Council_Meetings_26482.aspx) This is the same page that is always used for meetings of Wetherby Town Council. You were also sent the agenda for the annual meeting of the Town Council in an e-mail at 5.53pm on 10/5/23. The annual town meeting is not a meeting of the Town Council. Information relating to that meeting is on the separate, dedicated page on our website: [https://www.wetherby.co.uk/Annual\\_Town\\_Meeting\\_26485.aspx](https://www.wetherby.co.uk/Annual_Town_Meeting_26485.aspx) We think they are saying it was clear. It wasn't. They ignored their mistake on the website - see front page. Perhaps call the 2 meetings different names next year? And consult on the time of 6pm for the Annual Public mtg?*
- 4 Cllr Harrington - Who will you be meeting regularly at Transdev now Alex Hornby has left? Apparently Cllr Harrington meets bus company bosses in her role as LEEDS CITY Councillor, not WETHERBY TOWN Councillor. We write to both her councillor email addresses to cover both eventualities. She has not responded.*
- 5 Your opinion on the 6-month review of Transdev X98/9 bus service & Metro infrastructure compared to Derbyshire & Poznan. This was addressed to all councillors - none responded.*
- 6 Cllr Mulhall, plse answer the 3 simple questions on page 5 about the Coronation event. Cllr Mulhall did not respond. The Town Clerk did:  
A) How many people attended? 'The event's management plan estimated that 1250 to 2500 people would attend throughout the day.' Not even a rough estimate could be provided. The figure there is how many they expected to attend - it is optimistic in the extreme and based on what? They sent us the photo above showing 200 max. B) How much did it cost? Not even a rough estimate could be provided. C) What consultation took place with residents? No response.  
7 Cllrs on the Market Ctte - Your reaction plse to the views of ex market trader Zoe Cunningham on page 7. No response.*



Q6 - Council's photo at peak-viewing time. 200 max.

Wetherby has a population of 17,000+

**These are not difficult questions. The responses are incomplete and unsatisfactory. Let's hope our new councillors will take an interest in some of these areas and can find the answers**

## The Full Truth Will Always Come Out In The End





**Volunteer organisations in Wetherby, including Wetherby Civic Society,** Wetherby Historical Trust, U3A Local History Group, Wetherby in Bloom, have come together with Wetherby Town Council to plan the commemoration of the bicentenary of the auction sale of Wetherby by the 6<sup>th</sup> Duke of Devonshire in October, 1824.

**The sale converted the town from being the property of one man** into a town owned by its inhabitants and was a unique event in English history.

**The date next year selected for the celebration is Saturday, 12 October 2024,** which was the second day of the four day auction. Current plans for the

commemoration, so far, hopefully will include the present Duke unveiling a plaque on the Town Hall, reprinting of the original sale catalogue, an exhibition of the shops which have been in the centre of town in the past and talks on the Great Sale itself.

**The commemoration has been designated "WETHERBY 200"** and the logo of which you will be seeing more of in coming months is shown above.

## New Lidl Store, Care Home & Eco-Homes for the over 55s

Lidl has written to interested residents with an update on their plans for a new Lidl store, 84-bed care home and eight eco-homes for the over 55s on the Mercure Wetherby Hotel site.

**They thank people for their support of the plan** which they say "will regenerate this important gateway site into Wetherby, whilst bringing more choice for shoppers and a much-needed care facility." They say the "project has been sensitively designed to complement the surroundings and will be BREEAM rated Excellent". They emphasize that the store will not be visible from the roundabout.

**Lidl ask that supporters make their views known** as soon as possible to Leeds City Council's planning department. They claim that "every letter of support will make a huge difference to the outcome of the application, so please email [planning@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:planning@leeds.gov.uk) with the reasons why you support the plans before time runs out." Remember to quote the application reference number (23/01507/FU).

**They say that Council officers would like to refuse the planning application,** without taking it to a Plans Panel meeting. The developers strongly believe that the application should be heard in public, by the Plans Panel who are elected representatives, rather than by officers "behind closed doors".

If you have any questions, the PR company representing Lidl would welcome your call on **0800 089 0361** or you can email [lidlwetherby@new-stores.co.uk](mailto:lidlwetherby@new-stores.co.uk)

The Town Council (all Conservative) unanimously objected to these plans in their monthly meeting in April. See minutes at

[www.wetherby.co.uk](http://www.wetherby.co.uk)



# We dare to Say What We See!

**SEE IT.  
SAY IT.  
SORTED.**

**So much good work has been done** in this area just off the road to the Leisure Centre. Volunteers jet-sprayed the steps, cut back branches and plants for a clearer view of the river and a new bench was installed. This made it a great spot for enjoying our greatest asset - the Wharfe.

**But nothing has been done at the entrance.** Visitors and residents may be totally unaware that it exists - where's a proper sign? All that good work done but it hardly says 'please come down here'.

**We offered to make a sign over 6 months ago** but it was not taken up by the Wetherby Weir Preservation Trust.

**Let's hope the Trust can put a sign up** before summer is over. Make a feature of it, name it after a famous Wetherborian?



**Dedicate the area to Flt Lt 'Ginger' Lacey, Battle of Britain Flying Ace? Call it 'Ginger's Spot' ?**

*Send us pictures of what you see and let's try to get it sorted*



All down to the last game of the season for Leeds United. Relegation to the Championship beckons unless:

- Leeds beat Spurs AND
- Everton lose at home to Bournemouth AND
- Leicester lose at home to West Ham



United needed a result at West Ham and the faithful were given hope with a great volley from Rodrigo to give the Whites the lead. At half time it was 1 - 1 and all to play for.



Fans getting behind the new manager

Whatever Big Sam said at half time it was not effective. United were disjointed and created few real chances. The Londoners took theirs and it ended 3 - 1 with no complaints at the score.

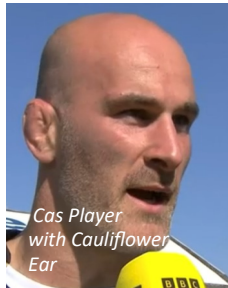
Utd v Tottenham on Sun 28 May at 16.30



**Wigan game 1 was classic Rhinos this season.** Yet another magnificent second half comeback. One fan (the Editor) decided to leave the pub at half time as Leeds were losing by 2 tries away from home and were a man down. Oops! Leeds turned it on big style in the second half

and scored 6 tries. A stunning 40 - 18 win.

**Game 2 was live on BBC1** for this Challenge Cup tie at Headingley in the sunshine. For once the Rhinos started well and looked in control at half-time 14 - 4 up. But Wigan showed some spirit and was soon clawing back the points. Good passing movements saw the visitors level the score at 14 - 14 and then go ahead. With 5 minutes to go Rhino's Newman was through with one man to beat and should have passed to Myler for a definite try to win the game. Chance missed and game lost. No trip to Wembley this year and the only Yorkshire side in the quarter finals is York!



Cas Player with Cauliflower Ear

Rhinos v Saints on Fri 26 May at 20.00

Castleford v Rhinos on Sat 3 June at 18.00

part of the Magic Weekend at St James Park, Newcastle - Adult tickets from £25. The FA Cup Final, Man City v Man Utd, starts at 15.00 so should be over by 18.00

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- 1/2 page (size D) - £60 or £200 for 4
- Sponsorship on front page - £25

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Next Issue 46 - Fri 9 June



Editor: **Paul Kirby** Email: [WetherbyFreePress@PM.me](mailto:WetherbyFreePress@PM.me)  
Twitter: [@wbyfreepress](https://twitter.com/wbyfreepress)

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If facts are wrong, we will apologise publicly and correct the error. We quote directly to avoid any misunderstandings. We don't do interviews.

We encourage everyone to write to us with their views, whatever they are. People have died for our Freedom of Expression so never be afraid to use it. You can remain anonymous if you wish. We or you cannot be sued for libel/defamation as long as what is published is:

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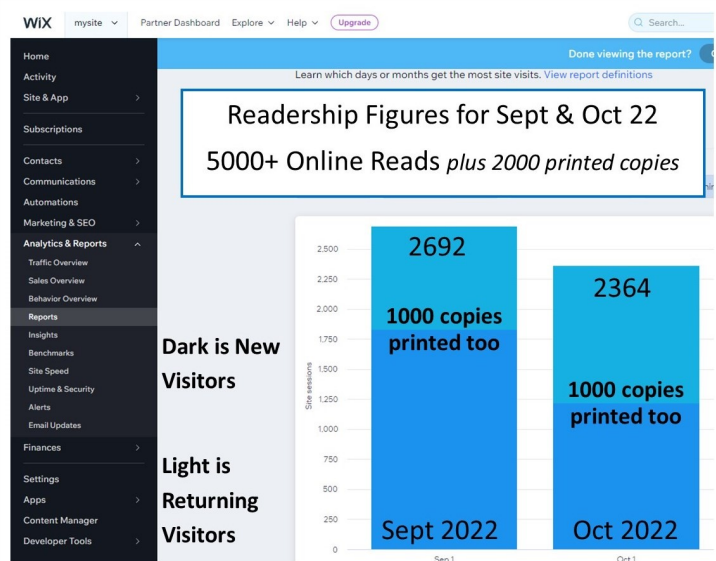
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**The British Library at Boston Spa keep copies in their catalogue. The WFP lives forever!**



They are surprisingly good figures. The main reason was our exclusive on Wetherspoons buying Sant Angelo. If you don't believe the figures, we can send you a printscreen image.

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**25**

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**Let's Make Wetherby Better Together in 2023**