

Civic Society Award  
Winner 2002

Affiliated to  
CPRE

Leeds Civic Trust

MEMBER

YORKSHIRE & HUMBER  
ASSOCIATION OF CIVIC SOCIETIES

# HERITAGE



The Oulton Society Newsletter **March 2017**

## OULTON & WOODLESFORD NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

Before I sat down to write this report, I read what I had written last year. I was obviously feeling optimistic when I wrote in it that we would soon be in a position to submit our draft Neighbourhood Plan to Leeds City Council. This year I will be more cautious since we have not yet submitted our plan, but we should be able to submit it this year! Why the hold up? It turns out that it is quite a task to draft a plan. Each policy has to be supported by evidence and a great deal of background information also has to be included. For example, we have to identify “non-designated heritage sites”. Listed buildings (and we have a lot in Oulton and Woodlesford) are designated, but there are lots of other worthwhile buildings in the villages that are not listed. We are very grateful to John Thorp for having compiled a list of these. His contribution is almost in the form of a guided tour around Oulton and Woodlesford, and I personally learnt many new facts from it. We also have to include a list of all green spaces we wish to see conserved.

Pauline Hope and Martin Law have together produced a map which includes green spaces large and small but we also need to estimate the size of each and determine who owns it. Some are owned by the Council but for others, ownership is either unclear or unknown. Perhaps when we publish our list for consultation, we will be able to clear up some mysteries.

As I emphasised last year, consultation is extremely important. As a result of meetings and questionnaires, we have drawn up a list of policies. We were able to present these at two walk-in sessions, the first in May, at the Oulton Institute on local government polling day and the second in June, at the Woodlesford Methodist Chapel on referendum day. By holding our sessions alongside polling, we were able to involve a very large number of respondents, and we were very pleased to find strong support (in one case 100%) for nearly all our policies together with very useful input for minor changes.

We now also have to take on board the revised route proposed for HS2. In its latest form, it seems likely that some of the sites identified for new housing in the Leeds Site Allocation Plan could no longer be viable. The route is still subject to consultation and we may not know the new preferred route by the time we come to submit our plan. We therefore have to press ahead with some uncertainty but the consultation and feedback we have received will be at the heart of the Plan. There will be a preview of the Plan at the Forum’s Annual General Meeting at the Oulton Institute at 2.00 pm on Sunday, April 30th. We hope to see you there!

Once submitted, there are bound to be changes that Leeds will wish to be made. After that our Plan will have a formal period of consultation where all will be able to make comment. This may include inputs from house builders who may not agree with all of our plans.

David Cove

(Chair, Oulton and Woodlesford Neighbourhood Forum)



**COTTAGE BAKERY**  
  
 4 Willow Square, Oulton  
 Tel: 0113 2823282  
**Fresh Bread Daily**  
 Hot & Cold Sandwiches  
 Outside Catering  
 for all occasions

**Yorkshire Trade Windows**  
  
 WINDOWS – DOORS – CONSERVATORIES  
 - Head Office & Showroom  
 Carr Wood Road Ind Est.  
 Glasshoughton  
 Castleford  
 West Yorkshire WF10 4PT  
 Telephone: (01977) 668866  
 Facsimile: (01977) 668855

**sharmanshaw**  
  
**Sharman Shaw Exhibitions Ltd**  
 Gildersome Spur, Morley  
 Leeds LS27 7JZ  
 Tel: 0113 289 7733  
 www.sharmanshaw.co.uk

**SOAK**  
  
**TILE & BATHROOMS**  
 74 Aberford Road Oulton Leeds  
 LS26 8HP  
 Quality Bespoke Bathrooms  
 at affordable prices  
 Branded bathroom suites  
 on display and a wide range of tiles.  
 Fully project managed from  
 CAD design to Completion  
 0113 28 28999  
[soakbathrooms@msn.com](mailto:soakbathrooms@msn.com)  
[www.soakbathroomsleeds.co.uk](http://www.soakbathroomsleeds.co.uk)  
 Free car parking @ Lidl

**HOWGATE & FARRAR**  
  
 01132 889844  
*Butchers*  
 109 Aberford Rd.  
 Woodlesford  
 LS26 8LO

**The Home Bakery**  
  
 118, Aberford Road,  
 Woodlesford, Leeds.  
 LS26 8LG

### Leeds Local Development Framework and Site Allocation Plan update:

In 2015 the Council adopted their Core Strategy which underpins all decisions as to where development will take place and the sites which the Council wanted to develop went out for public consultation. Last year we reported this will have serious implications for the area as a large section of Green Belt is being proposed for development which will dramatically change the character and nature of the area. Despite the Society working closely with the Oulton & Woodlesford Neighbourhood Forum and making very strong and lengthy representation to the Council about the land under threat, the Council to date has made no changes to their proposals. Furthermore, we are now very concerned that HS2 could cut through sections of the sites down Fleet Lane. Unless the Council or the Inspector revises the plans we could be left with a double whammy - HS2 and hundreds of extra houses. Later this year there will be a Public Examination with a Government Inspector; the Society and the Forum will attend and argue the case against development on these sites. After the examination the Inspector could suggest changes and modifications and finally the plans will be approved and adopted. This is a difficult period but the Society will continue to monitor each issue and work in the best interests of the community. We will keep you updated as this unfolds.

**Land to the rear of 8 Calverley Court:** An application to build two detached dwellings was refused on this site as it constituted over development, poor private amenity and would have an overbearing effect on neighbouring properties. The developer went to appeal having made amendments and reductions to the properties and the Inspector approved the application.

**Lidl:** An application to erect a single storey extension and alter the car park, entrance and the recycling facilities was submitted but has subsequently been withdrawn. We are awaiting any new proposals. New signage has also been approved to the front of the site.

**Co-op Woodlesford:** New signage has been approved at this store which is a visual improvement on the previous ones; this was supported by the Society.

**5 St John's Street:** A new application has been approved to demolish the present house and replace it with a detached house constructed in natural materials and the addition of a basement.

**Fleet Lane:** A new 3G artificial sports pitch with associated floodlighting has been approved at the WRCFA sports field. This is a welcome additional sports facility for the area.

**M1 Jn 45:** The Council has approved an outline application to build over 1000 houses with associated infrastructure at this junction. The Society has voiced its concern about the decision to allow residents to use Pontefract Lane to access Bullerthorpe Lane using a vehicle recognition system. This could be open to abuse and will generate more traffic through Oulton.

**6 Farrer Lane:** Last year approval was given for a two storey extension incorporating a Juliet balcony, raised roof height with roof lights to the front and a detached garage to the rear. Amendments to the roof height and install dormers was refused both by the Council and by a Government Inspector at an appeal.

**18 Farrer Lane:** Last year the Society objected to two separate applications to build a house in the garden of this property. We successfully argued this would not enhance or preserve the Conservation Area and the applications were refused. The owner went to appeal and also submitted a further application similar to those that had been refused. All the applications were refused on appeal. The house and garden have subsequently been sold and this corner of Farrer Lane has been restored with an attractive garden.

**39 Farrer Lane:** An application to demolish the existing bungalow and replace it with a five bed detached house has been approved. Some leylandii trees have been removed but the wall and other trees in the garden are to remain.

**Telefonica:** an application to erect a 17.5m telecommunications monopole by the Rothwell Sports Centre roundabout was refused by the Council but approved by an inspector on appeal

## HS2 still a major blight on Oulton and Woodlesford

In November last year HS2 Ltd revised the route through our area and we strongly advise you to read the enclosed leaflet from SOWHAT, the local action group. The Society has now had time to consider the full implications of the new route and although many people have been spared the effects of HS2, the impact has now been transferred elsewhere in the community with new and serious implications. Our neighbourhood will be blighted and affected by construction work for many years and the effects will be permanent. We encourage you to write and lobby your MP, the Council and Ward Councillors and voice your personal concerns. **The deadline for commenting is 9<sup>th</sup> March**

### St John's Church Oulton

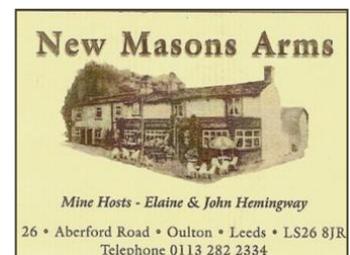
As most of you will know by now the historic St John the Evangelist Church in Oulton suffered substantial internal and external damage after thieves stole lead from the roof in November 2014 and water flooded the fabric of the church. A group, Friends of St John's Church, has been formed to raise awareness and funds towards refurbishment. At the end of 2015 the Church was granted lottery funding to survey the damage and draw up plans for the repairs. The long term aim is to make the Church available for wider use by different community groups. If you are interested in joining the Friends of St John's Church group please contact Revd. Sarah Hancox, Team Vicar at [hancoxsa@gmail.com](mailto:hancoxsa@gmail.com) or 01977 515686.

### Loss of diseased cherry trees at Oulton War Memorial

In November, after an inspection of the trees at the War Memorial, it was found that three cherry trees had a considerable amount of Ganoderma fungus at the base. Ganoderma is a fungus which contributes to the decay of the lower parts of tree trunks and their root systems thereby increasing the potential for the tree to fail. After discussion with the Council Officers and the Ward Councillors it was decided the best course of action was to remove the affected trees; this in effect could help save the remaining two cherry trees from the disease. The Society and our three Ward Councillors agreed to fund replacement trees and five Cornus Florida trees have been planted. We believe they are resistant to the fungus and in years to come will enhance this important focal point in Oulton.

### Rothwell Sports Centre

Plans have been unveiled to rebuild Rothwell Sports Centre. This well used facility has become outdated and tired and the Council is proposing to build an integrated Leisure and Wellbeing Centre with co-located services coupled with adult social care and other services. Refurbishing the existing facility was explored; however, taking into account the loss of income during the closure of the site for re-development and the limitations of the current building layout the Council considered it will be more advantageous to replace the facility. The existing facility is of strategic significance and ideally located with good access to the road network. The development of the new facility would take place adjacent to the existing Rothwell Leisure Centre to ensure that there is continuity of service and no loss of income whilst the facility is built. The scheme could cost in the region of £10-14m which will maintain the swimming pool and gym facilities, whilst also incorporating new adventure family activities, further co-location and flexible space that moves away from the traditional leisure centre model. The learner swimming pool is proposed to have more water play elements to help with introduction to water. There is no timescale for this proposal but once built it will provide our community with a first class facility which will be fit for purpose for many years to come. The Society will consider the proposals to make sure we get the best possible outcome for everyone.





### ELECTIONS AND ORGANISATION

We have one vacancy on the Committee alongside the vacant Chair and Secretary. If you are interested in joining please contact us prior to or at the AGM.

#### Officers and Committee

Chairman	Vacant
Secretary	Vacant
Treasurer	Mr. M Healey
Committee	Mr. M Ball, Ms. L Boot, Prof. D Cove, Mr. J Crapper, Mr. A Drewell, Mrs. L Guppy, Mr. M Holt, Mr. R F Howie

### ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions are now due and will be collected either at the start or at the end of the AGM. Otherwise please return your subscription to any of the committee members listed on the renewal slip. The tax rebate to the Society for the last year under the Gift Aid scheme amounted to £244

Family	£10
Single member	£ 5
Senior Citizen	£ 3
Corporate membership	£25-£50 at your discretion

EVERY YEAR WE SPEND A GREAT DEAL OF TIME COLLECTING UNPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS. WE WOULD APPRECIATE THEM BEING PAID EARLY TO AVOID THIS ANNUAL DIFFICULTY.



**Medasil Surgical Limited**  
Medasil House, Hunslet Road, Leeds, LS10 1AU  
Tel: 0113 2433491 Web: www.medasil.com

### WOODLESFORD MOTOR SPARES

OPEN 7 DAYS  
FOR ALL YOUR MOTORING NEEDS! MOT'S AND SERVICING  
Colin  
TEL: 0113 3934447

### IVERIDGE HALL

Fitness  
Health &  
Wellbeing

Iveridge Health Club, Iveridge Hall, Wakefield Road, Oulton, LS26 8EU

## OULTON SOCIETY 45th AGM

Wednesday 29th March 2017 at 7.30pm

At the Oulton Institute  
Quarry Hill, Oulton

Subscriptions will be collected from  
7pm onwards

After the formal AGM business there will be an  
open forum to discuss local issues with the  
committee and Ward Councillors.

Light refreshments will then be available

### CORPORATE MEMBERS

We have a strong Corporate Membership whose support and contributions are very much appreciated. If you would like to become a Corporate Member we will advertise your membership wherever possible in newsletters and at Society events. The subscription is a charitable donation and is a tax deductible expense.

### NEW MEMBERS

Membership now stands at 162 but we are always keen to recruit new members; so if you know a friend, neighbour or family member who you think would like to join please encourage them to do so.

### THANKS

Once again, we would like to thank everyone who has supported the Oulton Society, in particular Councillors Golton, Bruce and Nagle, Leeds City Council and the Rothwell Record. Special thanks must go to the committee for all their hard work during the last year.

Thanks also to John Hawkrige for printing the newsletter.

### HAWKRIDGE PRINT

Stationery • Leaflets • Duplicate Pads • Banners  
Roller Banners • Gold Foiling • Wedding Stationery  
Wallpaper Art • Print Design Work • Labels

2 Lamberts Yard • Rothwell • Leeds • LS26 0DA

Tel: 0113 2828282 / 07880 241307 • e-mail: jhawkridge.print@virgin.net

Marsh Street Surgery  
25a Marsh Street  
Rothwell  
Leeds LS26 0AG  
Tel: 0113 2821571  
Fax: 0113 2824720

Oulton Medical Centre  
Quarry Hill  
Oulton  
Leeds LS26 8SZ  
Tel: 0113 282138  
Fax: 0113 2887708