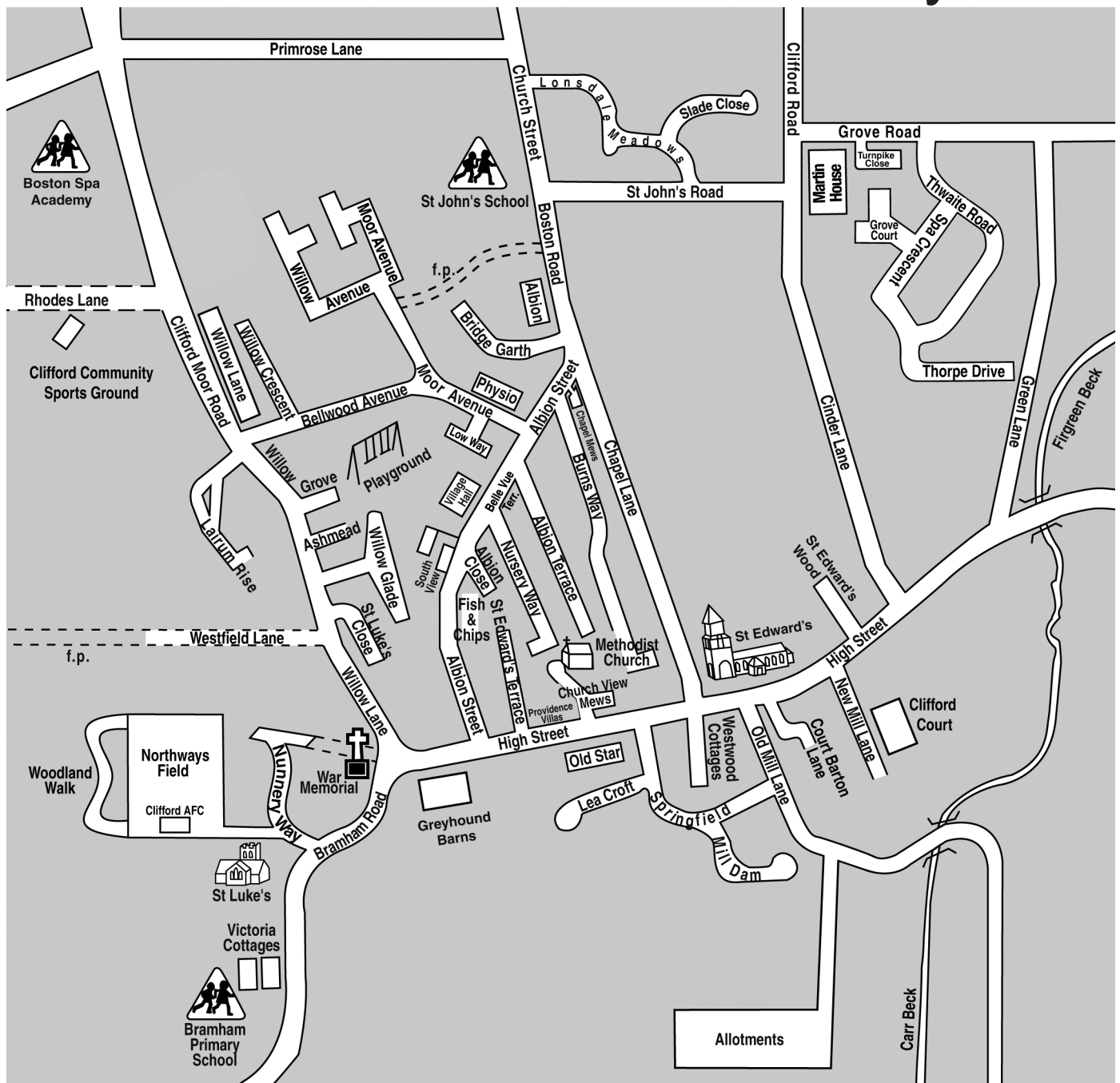


OUTLOOK

Issue 579

February 2024



The Magazine for the People of Clifford

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Material for publication must be received
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Send to: cliffordoutlook@gmail.com

Articles and local issues are always
welcome.

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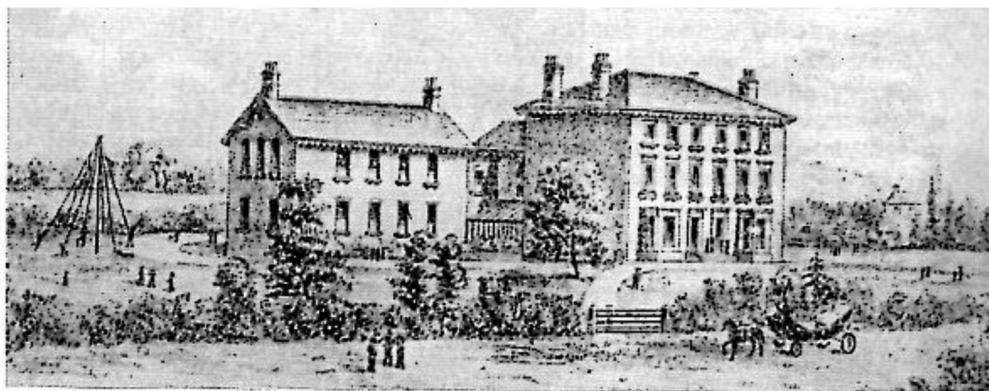
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Clifford Local History Group - A brief History of St John's School

The following information is a brief summary of a presentation given by the Clifford History Group in November 2018.

Prior to 1870 there was no educational provision for deaf children in England and Wales. The children were either in asylums or had no education. The first school for Catholic deaf children was set up in Handsworth Woodhouse, near Sheffield. The school director was M de Hearne from Belgium.



*Boston Spa College in 1875.
These were the original buildings that comprised
St. John's Institution for the Deaf and Dumb.*

In 1874 St John's school premises were purchased for £5516.17s.10p. Qualifications for admittance to the school were "not to be of unsound mind or subject to fits" AND "Must have been vaccinated against or have had smallpox". Protestants were also admitted to the school but "had to abide by the rules" The fees to attend the school were £20 per annum. Equivalent to approximately £1,900 today.

In 1875 47 children moved into the school together with 4 Sisters from the Daughters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul order and M De Hearne. The children came from asylums or very poor homes and had often been neglected.

Basic education for boys at the school included printing, gardening and carpentry. For girls it was household activities, sewing and laundry.

Between 1891 and 1901 the college was run by Father Dawson, Sister Augustine Moser and Sister Joseph Perceval.

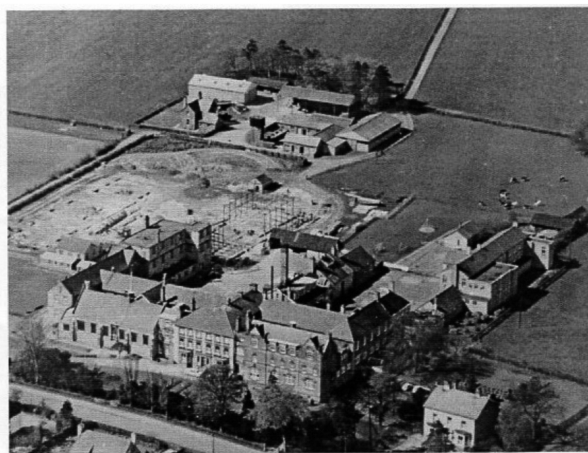
The Albion Hotel was bought for staff to reside in close to the school. Later when the hotel was no longer required it was sold to J Smith's Brewery.

Between 1878 and 1915 a new wing for girls was added and the boys wing doubled in size. A farm with outbuildings was also added.

The 1893 Education Act made the education of deaf children compulsory. And by 1901 there were 200 pupils. John Aloysius Caprioni was a much-loved teacher at St John's. He was deaf and had been educated at St John's, then went on to have further private education. He led the school Scout troop and welcomed Scoutmaster Baden Powell on a visit to the school in 1921 then in 1925 he took 10 scouts from the school to Rome. John Aloysius owned and lived in Oxford Villas, Clifford Road. He retired in 1932 but continued to lead the scout troop. He died in 1949 and was buried in the school cemetery.



Teaching sisters in the 1960's wearing a head piece called a Cornette.



St John's in the late 1960's with St John's farm situated at the top left corner of the site.

CLIFFORD LADIES

Thursday 8th February 2024

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT YOGA ?

An interactive experience with Sue

Meeting at 7.15 p.m. for a 7.30 p.m. start in the Meeting Room at Clifford Village Hall

Tea, coffee and biscuits will be served.

Annual membership is **£25**. Visitors £4 each meeting

Look forward to seeing you there. Bring a friend.

Further Info. Liz 845575

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CLIFFORD OUTLOOK VALENTINE QUIZ FEBRUARY 2024

For the romantic readers, here are some quiz questions on the subject of Valentine's Day.

1. Which Valentine Day sweets were first created on equipment made for throat lozenges?
2. Cupid has which name in Greek mythology?
3. Kissing increases most people's heart rate to about how many beats per minute?
4. Which extremely popular website first appeared on Valentine's Day 2005?
5. Which brain chemical is known as the 'love hormone'?
6. Who wrote the oldest-known Valentine's Day message, and where from?
7. Besides Valentine's Day, for which special day are most flowers sent?
8. Which notorious American gangster orchestrated the St. Valentine's Day massacre?
9. Which major invention was patented on Valentine's Day?
10. Which fruit was once known as a 'love apple' for its alleged aphrodisiac properties?

Answers in next month's edition.

From the December 2023 Parish Council Meeting

The Parish Council meets on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7.30 pm at Clifford Village Hall. The meeting dates for 2024 are: January 17th, February 21st, March 20th, April 17th, May 15th, June 19th, July 17th, August – no meeting, September 18th, October 16th, November 20th and December 18th.

The agenda and minutes are published at www.cliffordparishcouncil.gov.uk

Residents are welcome to attend Parish Council Meetings and there is a public participation session at before the Council meeting starts. If there are any issues you would like to raise with the council but you are not able to attend the meeting please contact clerk@cliffordparishcouncil.gov.uk

Playground Redevelopment Working Group (PRWG)

The PRWG have recommended that the WetPour surface at the playground is not replaced as is planned to redevelop the whole playground. Further quotes are being obtained for a new playground and once these are available residents will be consulted on the options. The PRWG are researching the options for grant funding.

Bramham Primary School LCC have finally approved funding for improvements to the entrance to Bramham Primary School. A new entrance will be installed at the rear of the school. This means that children and carers walking from Clifford to the school will no longer have to use the narrow footpath at the front of the school to access the main entrance. It is anticipated that the work will be undertaken during the Easter 2024 school holiday.

The Council's Traffic Management Working Group are arranging to clear vegetation which is partly obstructing the footpath.

Biodiversity Policy The council has adopted a biodiversity policy in response to the strengthened 'biodiversity duty' placed on local authorities introduced by the Environment Act 2021. The council will take biodiversity into account in all its decisions and actions.

War Memorial The council will be undertaking improvements to the area surrounding the War Memorial. This will include installing a path to the front of the Memorial, installing an information sign at the Memorial and an improved base for the Christmas tree.

Electric Vehicle Charging Points Residents in several areas have raised with Ward Councillors the need for EV charging points for properties without off street parking. LCC are looking at potential solutions which include:

1.LCC granting permission for householders to install a gully across the pavement for the charging cable. This would be at the owner's expense.

2. LCC funding for on street public chargers

Assets of Community Value (ACVs) are buildings or other land whose main use is or has recently been to further the social wellbeing or social interests of the local community and could do so in the future. The Albion and The Old Star are listed as ACVs. Their registration will expire in May 2024 and the council has agreed to apply to LCC for their registrations be renewed for a further 5 years.

Budget and precept request

The draft budget was considered at the December council meeting and will be approved, along with the precept request, at the January council meeting.

Christmas Carol Service

The annual Christmas carol service was well attended. £185.33 was raised for the Yorkshire Children's charity. This charity is working to help disadvantaged children across Yorkshire.

Contacting the Parish Council

Email if you have any questions or comments for Council, clerk@cliffordparishcouncil.gov.uk

ADVENT WINDOW – Clifford Methodist Church

There seems to have been some confusion over our 2023 Advent Windows, so just to clarify the depiction we thought we'd give a little explanation.

The second and fourth windows depicted Allied and German troops of World War I in the trenches in 1914. Over the Christmas period of that year there was a series of unofficial ceasefires along the Western Front.

As the German soldiers lit their lanterns and displayed them in the edge of their trenches, carol singing broke out.

Soon enough the British and French troops joined in and Christmas greetings and well wishes were exchanged.

Legend has it that on Christmas Day 1914 an organised football match took place in 'No Man's Land' between

British and German soldiers, hence the football in the third window.

Hope you all enjoyed the Advent Trail throughout the village - well done everyone!



OUT AND ABOUT IN CLIFFORD

Advent windows

Once again, we had a splendid selection of interesting, thoughtful and colourful displays around the village. Although called 'advent' some came a little earlier and several were still set up after Christmas day itself and beyond. That didn't matter of course as they kept the village looking bright into the new year. Many houses not displaying windows added to the display of lights on trees, fences and house frontages.

The biggest window of all was that of the meeting room at the Methodist church. Their display was very apt for the current state of the world. It alluded to the First World War incident when some British and German troops put down their guns on Christmas Day and played informal football with each other in the no-man's-land between their trenches. Carols and patriotic songs were sung. The window had soldiers and footballs clearly recognisable and had the legends 'Silent Night' and 'Stille Nacht' (German). What a pity they aren't doing the same in Gaza and Ukraine.

Unfortunately, all this decoration ended early in January and we were dropped once more into the drabness of January. Have you noticed how slow it is for the days to be noticeably lengthened and what lengthening there is lies at the end of the day. This year, but not always, some brightness has been contributed by the planet Venus due south from the village.

Mummers

On the Wednesday before Christmas there was the regular folk musical evening at the Albion pub but with the addition of a mummers' play. They presented a folk story which differs in each village where they are performed although the theme is very similar in each. Originally, they were done to help agricultural workers raise a bit of extra money. Nowadays any collection goes to charity; this year for St. Gemma's Hospice. The Holbeck Moor Mummers entertained us well and it reminded us of the days when the Clifford Mummers' play was performed in the Old Star. It had been reconstructed after much work put in to find the script in recent times and was enjoyed by all. Could it be performed again sometime?

A dark path

The arrival of the longest night in December showed up the darkness in the Albion – Moor Avenue footpath. It's well used but those walking along it at night really need to go carefully. As the years have passed since it became a public footpath the growing roots of some adjacent trees have pushed up the tarmac creating lumps easily tripped on. Make sure to take a torch or use the one on your smartphone.

Deer spotted

It seems that deer have found their way to the woodland along Muddy Lane which was once the site of the mill pond. Exactly where they have come from is not clear but they are agile enough to cross the road, miss the traffic, and jump into this unfenced land. They are another contribution to the richness of the wild life in this area, partly in our village. You might catch a glimpse of them when you are out and about around there. It's private land so don't try to follow the deer in.

Garden Notebook

This month I've ventured into different territory. This is because its midwinter and, though there are still jobs to do, it's a good time to explore new ideas, and plan for the next year in the garden. As a result, I have been planning what music to listen to when I am out there and I have found, via the internet, the following suggestions:

Garden themed songs:

Octopus's garden- The Beatles
I heard it through the grapevine-Marvin Gaye
Daisies- Katy Perry
Strawberry Swing- Coldplay
For the roses- Joni Mitchell
Kiss from a rose- Seal
Dreams -Fleetwood Mac
Brown Eyed Girl- Van Morrison
Mr Blue Sky -Electric Light Orchestra
Bloom- Paper Kites
Landslide- Fleetwood Mac
Here Comes the Sun- The Beatles
Walking On Sunshine- Katrina and the Waves
Wildflowers- Tom Petty
You don't bring me flowers- Neil Diamond and Barbara Streisand
Build me up Buttercup -The Foundation
Magnolia- JJ Cale
Bed of roses- Bon Jovi

Bands most listened to by gardeners (Country Living poll)

Fleetwood Mac
Harry Styles
The Beatles
Van Morrison
Creedence Clearwater Revival
Neil Young
Tom Petty
Haley Hendricks
Eagles
Bill Withers

The possibilities are endless really!! I'm sure you all have some alternatives- so have a little fun dreaming up more ideas and listening to some tunes!

Future planning

Now is a good time to save money by buying shrubs or hedge plants as bare root plants. You just need to wait for a milder day to plant them so that the ground is not frozen. Make sure to give them a mulch (top layer) of compost or farmyard manure but keep the mulch away from contact with the trunk.

Shrubs are often the unrecognised heroes of our gardens- their foliage, bark, plant shapes, fruit and flowers can often give us joy at times of year when the other plants have gone quiet!

Mindful Moment

Let's celebrate - the days are lengthening again!! Each day focus for a few moments on the amount of light there is when you get up. Even if it is dark, there will be something to see or hear or feel around you.

Justine Incoll
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Have Your Say!

Library Opening Hours Consultation

In response to the current financial pressures, Community Hubs and Libraries have put forward a number of savings proposals.

One of these is to review Community Hub and Library opening hours; so, there is now a live consultation to find out when you use the library. Please either complete it online: <https://surveys.leeds.gov.uk/s/E3NDLX/>

Or there are paper copies available in every library until the closing date of **12th February 2024**

Boston Spa library

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The front entrance is wheelchair accessible.

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Support dogs

All support dogs are welcome.

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Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday	10am to 1pm, 1:30pm to 6pm
Thursday	Closed
Friday	10am to 1pm
Saturday	10am to 1pm
Sunday	Closed

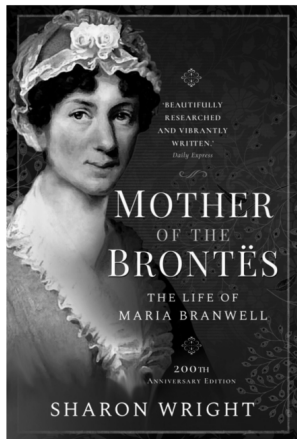
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- free WiFi
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<https://www.leeds.gov.uk/Pages/Boston-Spa-library.aspx>

St Luke's Anglican Church, Clifford Sundays: Sung Mass - 11.00am (Please see Church notice board for any changes) Church Warden: Mrs Barbara Courtman Email: barbara_courtman@hotmail.com Tel: 07792 651298 For the booking of Weddings, Baptisms, Funerals & Confessions please contact: The Group Administrator at St Mary's Parish Church Boston Spa (01937 844402 Monday to Thursday 9.30am to 12.30pm) Email: bramhambenefice@outlook.com	St. Edward's Roman Catholic Church, Clifford Mass: Thursday 10am Saturday Vigil for Sunday. 5pm Sunday. 11am PP. Fr Sean Molloy. 01937 833105 Email: pp.stedward@dioceseofleeds.org.uk Clifford Methodist Chapel Sunday Service 10.30am Minister: Rev. Steve Jakeman ☎ 842156 stephen.jakeman@methodist.org.uk
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Mother of the Brontës at the Linton Antique Society



We know a lot about the Brontë sisters, their brother and father but almost nothing about their mother, Maria Branwell. Author Sharon Wright has proved there's a fascinating story to tell in her recent biography of Maria and will reveal the details in a Zoom presentation at 8.00pm on Thursday 8 February 2024.

Non-members can attend this Zoom meeting for a fee of £10. To book, email info@lintonantiquesociety.org with your details. You can join the Society's on www.lintonantiquesociety.org.uk or by contacting the Membership Secretary on 0113 345 1815. Membership fees are a bargain £25, individual, and £45, joint, and give access to all the presentations in the season.



A Date for your diary!

Clifford Champion Beer Festival 2024

Saturday 29th June

12 noon Clifford Village Hall

All event proceeds go to support Clifford Football Club and Clifford Village Hall



February 2024

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CLIFFORD WALKING GROUP

The February walk of 7.5 miles entitled Fairburn, Ledston and Ledsham, will be on Thursday 22nd to start at 10am. Meet and park on the road side near the Three Horse Shoes, Silver Street, Fairburn WF11 9JA. The walk is along tracks through the Ings Nature Reserve and along the River Aire/Calder. Short road walk to Ledston then across fields to Ledsham, fields and woodland tracks lead back to the start. Refreshments after at the Garden Centre Cafe

If you are new to the group please ring 01937 842768 in case of changes.

Wetherby has the following three ward councillors

Councillor Norma Harrington Office Address: Conservative Group Office Civic Hall Leeds LS1 1UR Bus. phone: 0113 37 88557 Email: norma.harrington@leeds.gov.uk	Councillor Alan Lamb Office Address: Conservative Group Office 2nd Floor East Civic Hall Leeds LS1 1UR Bus. phone: 0113 3788557 Email: alan.lamb@leeds.gov.uk	Councillor Penny Stables Office Address: Group Support Office 3rd Floor East Civic Hall Leeds LS1 1UR Mobile: 07941797902 Bus. Tel. : 0113 3788266 Email: Penny.Stables@leeds.gov.uk
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Why councillors are important

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As well as influencing council decisions on funding and development, they work with other organisations, such as the police, local schools and health services to help bring about improvements to services and the environment for their local community.

What does the role involve?

Councillors usually represent a political party but can also be independent.

All councillors act as:

- representatives of individuals and groups within their ward
- community leaders building relationships with key individuals or groups
- policy makers attending meetings on issues such as housing, social services, schools, planning and the environment

For more details about the council go to <https://www.leeds.gov.uk/>

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COG is an initiative of the Diggle's First Fruits Trust. Grants awarded subject to Trust policy. Activity not listed? You can still apply if it supports a young person's education. Full details on our website.

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