

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2010 at 7.30pm**

- 1. Introductions and Apologies**
- 2. Cheque presentation and talk on the North of England Children's Cancer Research Fund**
- 3. Refreshments**
- 4. Benfieldside, Blackhill, Bridgehill and Shotley Bridge Community Partnership**
- 5. "The Parking Lot"**
- 6. County Councillors' Report**
- 7. Any other Business**

Local businesses have been invited to attend the meeting and refreshments will be served during the interval.

If coming by car, please park considerately.

**If you are interested in any of the Trust's activities and would like to get involved, but can't come to the meeting, please contact the Secretary, Jeff Singleton (507665) or the Chairman, John Worters (506248).**

# SHOTLEY BRIDGE VILLAGE TRUST

# NEWSLETTER

February 2010

**Issue No. 65**

***The Village Trust's next  
OPEN MEETING***

*will be held at 7.30pm on*

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> February**

*in the Shotley Bridge  
Methodist Church Hall*



*Refreshments will be served*

***Access to the Methodist Church Hall is in Derwent Place, at the back of the old town hall, off Snows Green Road. There is a door half-way along Derwent Place, with a sign “Methodist Church Hall”***



*This is an open meeting for all members, guests, and any other local resident who would like to find out about the Village Trust or simply join in the discussion. Please pass this newsletter on to any friends or neighbours who might be interested.*

***See the back page of this newsletter for the agenda of the Open Meeting.***

### **DEVELOPMENT AT SHOTLEY SPA**

Following the Government Regional Office's decision not to call in the planning application, it was anticipated that the proposal would have been re-considered by Durham County Council by now. However, Planning Officers are continuing to consider issues relating to the proposals, including the status of the resolution made by Derwentside District Council's Planning Committee in March 2009.

### **VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS WEEKEND**

The Trust was fully involved in organising this very successful weekend at the beginning of December. Thanks to all the volunteers that helped with litter picks, stewarding, the Victorian costume competition and the collection on behalf of the North of England Children's Charity Research Fund. A cheque presentation will be made at the beginning of the open meeting.

### **VILLAGE SQUARE CHRISTMAS TREE**

The installation of the tree, lights and electricity supply was organised by County Councillor Stephen Robinson and funded from his Members initiative fund. The Trust aims to raise the funds each year to 'plant' and dress a new tree, for the festive season. The Trust organised an impromptu gathering next to the Christmas tree before Christmas, when about 40 people turned out on a very cold but dry evening to sing carols.

### **"THE PARKING LOT"**

A update from this working group is on the agenda.

### **COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP**

The next open meeting of the Benfieldside, Blackhill, Bridgehill and Shotley Bridge Partnership is to be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> March 2010, at 7.00pm in the Blackhill Baptist Church Hall on Pemberton Road, Bridgehill. A 'Big Tidy Up' event is also being arranged for the morning of Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March.

### **SHOTLEY BRIDGE DIRECTORY**

Enclosed with this newsletter is a copy of the new directory published by the Trust. Copies are available at business premises and a distribution is being made to all households in Shotley Bridge during the last week in February. Funding for its design and print was received from Durham County Council's 'Grants for Groups'. It will be updated and reprinted next year using advertising revenue.

### **VILLAGE TRUST WEBSITE**

The Trust now publishes a regular 'blog' of its activities and events, which will be used to inform both members and the wider community. The site will also be used for documenting the Trust's affairs and recording information about the history of the village, including photographic records. If you have internet access take a look at ***SBVT.wordpress.com***

### **NORTHUMBRIA IN BLOOM**

A sub-committee to discuss entering Shotley Bridge in the Northumbria in Bloom competition [now in 2011] has still to meet and a date will be fixed at the Open Meeting.