

Acomb Parish Council – District Councillor’s Report November 2008

Tynedale Council has been applauded by the Audit Commission for its “significant improvement journey” since the council’s last Comprehensive Performance Assessment in 2004. In 2004, the council was judged to be a “good” council, in fact only two points short of being an “excellent” council. According to the latest CPA Progress Assessment 2007/8, the council has worked hard to improve the services which had been identified as weaker e.g. planning and waste management, while maintaining good performance in stronger services such as housing benefit and street cleaning.

The Progress Assessment states “The Council has good plans and a good improvement framework, which is robust and effective. Capacity has now successfully been turned towards development and support for a new unitary council for Northumberland’.

This is a tribute to the enthusiasm and dedication of Tynedale Council staff, particularly at a time of transition and uncertainty, as we move towards the new unitary council for Northumberland in April 2009.

At the last Parish Council meeting on October 1st, all residents were invited to hear about the Milecastle Housing proposals for additional affordable housing on the Millersfield garage site and the green area behind 76-92 Millersfield. A number of very strong views were expressed in opposition. It was stressed at the meeting that the plans were at a very early stage.

The Parish Council will be discussing its response on November 5th, and would like to hear the views of all residents, whether in support of the proposals or against them. Please contact me or any other member of the Parish Council before the meeting to give us your opinions on the plans.

As chair of governors at Acomb First School, I was privileged yesterday to be invited to a joint Harvest Festival at the school, presented by the children of Acomb First School and Little Oaks Nursery, also based in the school.

The children played to a packed hall of family and friends, and every child was fully involved in the performance, which was of a very high standard. Whether singing, acting, reading a story, or saying a prayer, all the children obviously enjoyed themselves. Everyone agreed that the afternoon was a tremendous success, and a tribute to the hard work of all involved. In addition, the school made a collection of £171.16 for the Tynedale Community Hospice

If you would like to discuss any of these matters further or if you have suggestions or concerns, please contact me on 01434 681487, e-mail jane.wrigley@tynedale.gov.uk.

Jane Wrigley
October 23rd 2008