

LUDDENDEN

Protecting our environment for
future generations



Meeting Thursday 31st July 2025 at 7:30 PM
St. Mary's Church – Downstairs Room

Minutes of the meeting

1. Welcome
2. Actions from previous meeting
 - a. Tony Hillyard to contact David Glover to potentially arrange a talk to the society. Possibly in November.
3. Finance Update
 - a. No major expenses for this period.
4. Planning Applications
 - a. Few new applications – primarily removal of trees.
 - b. The plans for new homes on Greave House Fields has been rejected. No sign of an appeal at this stage.
 - c. A change to the property in Duke Street has also been rejected – in particular over the planned dormer windows.
 - d. The slaughterhouse is now up for auction
5. Open Gardens Day
 - a. Generally, very pleased with the organisation and the attendance. Lots of very positive feedback from the attendees.
 - b. £1061.50 raised for the Bloom Group. Many open gardens also raised funds for their own chosen charities.
 - c. All homeowners that opened their gardens are happy to partake in the next event.
 - d. Many attendees joined away from carpark and we need to ensure enough tickets are available away from the official start point.
 - e. We have received a request to run the event over two days, but we feel that is both too much strain on the organisers, and in particular, the garden owners.
 - f. Two attendees damaged their cars when leaving the millenium car park and turning left. We will check that the area is still to the specification in the original documents when the conservation took over the car park. When we use the car park in earnest again, we are planning to add signs at the gates to warn drivers about the potential hazard.
 - g. Thanks to Roly and Brenda for their hard work.

6. House Frontages Award
 - a. Sue Johnson won the house frontages award. Committee thanks go to Debbie Mills and Diane Horsman for judging the competition.
7. Phone Box
 - a. Newly painted by Jon Oxbury.
 - b. New signs are in place. General reminder to all to not put books on front of the sign and block it from view. Books should go down lower.
8. Bloom Group
 - a. Nigel Peterson-White provided a wealth of information – more than your poor scribe could note down in time. Nigel's reports are attached to these minutes.
 - b. Appendix 2: Bloom Group Timetable
 - c. Appendix 3: Bloom Group meeting minutes
 - d. Appendix 4: Village areas maintained by Bloom Group and Gardening Group.
9. Luddenden History Day – 2nd August 2025
 - a. Kevin & Tony have selected a series of photographs to display.
 - b. Rodney has lent us his comprehensive collection of newspaper cuttings
 - c. Volunteers arranged to provide cover
10. Updates from Local History Group
 - a. The local history group are currently researching the lives of the soldiers included on the World War II plaque on the cenotaph and some of the information gathered was displayed at the history day.
11. *Links with organisations with similar objectives*
12. *Potential future talks*
13. *Group Facebook page and Web Site*
14. *Future Projects to support our constitutional objectives*
15. AOB
 - a. It was suggested we produce a 'welcome-pack' for new residents in the village. Useful information, maps, opening times etc. (Much like the pack that awaits you in an Airbnb!) See Appendix 1 for ideas.
 - b. At some stage there were signs indicating where people were buried in the cemetery. These seems to have been lost. The new sign should include contact details for cemetery maintenance. Ideally a new sign should be produced and perhaps also displayed in the church.
 - c. The car park entrance 'gates' are currently being painted.
 - d. The waste bins in the car park are due to be replaced. We wish to keep the original bins to potentially use in the village at a later stage.
 - e. Tony Hillyard to speak to current trustees prior to the next meeting and AGM and determine if we need to make changes.
16. DONM
 - a. Next meeting on September 25th 2025. This is also the society AGM.

Appendix 1 – Villager Welcome Pack

- Bloom Group flyer
- Conservation Society Leaflet
- Walks leaflets
- Mayors Group
- St Marys Church
- Morrisons and times
- Midgley Shop and times
- Lord Nelson Hours
- Pop up shop and times
- Council contact number/email
- Buses
- Doctors.

Appendix 2 – Bloom Group Activity Timetable

DATE	AREA/ACTIONS	THINGS NEEDED	EXTRA TASKS
August Monday 4 TH 10.00-11.30	Trim hedge by Halifax lane railings and perimeter of sub station	Bags, hedge trimmer, blower, rakes	
August Saturday 23rd 9.00-10.30	Brigittas, remove gravel from path and lay woodchip. Weed/tidy sub station	Bags, shovel, rakes, blower, woodchip	
September Monday 1st 10.00-11.30	Winding wheel garden Halifax lane, weeding. Weedkiller on cobbled edge. Area by river bridge by seat to cut back and tidy	Strimmer, blower, hedge trimmer, bags, rake.	Repair damaged fence bottom of Halifax lane. Wood post. Post crete Split and move a tall plants.
September Saturday 20th 9.00-10.30	Make compost heaps by allotments for composting leaves. Council have given permission	Calvag 12 posts. Chicken wire Tony. Staples, hammer, Post Knocker, Rake ,shovel, fork	
October Monday 6th 10.00-11.30	Halifax lane, cut back elder and final trim on hedge. Cut back laurels in Brigittas and any shrubs.	Strimmer, hedge trimmer, battery saw, rake, blower, bags	
October Saturday 25th 9.00-10.30	Remove begonias from baskets and hayracks if finished. Speak to Council if they can be overwintered for reuse		Dig over beds in playground. See Phil Look at water trough at bottom of Stocks Lane and ideas to plant up?
November Monday 3rd 10.00-11.30	Cut back and split plants at entrance to Bluebell Walk. Look at raising edge with stone so more soil can be added	Speak to Council regarding stone Tony Standring/Amy Some stone in Brigittes Garden	
November Saturday 22 nd 9.00-10.30	Finish Bluebell Walk and add soil/compost		
December Monday 1st 10.00-11.30	St Marys Church tidy up ready for Christmas events		See Church Wardens regarding date and actions/promotion
December Saturday 20 th 9.00-10.30	Empty compost heaps in car park and build new ones	Pallets from Calvag, drill screws, forks shovels rake, wheelbarrows.	

Appendix 3 – Bloom Group Meeting Minutes – 16th July 2025

Present: Phil Radford, Tony Hillyard, John Vaul, Ian Knox, Nigel Peterson-White, Kathleen Gilbert.

Conception of the Luddenden in Bloom Group. Confirmed with Roly that it was inaugurated in the autumn of 1998.

Roly was one of the original members/creators and after many years of Co-ordinating Bloom Group activities has decided to step back from the organisational side.

We thank him and others for all the hard work and commitment they have shown over many years and the tremendous amount of work involved in entering competitions etc. Roly has said he will still attend work parties if available.

Nigel Peterson-White has offered to step into the role of Bloom Group Co-Ordinator.

Phil outlined the various areas in the village that are maintained by the Bloom Group and some of the tasks involved.

A planner has been drawn up with the 1st Monday morning and 3rd Saturday morning meet up once per month. See appendix 2.

We have filled in a series of tasks to do running up until Christmas. These can be changed but its a start point so we can look forwards at what needs doing when and then if it works it makes next years task planning more straightforward. We can fill in the tasks for 2026 which are needed to be addressed at specific intervals either before Christmas or early in the new year.

It was suggested that a planning meeting be held after the Monday morning work group possibly in the downstairs of St Marys Church if available. To discuss and agree.

Finances are stable but any expenditure to be agreed with a focal point with projects and budgets discussed and agreed at monthly meet ups. Phil Radford has agreed to be the key contact point for this. Tony Hillyard will still do the accounts.

Communication: With the group but also encouraging new volunteers as there are always people leaving the village, moving into the village, retiring etc etc.

Group email. Facebook. Flyers in noticeboard at Lord Nelson and St Marys Church. Laminated flyers at car park and playground.

Small signs by communal areas that are looked after by the group. Cost?

Meeting with Council Greenspaces at Manor Heath in September at possibilities of us supplying seeds and them growing annuals and perennials for us as they have heated glasshouses.

Cemeteries Dept have given us permission to create a composting area for leaves and light green waste along past the allotments so we may be self sufficient ish in compost within 2 years.

It was also discussed do we continue with “Luddenden In Bloom” name? Is it appropriate, do we do other things? Phil has suggested if the name is changed what about “Busy Bees” with a catchline as we are always buzzing round the village doing stuff?

Next planning meeting after work party Monday 4th August.

Appendix 4 – Bloom Group and Gardening Group Village Areas

Car Park.
Luddenden sign and frontage
Footpath past Quarry House, fencing and trees
Triangle Planter
Bluebell Walk entrance bed.
Spring Bank/High Street Court planters, beds
Footpath up to millstone from Spring Bank
Steps to nowhere
Brigittes garden, ginnel, steps, planter at bottom of steps.
Turning circle, lawns and planters
Substation
Playground boundary shrubs and planters (Kids Group?)
Halifax Lane roadside and vegetation
Planters on side of flats.
Riverside walk/Brook Street, river vegetation.
Bridge wildflower area/seat and lawns
Village green area and lawns and planters
Vegetation below bridge
Cenotaph, front rockery beds and lawns
Memorial garden and lawns
Old lane
High Street plant table. Stocks lane hay racks
Entrance to allotments and old chapel
Stocks Lane footpath and drains
Riverside path and river to Brook Terrace
St Marys Church areas and volunteers ?
Cemetery

