

We are pleased to inform you of mainly good news this month – it being the festive season!

ALMSFORD BANK STABLES

The planning application for more residential properties just out of our parish has been rejected by HBC. There were numerous individual objections as well as ours from the Parish Council; thanks to those of you who objected. Weight of numbers does count in such instances.

SPRING LANE FARM

One of the Prior Notices of Permitted Development was withdrawn at the 11th hour or should we say 56th day (the last by which a decision must be made by HBC, otherwise the permission is automatically granted). The second has been granted an extension until later in December – which we didn't realise was permissible under the 56-day rule but we have been advised by HBC accordingly of the deadline, so presumably they're cognisant of what is permissible.

PN18 (Land adjoining the A61 Leeds Road)

As mentioned in the last newsletter, HBC have decided against the proposals for the commercial area between Mercedes and the bottom of Almsford Bank. This does not mean that there will *never* be a commercial enterprise here as PN18 remains in the Local Plan. For the moment it is excellent news for usespecially as traffic is bad enough already without any extra vehicles using the A61 through our parish or more rat-running to get to Cardale Park and surrounding areas on roads totally unsuitable for the volume of traffic.

CAROLS ON THE GREEN

Once again, this popular carol service was well attended and singers were in good voice, especially as everyone had all the words with the new carol sheets. This year, the nominated charity is Horticap - which benefitted from £206.50 taken in the collection on the night (thank you all for your attendance and super generosity) and, as per last year, a matched donation from the Parish Council will take the total to £413. Our appreciation also for the much enjoyed music provision by the Tewit Youth Band: they will receive a £100 donation from the Parish Council by way of thanks.

Due to grandparental duties and more carol singing down south, the chairman couldn't make it to the event but his thanks are extended to all who helped. That means: Cathy Burrell, Steve Cobb, Dave Oswin and wife Pam, Ryan Dall and Jane Marlow with husband Graham. Once again, thank you to headteacher, Jane Turner, at Pannal School for allowing everyone to enjoy mulled wine and mince pies after the singing which, as before, was organised by Iain Ward-Campbell.

You may have noticed that this year some of the festive lights on the trees have a new format. As is the case with the lights on the Stray, some trees have been "branch-wrapped" rather than have strings of lights suspended in the higher branches. There were so many losses due to wind damage, entanglement with trucks and vandalism that there was no feasible alternative to this style of decoration. We hope this new version meets with your approval. There is little change to the central tree this year, as you can see from the photos, although this might change next year.







COUNTRY PARK

A couple of decades ago it was suggested that the area behind St Robert's church be designated a Country Park. The idea had little traction with HBC back then but now we hope that with a Parish Council in place and the idea specified in our Neighbourhood Plan, it could be a final swansong for HBC for our parish before the unity authority takes over. Hence, at its most recent monthly meeting the Parish Council endorsed a proposal by two residents, Anne Smith and David Wilby, that the chief executive and leader of HBC be approached with the request that HBC starts the legal process as soon as possible to have the area afforded country park status.

SUPPORT FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

Police Fire and Crime Commissioner, Zoë Metcalfe, showcases services to support women and girls in North Yorkshire and York. This subject is to be taken very seriously and, in recognition of this fact, we have published all the various links in her missive on our website rather than reproducing them here in the body of the newsletter. There are contact details and also u-tube videos relating to each subject. Supporting victims is really important so if you know of anyone who might benefit from such support, please check on our website www.pannalandburnbridge-pc.gov.uk.

You will note that we do sometimes cross-refer to items posted on the website especially where the text is lengthy or where hyperlinks can lead one directly to the desired information.

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PLAN

You may recall we mentioned this before and now have more of the details which we need to confirm so that everyone knows what to do in various emergencies. Typical events would be: terrorist actions, rail crash, flooding, another pandemic, air crash, etc. etc. We have had some volunteers offering their assistance but we would appreciate more offers of help.

This is another example of the text being too large to include in the newsletter so please go to our website for details.

BUSES ON BRACKENTHWAITE LANE

Yet another occasion where we refer you to the website for more information... an email from a North Rigton resident concerning this problem is on our website.

Regrettably, HBC cannot take any action regarding the set-up of the bus company in North Rigton parish. That the number of buses blocking Burn Bridge Lane and Brackenthwaite Lane on an almost daily basis is completely inconsiderate, apparently has no relevance with the enforcement officers at HBC.

MOST IMPORTANTLY

Have a great festive season and a Happy New Year to all our residents. This also applies to the many readers outside our parish and to our friends at HBC and NYCC who like to keep abreast with our news.

Merry Christmas and best wishes

Howard West, Chairman, howard.west@pannalandburnbridge-pc.gov.uk and Dave Oswin, Deputy Chairman, and Councillors Cathy Burrell, Cliff Trotter, Steve Cobb and Andrew Farrar

For reference, the most recent newsletter is always posted on the Village Notice Board (at the Village Hall) and all newsletters are posted on the website here: http://www.pannalandburnbridge-pc.gov.uk/Documents.aspx

Also, if you use Facebook, please join our group where you'll get any breaking news more quickly than through these periodic newsletters:

https://www.facebook.com/Pannal-and-Burn-Bridge-Parish-Council-1655335551445518/