

Firstly, a belated Happy New Year to you all.

Unsurprisingly, the festive season has seen a drop in activity levels from both Borough and County Councils and residents seem to have taken a similar line. Hence, this newsletter is somewhat shorter than most.

The usual matters, as discussed in our January meeting, are included in the minutes which will be posted very soon, if not already. However, some of particular importance are as follows:

PLANNING

We have received planning applications from Forward Investments to expand the old Dunlopillo office block even further. They plan to add another storey in a couple of places for an extra 7 apartments. The recommendation is to oppose this, particularly in view of there being an over-supply of land for accommodation. The building is an eyesore now, so to compound that would be a travesty. There's still time for residents to make their comments on the application – see the recent planning meeting agenda for details and reference numbers.

CAROLS ON THE GREEN

The council decided to match-fund the money collected at this year's carols with a £244.25 donation to Frank's Fund. A date for your diaries is Monday, 14th December for the 2020 celebration. The format will be the same; carols first, then off to Pannal School for some refreshment. In appreciation of the musicians who stand in the cold getting their fingers frozen, we decided to donate £100 to Tewit Well Band/Tewit Youth Players. Their contribution with the music is invaluable.

FESTIVE LIGHTS

Before the end of the month, you should see that most of the lights have been removed from the trees on the green. The "Christmas Tree" lights will be kept safe until later this year and most of the others removed so that HBC can trim back the trees to prevent them overhanging the roadway towards Pannal School.

VILLAGE HALL OPEN AFTERNOON

The parish council (along with several other regular users) will be represented at this event on 25th January from 2-5pm. Please come along to meet your councillors and see what we're proposing. We need help with:

Neighbourhood Watch – there have been so many changes with house-owners/renters that the village effort isn't as cohesive as it once was. Please invite any newcomers to pop along too. Crime has increased with county lines trafficking so we need to be ever more watchful.

Neighbourhood Plan – once we have the final declaration about the Local Plan, which we had expected by now, we can start again in earnest on our own plan. Please volunteer; there any many skills needed.

Loneliness – do you know anyone who might appreciate some contact without it being too obtrusive? If you do, please give us some names.

Community Speedwatch – we're the first and best group in North Yorkshire but desperately short of volunteers. With an ever-increasing traffic count, we need to deploy more often. The scheme really works – try the new laser speed gun and see results for yourself.

Becoming a councillor – it's no use thinking about it in a couple of years; find out what it's all about know so that you can put your name forward for election when the time comes. We've done our stint in getting the parish council off to a great start but we will need some fresh blood for the next session. Also, you don't have to become a councillor to help. Some residents in the parish already help us; something for which we're extremely grateful.

Find out what we've accomplished – It may all be in the minutes but there's nothing like some first-hand information.

What do we need in the parish? – there are some very clever people out there; please give us some ideas rather than just leave it to us.

See you on 25th January at the village hall.

HIGHWAYS

We're pleased to announce that NYCC have repaired the footpath that runs alongside the river behind Crimple Meadows at the cricket ground end. The chance of your falling in is now much reduced!

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/

Best wishes

Howard West, Chairman, howard.west@pannalandburnbridge-pc.gov.uk

and Dave Oswin, Deputy Chairman, and Councillors Cathy Burrell, Ian Birchall, Steve Cobb, Harvey Alexander and Ryan Dall