



February 2019 Edition Newsletter

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This might sound crazy this month but..... Happy New Year! We didn't have a parish council meeting in January as there weren't too many critical issues at that time so not much to report. Also, our time was taken up in preparation for, and participation in, the LPE.

### **LOCAL PLAN EXAMINATION (LPE)**

Cllr Dave Oswin and I attended many of the sessions defending Pannal and Burn Bridge's interests. We used reports commissioned into Landscape and Traffic, relating directly to our parish. Then, with the help from our partners on the Western Arc Group (North Rigton, Beckwithshaw and Hampsthwaite Parish Councils as well as HAPARA and the Duchy Residents Association) we tackled Harrogate Borough Council's (HBC) complete lack of planning for traffic to and from what amounts to a settlement of more than 3000 houses to the west of Harrogate. Our challenges to HBC were across all the critical "Matters" brought forward by the Government's Inspector, Mr Richard Schofield.

These were: Legal compliance, Objectively Assessed Need for Housing and the Plan's Housing figure, Site Selection, Supply of Housing Land, Supply of Employment Land, Sustainable Development, Primary Service Village Allocations, Transport and Infrastructure and finally, Natural Environment.

It is difficult to gauge what level of success we may have had but the inspector gave P&BBPC a fair crack of the whip amongst the professional representatives (barristers, specialists, consultants and QCs) of developers and numerous officers from HBC. We will only know the outcome later this spring when the inspector has made his decisions across the various matters. We're grateful to those parishioners who came to support our efforts at the examination.

Our final submission to the LPE was made on Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> February, with written replies to various comments and statement made by HBC. This can be seen on our website. If HBC are not forced to change anything as a result of the inspector's rulings, then at least no-one can accuse us of not giving it our best shot. If some/all allocations are removed in our parish, then we will be delighted.

### **PARISH CLERK & RFO**

We are pleased to announce that Jane Marlow has accepted our offer of the post and is already fully involved with the day-to-day workings of our parish council. Jane has two hard acts to follow in Robin and Andrew but we're confident she'll keep us in line. Should you need to contact Jane, her email address remains the same: [parishclerk@pannalandburnbridge-pc.gov.uk](mailto:parishclerk@pannalandburnbridge-pc.gov.uk)

### **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

At our February meeting last Thursday, County Cllrs John Mann and Cliff Trotter explained that there will be further cuts to finance available for the County Council, so potholes will still remain and road improvements may not happen as quickly as they should. The A61 from the

new roundabout by the “Dunlopillo” site entrance, through to the Prince of Wales roundabout, desperately needs attention, especially through “our” bit. However, due to budget limitations and forthcoming gas/water works, this will probably be delayed for a year or two. Why didn't the UCI world cycling championship route involve this bit of the A61? It would have solved a major road surface problem for us, even if there would have been no effect on congestion.

### **NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN (NDP)**

We have to await the ramifications of the Local Plan (LP) before we can address some of the matters concerning us in our NDP. However, that's not stopping our activities on a host of tasks not dependent on the LP. Our consultant, a qualified planner, has checked our progress and put us on the straight and narrow. We'll be having a public participation event in June along with a questionnaire and more discussions with HBC.

### **COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL)**

You may have received a letter from HBC asking for comments about the Charging Schedule that will be implemented. Unless you're an expert in the field, it's exceedingly difficult to make an informed judgement on this proposal. Those in the know tend to think the charges would be on the high side by perhaps up to 15%. However, HBC has to balance getting money in for infrastructure projects (at a high enough level) against a level that would be too high that would make development prohibitively expensive. Developers would then choose to build in Leeds or elsewhere where it could be cheaper. The parish council therefore cannot advise how parishioners should comment, just that they should register comments before Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

### **OPEN SEASON FOR PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Residents will have noticed various planning applications coming forward, both in our parish and just outside. Many developers are trying to beat the Local Plan by having applications heard before the LP is signed off. If site allocations are withdrawn from the plan (which could be likely because HBC, by its own admission, has over-estimated housing figures), then the chances of future applications on those sites succeeding would be severely diminished. Hence, developers are trying their luck now. There are plans for another 5 executive style houses to the south of Rossett Green Lane near its junction with Yew Tree Lane. Looking at the drawings, it would seem to be a first step in putting housing down the valley towards the proposed Spring Lane Farm development and even more coalescence with Harrogate. If you have comments, please make them on the HBC portal referencing 19/00318/OUT. Communications between developers and consultants are ongoing for the Spring Lane Farm application which will be considered by HBC's planning committee.

### **CRIMPLE MEADOWS PARKING**

The results of a survey conducted by resident, David Hopkinson, on behalf of the parish council were shared with Cllrs Mann and Trotter. They were asked to progress the matter with NYCC Highways now that the views of residents were known. It was considered appropriate to deal with this street first as the parking issues are more concerned with safety and access of emergency vehicles than inconsiderate parking.

### **CAROLS ON THE GREEN**

The collection taken during and after carols before Christmas realised £155.41 for Saint Michael's Hospice.

### **CANINE EXCREMENT / DOG POO**

Whatever we call it, the perennial problem of inconsiderate dog walkers/owners leaving faecal deposits or, just as badly, leaving bagged deposits on verges/pavements/fields/roads seems to be getting worse. “Why can't we have more poo bins?” ask residents. **The simple answer**

**is that if we did, HBC refuse to empty them because of budget constraints.** The simplest solution is for handlers to take the bags home and pop them in the household waste bin if there isn't a poo bin nearby. The parish council would be prepared to purchase extra bins under the following conditions:

They can be sited in accordance with Highways regulations.

They are emptied by volunteers into a household waste bin once a fortnight.

Are you prepared to volunteer for this? Please let us know via our parish clerk. Using detection cameras for offenders is under investigation but deployment of such devices is probably subject to rules from the Information Commissioners Office.

## **DUNLOPILLO SITE**

According to Bellway Homes, pile driving should finish by the end of week 8 (February 22<sup>nd</sup>)

On that good news note, we'll take a well-earned rest for a couple of days before entering the fray again.

For reference, the most recent newsletter is always posted on both of the Village Notice Boards (at the Memorial Hall and at St Robert's Church) 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](mailto:howard.west@pannalandburnbridge-pc.gov.uk)

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