



July 2019 Edition Newsletter

[View this email in your browser](#)

There have been periods of both quiet and full-on activity of late, so we'll concentrate on the key areas.

LOCAL PLAN

There have been some delays in the results of the examination and many opinions offered from various sources. There is nothing concrete to report but signs are that things may come to a conclusion by year-end. Before then, there will be another consultation, starting on July 26th over the changes the inspector has requested. We only know of those changes as in his letter to HBC a couple of months ago but don't know if there will be anything else. Of particular relevance is what we might expect for PN18 but there's no clue about that at the moment. As soon as we know more, we'll update you or you'll probably find out from HBC if you have commented before.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Because of the uncertainty in the local plan deliberations, our activities for our own plan have had to be shelved until we know more from HBC. It had been thought that a number of activities could have been continued while awaiting the local plan finalisation. We have decided that rather than expend our energy on those activities which, although not influenced by the outcome of the local plan, will be completed after its finalisation. Hence there is no need for public engagement at this time as there is very little to tell and residents seem to have "plan fatigue" with the local plan and the congestion study. The work already done however, is invaluable and forms the base of what we need to pass the ultimate referendum.

KERBS, HEDGES, PAVEMENTS

North Yorkshire County Council has cut back its weed-spraying and kerb-brushing activities, leaving our streets, especially those with less traffic in a dilapidated state. To counter this, after pressure from your councillor Ian Birchall, there should be weed-spraying activity in the village forthwith. Our plan is to use the same contractor (who now has time due to NYCC cut-backs) to give our weeds another spray at a convenient time. This has to be linked to road-sweeping with vehicles with rotating brushes but we need to know when that will happen so we can get vehicles off the street when that activity takes place. Trying to marry these two jobs is, as you can imagine, not the easiest job.

We have received several requests from residents about the state of footpaths and inaccessibility on pavements for pedestrians due to overgrown vegetation. In theory, this is the responsibility of NYCC but they have ceased to be proactive and if we, as a parish council do not react, then nothing will happen. To this end, householders with vegetation encroaching on footpaths or pavements, will receive a friendly note from the parish council asking that such vegetation be cut back, not just to where it might have been lightly trimmed before but back to the line of the inside of the pavement or the boundary edge. If such vegetation is not removed within two weeks, then NYCC will be advised. They will then send a formal notice and if action is not taken by the householder, NYCC's contractor will cut back the vegetation and invoice the householder. You have been warned! Please have a word with neighbours who may not receive our newsletter.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

We're resurrecting this in our parish as there have been so many changes in residents involved, some groups have fallen by the wayside. We're collecting names of those who have helped in the past as well as volunteers who may be willing to help in the future. PCSO Martin Powell has offered to be involved at a first meeting to coordinate efforts. Once set up, further communication and alerts will be via email. Martin was pleased to report that some offenders responsible for local break-ins have been apprehended by police. Pannal and Burn Bridge are considered easy targets for miscreants (often from West Yorkshire) who believe they can commit crimes and scuttle back across the border. They may not know of the presence of ANPR cameras locally. However, please keep properties locked and car keys hidden within your houses so that 2 in 1 crimes (break-ins and car theft) can be minimised.

PLANNING MATTERS

Councillor Dave Oswin advised the meeting that although some planning issues may be outside our parish boundary, the effects of building do have an effect on traffic and parking within our boundaries. The H51 site as specified by HBC and additional applications at Hornbeam Park and elsewhere could be the thin end of the wedge for coalescence with Harrogate within the Crimple Valley. Also, SatNavs seem to suggest coaches and other vehicles use Burn Bridge Lane / Road to get to Harlow Carr from Leeds and more significantly, back again. There is no specific prohibition as far as we're aware in that direction but some block on HGV and coach transport is a must. Some builders seem to think "access" means crossing our parish, even with weight limits in place but the police don't seem interested in prosecuting transgressors. We keep fighting.

CONGESTION

Following the NYCC exhibition in Pannal and our questions posed to David Bowe, head of NYCC Highways, we have received written replies from David and his team. They're on our website, so please have a look. The answers are too long to publish in the limited space of this newsletter. It was great to have had David answer questions in person at our June parish council meeting. We are not entirely happy with some of the answers and will continue campaigning to secure some infrastructure for the vastly increased traffic we're experiencing on our rat-runs. Both NYCC and HBC seem to have washed their hands of our problems, preferring to concentrate their efforts on Harrogate town centre and cycle tracks without planning anything for the west of Harrogate.

PARKING ON CRIMPLE MEADOWS

We have challenged NYCC Highways Area 6's response to our request for some restrictions on this road with photographic evidence but are yet to receive a reply. If NYCC is not prepared to make any efforts to solve a life-or-death emergency service vehicle access problem on this road, then what chance is there anywhere else in the parish?

NEXT MEETING

Even parish councillors and their clerk need an occasional break, so our next parish council meeting will be on September 12, there being no meeting in August. However, planning applications still come in, even if we do have a break, so our planning meeting will take place on August 8th as usual. Just because there will be no PC meeting in August doesn't mean we stop work. That goes on non-stop.

For reference, the most recent newsletter is always posted on both of the Village Notice Boards (at the Village 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

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