

Pannal and Burn Bridge Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan

At its meeting on 27th April, the Parish Council agreed it would begin work on a Neighbourhood Plan which is officially launched on 1st May 2017.

Jane Gaskell, Vice Chair of the Parish Council and Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group leader writes: a Neighbourhood Plan is a community-driven plan covering development, design, and green space within the parish area. It focuses on land use and will contain our proposals for improving the area. It allows us to decide how our parish should look.

It differs from the Community-led Plan in several ways and the Neighbourhood Plan will build on the foundations of that work. The benefit to us is that the Neighbourhood Plan, if accepted, will gain statutory status and our views in it will have to be noted whilst considering future planning applications.

As the Neighbourhood Plan has statutory status, it has a specific process to follow before it gains final acceptance, which includes: adequate community engagement, policy writing, examination by an independent examiner, a referendum on its acceptance and its final adoption by the Local Authority. We are intending to achieve this within 18 -24 months.

Our first action is to ensure our area is designated. To that end, we have written to Harrogate Borough Council to request they accept our parish boundary as our designated area.

For the Neighbourhood Plan to be successfully completed, we require the help of interested and skilled members of the parish. Our intention is to set up a sub-group of the Parish Council to

deliver the plan. The group will be led by Jane Gaskell and includes Howard West, Steve Cobb and Ian Birchall. We need the help of interested and skilled members of the community too. We do not wish for the process to be too arduous and so we would want co-opt members of the parish whenever required.

The skills we require, beside enthusiasm and a sense of humour, are: analytical skills, map and plan reading, data analysis, knowledge of the parish, urban design, housing and environmental assessment. We will communicate with the community through Survey Monkey based questionnaires and workshop events and so those skills are required also.

Finally, when we have our data, we would require help with the writing up of the document and its proof reading.

If you are interested in working with the Parish Council on the Neighbourhood Plan, please inform the Parish Clerk at: parishclerk@pannalandburnbridge-pc.gov.uk as we would be so pleased to hear from you.

Jane Gaskell, Vice Chair P&BBPC

In other news, parishioners are welcome at our Annual Parish Meeting on Thursday 25th May at 7.00 pm at Pannal Village Hall. North Yorkshire's Police and Crime Commissioner, Julia Mulligan will address parishioners and we will detail what your parish council has worked upon, achieved in its first year and its plans for the future. We look forward to seeing you there.

There are many other things going on behind the scenes and the website, our Facebook page and this electronic newsletter will continue to be the first avenues to publish details.

Please remember, do not hesitate to contact us via the parish clerk Andrew Macdonald (parishclerk@pannalandburnbridge-pc.gov.uk or 07802 460789) if you have comments or suggestions on how to improve our parish.

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