



Pannal and Burn Bridge Parish Council Newsletter No 8
September 2017

A huge thank you to all residents who replied to our leaflet and questions and for replying to the consultation for Harrogate Borough Council's Local Plan proposals. There were some excellent submissions with detailed explanations why HBC should not build on any of the sites proposed. With the authors' permission, we have taken some of those comments and added them to the parish council's consolidated consultation reply. Our reply is based on the replies to the questionnaire we sent out so that what was delivered to HBC is a true democratic representation of the views of parishioners. You can see the submission, including attachments, on our website [add link]. Our thanks go to the many residents whose submissions we used in part or in full as well as to Councillor Dave Oswin and Andrew Macdonald, our parish clerk, who spent many hours putting the submission together.

Thanks also to the protest groups who have joined with us to present a united front against the borough council. There has been some erroneous information circulated on social media which has not helped but generally the community has pulled together in the face of such disastrous proposals.

So what happens next?

The parish council and Spring Lane SLA Group have already removed their banners and trust others remove theirs very soon. Once an event is over, the effect of posters changes from positive to negative. No doubt we'll need to campaign actively later in the year and real impact will be needed then. However, just because the "consultation" is over, the pressure will continue to be applied by other means.

We need to complement the evidence used in various submissions to HBC to build a cast iron case in preparation for the government inspection next year which is virtually inevitable. Rather than face another 6 week period for comments, which will probably include a holiday period, we need our ducks lined up in advance. Hence any help you can give us will be highly appreciated.

Protests from individuals and groups will certainly play a part but as a statutory body, the parish council cannot flag-wave and chain itself to railings. We have to take a reasoned and measured approach so real evidence is what we need. We will be in contact with local groups and experts for details and will determine the optimum path forward.

Below are some of the milestones for the Local Plan (LP) that we must bear in mind (extracts taken from the briefing papers supplied during the consultation):

September – November 2017	November - December 2017	January – February 2018
HBC considers responses to the LP for the final stages of the consultation (Public Consultation).	Officers recommend LP to district councillors for formal decision reporting to Councillors with the final decision at full Council on 6 December	Consultation on publication of the Draft LP – vision, objectives, policies, allocations

At all stages, the parish council will be considering its position and how to best represent the views of the residents.

However, if you have further information which could have a material bearing on our opposition to HBC's plans for Pannal and Burn Bridge don't hesitate – contact our parish clerk with it now please.

And finally, just to clear up some things.....

- The future of the post office has absolutely nothing to do with the Local Plan. That issue is subject to the reserved matters for the planning application for the Dunlopillo site which is due for decision shortly. Although signs are very promising, at the time of writing, nothing concrete has yet been formally agreed that we know of and probably won't be until after the reserved matters. Watch this space.
- The site PN20 that HBC proposed for the expansion of Pannal School should PN19 be built upon, is primarily the area which had been highlighted for allotments for the school and parishioners. The borough council has been in discussion with the parish council about this location for some time but appears to have **now** “pinched” the land set aside for the allotments. That area had been requested by the parish council in line with what was specified in the Community-led Plan. Allotments were not a borough council initiative.
- Similarly, the park and stride land (planned for just behind Saint Robert's Church) would be essentially for drop-off and pick-up for pupils at Pannal School and for overflow for church services, not for general use by commuters. That land appears to have **also** been “pinched” for PN19. (Access would not be from the A61 as some have mistakenly suggested.) Park and stride is not a borough council initiative either; the request came from the residents of our parish during the community led plan consultation and is backed by the school.
- The parish council planning committee (using local knowledge) makes recommendations to the borough council on each planning application **within our parish boundaries**. However, it is the borough council that makes the final decision and has the responsibility of monitoring such applications.

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. Also, don't forget that you can join our Facebook group where you'll get any breaking news more quickly than through the periodic newsletters: <https://www.facebook.com/Pannal-and-Burn-Bridge-Parish-Council-1655335551445518/>

Best wishes,

Howard West, Chairman

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and Dave Oswin, Deputy Chairman and Councillors Cathy Burrell, Ian Birchall, John Mann and Steve Cobb.