

Attachment to the October Newsletter

A version of this leaflet was handed out at the Harrogate Branch of the YLCA meeting on 2nd October and given to the NYCC speaker (Melisa Burnham)

NYCC PROTOCOLS PREVENT PANNAL FROM INSTALLING THE MOST COST EFFECTIVE SPEED SIGNS

POTENTIAL LOCATIONS FOR SPEED SIGNS IN PANNAL & BURN BRIDGE

The Parish Council has investigated installing two battery-operated signs that can display speed, happy/sad faces, "slow down", etc, etc but NYCC Highways replied that we couldn't mount them on street furniture (mainly lamp posts and bus stop signs).

There are several potential sites in the parish including Spring Lane, Burn Bridge Road and Church Lane as well as those pictured. Posts already exist and speed indicator signs would not protrude any further towards the pavement or road space.



Zebra crossing was new a decade ago!



The bus service no longer operates



Main Street Pannal. School 50m on LHS!



Existing NYCC signs for zebra crossing
Clue: one is behind the creeper

We did a comparison of the speed signs on offer. The Parish Council has investigated, reviewed and approved expenditure for two signs from a company that provides suitable equipment to local authorities across the UK. The Parish Council intended to purchase and operate these at a weekly cost of around one quarter of the cost of one of NYCC's. Their scheme, which is a four year contract costing £6000 with 18 weeks a year usage) is on the left in the table below.

SPEED SIGN COMPARISON			
NYCC	NYCC	Morelock	Morelock (commercial alternative)
Cost per sign (based on quote of £6000 over 4 years)	£6,000	£2,250	One off purchase - Assumes sign lasts for the full 4 years. 2 years guarantee anyway
Per annum (over 4 years)	£1,500	£562.50	Per annum (over 4 years)
Weeks in operation per annum	18	52	Weeks in operation per annum
Only available for 72 weeks in 4 years so cost per week	£83.33	£11.03	Available for 204 weeks. Cost per week to use
Cannot be reset or resited unless called out			Can be moved with a stepladder and spanners Simple programme change by mobile phone

Local authorities using signs from the same supplier include: Aberdeenshire County Council, Dumfries & Galloway County Council, Northumberland County Council, Trafford Council, Nottingham County Council, Northamptonshire Highways, Wrexham Council, Bedfordshire Council, Cambridgeshire County Council, Telford & Wrekin Council, Doncaster Council, Great Dawley Town Council, Desborough Town Council. In addition, they are used by: Northamptonshire Police Force, Cambridgeshire Police Force, West Mercia Police Force also use them. Closer to home, one is operating in Collingham, West Yorkshire.

However, according to one local council we spoke to, after 3 years' experience, they are not too pleased with the method of operation of their scheme through NYCC. Advances in electronics can take less than 3 weeks - not 3 years!

Other suppliers are available at similar costs. One can question the logic and legality of the restrictive practice of permitting only a scheme at an inflated price which is less efficient than something available on the open market.

With more housing planned in the near future and in the longer term >3000 more homes in the Local Plan in West Harrogate alone, the rat-run experience with inherent speeding would increase dramatically. A full-time speed signage system at a reasonable cost is therefore essential. Our primary school is open all year round, not just for 18 weeks a year! Pannal and Burn Bridge Parish Council has the answer.

Contrary to NYCC's statement, presumably based on old (2014) information, we know from Community Speed Watch evidence provided to NY Police that when signage is absent, speeds increase.