



Pateley Bridge Town Council

Winter 2019 Newsletter

Nidderdale Herald – our new reporter!

After several years without a dedicated journalist covering Nidderdale, the Herald appointed Brogan Maguire to cover Knaresborough and Nidderdale, so you have probably noticed more diversity in the news! If you have a story to tell you can email her directly brogan.maguire@jpress.co.uk. The Council thought that this would be a good opportunity for local sports clubs and their facilities to be featured, and Brogan is interested in doing this. So please make contact with her if you would like to showcase your club and perhaps attract some new members.

Climate Emergency

The Council has been asked whether it intends to compile a Council Action Plan to look at the whole issue of how we are approaching the effects of climate change, and what actions might be taken to mitigate and reduce the carbon emissions of both councillors and residents. Pateley Bridge will not be adopting such a plan at the moment, as the County Council already has a task force looking at this problem, and will advise parish councils in due course. County Cllr Stan Lumley is on this committee and will keep everyone informed of progress. Of course in the meantime, individuals and families can make their own resolutions to reduce their carbon footprint.

Emergency Plan

In conjunction with Bewerley Parish Council, Pateley Bridge Council maintains a Joint Resilience Plan, which would be put into action before the arrival of the Emergency Services, if such a thing as flooding did occur. There is a copy of this plan on the Council's website, but please do contact the Clerk if you have any concerns or would like to know where to ask for advice about protecting your property.

Another call for Community First Responders

The Community First Responder scheme is a life-saving partnership between Yorkshire Ambulance Service NHS Trust and local communities. When a 999 call is received by the Emergency Services, a First Responder, on call in the local area, can be alerted and asked to assist until the ambulance arrives; in many medical emergencies the first few minutes are critical and if effective treatment can be provided at this time, lives can be saved and disability reduced. Volunteers are trained by the Ambulance Service in basic life support skills, although very often the role is simply to provide reassurance to patients until ambulance clinicians arrive. Further information on becoming a Community First Responder is available on their website <http://www.communityresponders.yas.nhs.uk> or if you prefer to speak to someone, then call Linda Milsom on 07826 532 238 or speak to Cllr Hilary Jefferson.

Traffic Issues

You may remember from an earlier newsletter that even though there had been numerous complaints about speeding on the High Street, data from the North Yorkshire Police Traffic Bureau had shown that the speed of vehicles on the High Street was within the range that the Bureau would not take action to install warning signs. Since then the County Council has changed its policy and parish councils are able to buy and maintain vehicle activated speed signs (VAS) themselves, and Pateley Bridge Town Council has decided to do this, in compliance with the County Council's protocol: the signs are of the speed limit reminder type i.e. the speed limit will be displayed alternating with a SLOW DOWN message, and the whole unit is transferable so that it can be rotated between sites, or shared with another parish. Although the Senior Traffic Engineer identified a site next to Fox's Head Well as an ideal location to warn drivers before they entered the High Street, the Council preferred a location a little further back up the Ripon Road so as not to spoil the view of the Well. The sign will also be triggered by speeding cyclists.

Volunteering Oscars

The Council had a hard task choosing a nominee for the Harrogate Volunteering Oscars, but finally decided on the team of sixteen volunteer drivers of the community car based at Nidd Plus. Giving their time to help others who either don't have access to suitable transport, or who are unable to use the services available, the

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team, who are DBS checked and MIDAS trained, present a professional and reassuring face and contribute so much to the mental well-being of their passengers, allowing them a feeling of independence and enabling them to continue to remain in their chosen neighbourhood. They address a real need in a rural area where public transport has been reduced. The team was shortlisted and although they were not outright winners, they enjoyed the presentation evening in Harrogate with all the other nominees, and the Council would like to congratulate them.

Volunteers' Coffee Morning

As a way of a thank you to the huge number of people who volunteer in the parish, the Mayor hosted a coffee morning in the Memorial Hall on 23rd November. "It's astonishing how much is given by so many people in our community, and I just wanted to thank them all on behalf of myself and all the councillors. It was a great way for everyone to get together and a very happy community event" said the Mayor.

Meet Your Councillors – drop-in mornings

Following the success of the drop-in sessions which councillors held at the offices of Nidd Plus in the autumn, the Mayor plans to hold these on a regular basis in 2020, so please see the website or the parish notice board for future dates. It's an opportunity for you to get things off your chest or raise a query, but also invaluable for councillors to learn about parishioners' concerns.

Town Council's new website

After ten years, the Council is updating its website and has a new local government domain name: www.pateleybridgetowncouncil.gov.uk. The site has been designed by VisonICT who specialise in local council websites but we would also like to thank Sharon Clarkson who has provided some wonderful photography free of charge – another very good example of local volunteering! Belatedly the Council is also taking the plunge into social media and hopes this will engender some more conversations with residents in 'real time'.

Rubbish!

The Council doesn't like having to keep writing about this in its newsletter, but unfortunately it is an ongoing problem. The recycling bins in Southlands are provided by HBC and are for domestic use, not for commercial or charity waste. Please don't deposit other household rubbish around the bins – this is flytipping, a criminal offence which also creates extra costs to taxpayers to have it removed. Again, these bins are not for the use of businesses who must use a commercial contractor or visit the Harrogate or Ripon permanent sites. The Council pays HBC just over £10 each time its 660litre bin is emptied so the cost is not onerous.

If you employ an individual or business to remove waste you have a legal responsibility to check they have a waste carrier's licence. You should never trust anyone who offers to take away rubbish, especially for a few pounds and in cash. If you are a householder you should ask for a documented receipt and if you are a business you must ask the carrier for a waste transfer note detailing what waste was taken from you, and who it was given to. This paperwork has to be kept for two years.

Millennium Green

Millennium Greens were a government initiative to celebrate the turn of the Millennium and were designed to be 'attractive places for people to take air and exercise, meet others and pursue leisure activities and pastimes consistent with the shared enjoyment of the whole of the land'. They had to include significant natural areas where nature and wildlife could be enjoyed at first hand. The Pateley Bridge Millennium Green contains woodland, a wildlife pond, a children's garden, open areas and paths for walking, picnic areas and public seats and a cycle track for children. The Council has been the sole managing trustee of the Millennium Green since 2010 when the original trustees asked them to take over responsibility. It cuts the grass, safety inspects and maintains the cycle track, empties the waste bins, carries out litter picking, plants bulbs (bluebells this year), cleans the pond, and is responsible for inspecting and maintaining the woodland. It is supported in this by the Parish Caretaker, Jim Benson, volunteers from the AONB, some individual residents and by the Scouts. This year it has been used by local children in the Forest School and for the first time by the Nidderdale Angling Club to host a very successful Juniors' Day when youngsters were taught fly casting, fly tying and insect recognition.

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The Mayor's Fund

The Fund awards small grants up to £250 to support local organisations and events that deliver cultural, sporting, heritage and community activities in Nidderdale; the Committee meets four times a year so please contact the Clerk for information about eligibility criteria and an application form if you would like to be considered in the next funding round in January 2020.

Mayor's Charity Valentine Ball

This is the main fundraiser for the Mayor's Charity Fund and next year it will be held on Saturday 15th February 2020 in the Memorial Hall, with catering provided by the Royal Oak in Bridgehouse Gate. Tickets are £40 per person which includes a drinks reception, a three course meal with a glass of wine, and entertainment. The Council is always grateful to all the businesses who support the event either by attending or by providing some of the fabulous prizes for the tombola, which is always a major part of the fundraising. It's a great way to spend a winter evening with friends whilst raising money for the community. If you haven't been before, then please do think about coming along – there is a booking form on the website.

Christmas lights

The Council was quite bowled over by the fantastic fundraising organised by the Spar. The final total was £2,250 which enables the Council to claim £1,000 in match funding from Harrogate Borough Council, in addition to the core funding of £1,500. Rather a large part of the annual costs come from storage, testing, installing and dismantling, and unfortunately last winter vandals broke the lights on the river bridge, but the wonderful contributions from businesses and residents means that new displays can be bought, extending the lighting scheme – so a huge thank you to everyone who contributed, and especially to Tilly and Liz Chandler.

With very best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Peaceful New Year.

Councillors' contact details:

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Hilary Jefferson	01423 712076
John Leggett	01423 711856
Stan Lumley	01423 712036
Debbie Marshall	01423 780247
Chris & Ian Skaife	01423 712691
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