



# Pateley Bridge Town Council

## Spring 2022 Newsletter

### **Message from Councillor Ian Skaife – Mayor of Pateley Bridge**

Hello, I am Ian Skaife, the new Mayor of Pateley Bridge for the 2022/23 year of office. Many of you will know me from working in my father's garage business at the top of the High Street for over forty years; for the latter twenty years I ran the business as a sole trader, eventually deciding to retire in August 2018.

I am very much a local lad having been born at 47 High Street, Pateley Bridge in 1962 to Edwin & Joan Skaife. My father was born in Fellbeck and my mother was from Knaresborough or at least she thought so until undertaking some family history research when it became clear that there was some strong family links within the Pateley area in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. I also have an older brother Martin, who now lives in Knaresborough with his family.

I am married to Chris who originates from Hull we have been married for 20 years having met on holiday in San Antonio Ibiza in the year 2000.

I was first elected to Pateley Bridge Town Council in June 1999 serving as Mayor twice in 2007/2008 & 2012/2013, in a first for the Town Council I was succeeded as Mayor by my wife Chris who served as Mayor 2013/2014 also 2018/2019 & 2019/2020 before she retired from the Council in 2020. Both my wife and myself are committed in giving back to the community and are involved in many areas of the local community.

I am politically neutral on the Council as I believe that politics at our level should not be aligned to any political Party. I am very approachable and willing to help with any local concerns which are at a level that Pateley Bridge Town Council are able to deal with, I am also the Chair of the local emergency resilience group.

All Parishioners are welcome to attend our monthly Council meetings (first Tuesday in every month) where you are given two opportunities to raise any concerns you may have.

Regards Ian



### **Councillors Surgeries**

These drop in events will be held regularly throughout the year. The venue will depend on the weather so please look out for information on the Pateley Bridge Town Council website and Facebook page. Please do come along and speak to your Town Councillors about local issues, the work of the Council or just to say hello.

## Platinum Jubilee

Pateley Bridge Town Council and Beverley Parish Council have been working together to host a Picnic in the Park event to celebrate HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The community event will be held from 12 noon until 3pm on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June on Pateley Bridge Recreation Ground and will include live music, a royal fancy dress competition and a cake competition.



## Council business

May is always a busy month for local councils. This year both the Annual Town Meeting and the Annual Meeting of the Council were held on the 17<sup>th</sup> May. Following the uncontested election the council had a vacancy for one councillor and this vacancy was filled by co-option at the Annual Meeting. The new councillor's details are not available at the time of going to press but please do check the council's website [www.pateleybridgetowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.pateleybridgetowncouncil.gov.uk) for up to date information.

The Town Council will shortly be approving its accounts and annual governance statement before submitting these documents to the external auditor for review. Electors are able to view these documents on line or by making an appointment with the Town Clerk.

## Local issues

Pateley Bridge Town Council continues to represent the views of local residents and provide support and information. There are two sessions for public participation at council meetings and representations can be made at a meeting or in writing at any time.

Recently the Town Council was informed of an issue with cyclists using the Millennium Bridge and connecting footpaths. These footpaths are marked with 'No Cycling' signage and residents are concerned that this inappropriate use could present a danger for pedestrians. The Town Council has previously requested signage from the County Council and was disappointed to hear that the signs are being ignored. The Council would ask cyclists to be considerate of pedestrians and has approached the County Council for information about the process of having designated cycle ways introduced.

Another issue which has been raised in recent months is dogs in Glasshouses Play Area. The Council would like to remind dog owners that dogs are **not** permitted in the Children's Play Area in Glasshouses. It is well known that dogs can pass on toxocarasis which can cause blindness in children, but their faeces can also carry E.coli and hepatitis. Apart from this health hazard, children don't want to be constantly on the look out for dog mess

when they are playing, and of course their parents don't relish the idea of them bringing it home on their shoes. As the owner of Glasshouses Play Area, Pateley Bridge Town Council does not permit any dogs in the Play Area at any time.

### Storms and flooding

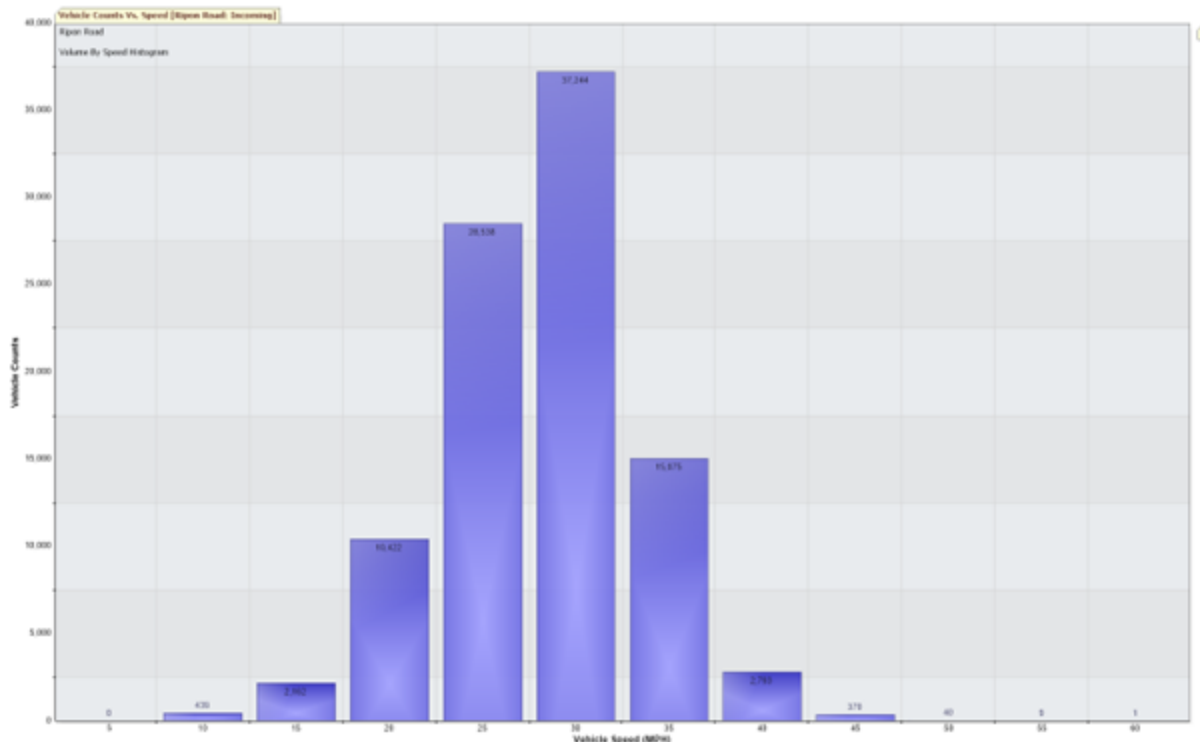
Storms caused flooding in the parish, and throughout the county, in February. Pateley Bridge Town Council acknowledge the excellent support from the local community in dealing with the situation and supporting each other and would like to thank everyone involved.

The Town Council has written to North Yorkshire County Council to request that gullies are thoroughly cleared as a priority.

It is the responsibility of householders and business owners to take appropriate action to make their properties flood resilient. Please don't assume that the authorities will provide you with sandbags in a flood emergency: the Council may have some sandbags ready to deploy at times of flooding, but its priority is to protect the public at large. Filling and manhandling sandbags is a physically demanding activity and you may like to consider other options to reduce the impact of flooding. For products to reduce risk of flooding, please go to <http://www.nationalfloodforum.org.uk/bluepages/>.

### Vehicle Activated Sign

Data downloaded from the MVAS for April, showed that of the 97,000 plus vehicles that entered Pateley Bridge from the Ripon Road, some 6,000 or so were in excess of the speed limit of 30 MPH. To the majority of motorists who obey the 30 MPH speed signs, a huge thank you. To those who are speeding, please slow down. Also, when leaving the town on the Ripon Road, accelerating beyond 30 MPH before reaching the national speed limit sign is particularly dangerous on that stretch of road. This is due to the number of private residential driveways that exit blind onto the road, and the narrowness of the road and the pavements. It's 30 MPH for a reason, please keep to it and keep safe. Thank you.



### **Millennium Green**

Pateley Bridge Town Council is the sole managing trustee of the Millennium Green Trust. Councillors and volunteers from the AONB and Menwith Hill attended the Millennium Green for two clean up days in March. The volunteers carried out many tasks including tidying beds, creating composting areas, recropping the willow maze and creating a new willow feature. It is hoped that these will become regular events. Thank you to all who helped out.

The pond at the Millennium Green is included in the AONB's Saving Nidderdale's Priority Ponds project. The project is ongoing but early surveys show that the pond is free of polluting nitrates and phosphates and that common toads have spawned in the pond. This is great news.



### **Council meetings**

Pateley Bridge Town Council meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7.15pm in the Council Chamber on King Street. Members of the public are always welcome to attend, either to observe the meeting or to take part in the two short sessions for public participation.

The agenda is published in advance on the website and publicised on the Council's social media accounts. Please email the Clerk if you would like to attend.

You can find out more information about meetings and the work of the council at [www.pateleybridgetowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.pateleybridgetowncouncil.gov.uk) or on the Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/pateleycouncil](https://www.facebook.com/pateleycouncil).

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