



Pateley Bridge Town Council

Winter 2022 Newsletter

Message from Councillor Ian Skaife – Mayor of Pateley Bridge

I am grateful that we are now having a relatively calm time after Covid. It was good to celebrate Queen Elizabeth's 70 years on the throne, but sad in September when Queen Elizabeth died. On the downside too, we have a war in Europe.

On behalf of all the councillors, I'd like to say thank you to Carl Foxton who has generously gifted the town a wonderful stone carved Pateley Bridge plaque, which he expertly carved. This has now been proudly installed on the High Street.

It is now reaching that special time of the year again for many of us; Christmas is around the corner. For some people, it will be a difficult time this year, with the cost-of-living situation. Hopefully things will start to ease in the new year. We at PBTC have decided to slightly reduce the parish precept to ease the financial burden on parishioners.

Finally, I would like to wish all Parishioners a Happy Christmas & a Happy New Year.

Regards, Ian

Mayor of Pateley Bridge



Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

Back in June, Pateley Bridge Town Council (PBTC) and Beverley Parish Council (BPC) hosted the Picnic in the Park event to celebrate HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee. It was highly successful, and we thank everyone that came along. How sad that only a few months later we learned the sad news of the passing of Queen Elizabeth. This occasion was marked with dignity and respect by the councils, with parishioners having the opportunity to sign a book of condolence and lay flowers. Long live His Majesty Charles III; we wish him every success.



Royal British Legion (Nidderdale Branch) Remembrance Day Parade and Service in Pateley Bridge

Members of PBTC were pleased to take part in this important event at the War Memorial, with the Mayor laying a wreath. Thank you to the Royal British Legion for organising it and to the volunteers at the Memorial Hall, who put on a delicious buffet afterwards. PBTC and BPC will be increasingly involved in organising this event in future years. The Council pays tribute to and honours the memory of all those who made the ultimate sacrifice in the wars. The photo (left) shows Cllr. Ian Skaife, Mayor of Pateley Bridge and Chairman of PBTC, and Cllr. Graham Spooner, Chairman of BPC, at the Memorial Hall after the event.

Late Night Christmas Shopping

The Council is delighted that Pateley Bridge will have a festive late night Christmas shopping event on Friday 2nd December until 8pm. Summerbridge and Dacre Silver Band will provide entertainment, plus there will be Grand Raffle, Angel Trail, and Santa's Grotto. Come and enjoy the celebrations. All monies raised will go to Nidderdale Scout Group, St Cuthbert's Church, and The Pateley Bridge Dramatic Society.

Local buses: Use Them or Lose Them!

Bus no. 24 – Harrogate- Pateley Bridge service is under threat. The government's position on providing further funding after April 2023 is unclear. The only services that are sure to be kept on, because they operate commercially, are the following:

06:30 and 16:05 Harrogate to Pateley Bridge

07:20 and 17:05 Pateley Bridge to Harrogate

The others may cease to operate if further financial support is not secured. PBTC responded in strong terms to the NYCC consultation, as we recognise the importance of the buses to those sections of our population who do not own a car. Some elderly residents may feel very isolated without them. NYCC has said that the shape of the bus network will rely heavily on whether more passengers return to using the bus. Therefore, we ask that, if you value the bus service, you start to use it more regularly.



Harrogate Borough Council (HBC)'s Roll Out of New Large Litter Bins

PBTC and Bewerley Parish Council have worked with HBC to determine the best locations for the new larger bins which HBC is transitioning to. We have agreed with HBC that the old litter bins will be kept in the Recreation Ground and at Glasshouses play area and emptied by BPC's and PBTC's caretakers. At the time of going to press, HBC is encouraging PBTC to accept solar-powered compactor bins at the bottom of the High Street, which would increase capacity even more. PBTC is unsure whether they would be in keeping in this AONB but recognises their benefits.

Stop Fly-tipping at Southlands Recycling Centre

The fly-tipping at the Southlands Recycling Centre on Nidd Walk has continued. PBTC's caretaker had to clean up the mess on one occasion, as it was so bad (see photo). Be warned that continued misuse may result in the removal of the facility. HBC provides the recycling bins for domestic use only. Commercial or charity waste must be taken to the Harrogate or Ripon permanent sites. **If your household rubbish will not fit into the bins, then you must not leave it.** Doing so is a criminal offence, and the removal costs burden the taxpayer. Let's keep our picturesque town clean and tidy.



Electric Charging Points at the Car Park on Nidd Walk

The Council welcomes the new electric charging points as a step towards a more environmentally friendly future for the area.

Traffic and Parking Concerns

Data downloaded from the MVAS for Aug/Sep showed that almost 17% of vehicles that entered Pateley Bridge from the Ripon Road were over the 30pmh speed limit.

We would like to thank the majority of motorists who stick to the speed limit. Those of you who do not, **please slow down.** On leaving Pateley Bridge on the Ripon Road, don't be tempted to speed up before the National Speed Limit signs. This stretch of road is narrow with many private residential driveways that exit blind on to it. PBTC has asked NYCC if it can provide a strip across the road at the top end of the town to monitor the speed of motorists in both directions, with a view to ascertaining if traffic calming measures could be beneficial.

The council receives many reports of dangerous parking. These include at the junction of Greenwood Avenue /Greenwood Road and on Old Church Lane. If you park in a manner that causes an obstruction or potential hazard for other road users and pedestrians, such as too close to a junction, you can receive a penalty notice. Where dangerous parking is drawn to our attention, we notify the Police so that a local PCSO can pay a visit.

Please drive within the speed limit plus park carefully and considerately. Let's keep motorists and pedestrians safe in Pateley Bridge.

Millennium Green

PBTC is the sole managing trustee of the Millennium Green Trust. This scenic recreational space is home to a BMX track, a pond, and an abundance of wildlife. With plenty of places to sit, is a great place to chill.

Councillors are incredibly grateful for the support shown by volunteers from the AONB and Menwith Hill, who have helped with regular maintenance tasks to keep the site in good condition and well planted.

Over the Summer, concerns were raised about the pond, which was very low in water. The pond has a leak, and PBTC has been taking advice on whether to repair it or to embrace its shallower nature. With increased rainfall, the pond is in much better condition. Pond life thrives. Newts, toads, and frogs breed prolifically. There are leeches, varied water snails, small fishes, many types of water-beetles and minute invertebrates, as well as many water plants. Over the coming months, steps will be taken to improve the appearance of the pond.

Pupils at Nidderdale High School have been invited to make a 'bug hotel' out of a decaying wooden bench at the site.

Vandalism in Pateley Bridge

Councillors are concerned at the recent spate of vandalism which, has seen fencing being ripped up at the Millennium Green and in two places on Nidd Walk, as well as graffiti at the bus shelter and youth shelter. All incidences of vandalism are reported to the Police for investigation. If you see any vandalism taking place, please let the Police know on 101 or report the incident online.

Support of Local Good Causes

PBTC's Mayor's fund has awarded £250 to Nidderdale Dramatic Society towards its continuing development of the Foyer at the Playhouse. The Mayor's Fund is a small grant scheme aimed at supporting local organisations that deliver cultural, sporting, heritage, and community activities in the area.

In June, the Mayor was delighted to attend the official launch of The Charter Trail exhibition at Nidderdale Museum. 2020 marked the 700th anniversary of Pateley's Market Charter Of 1320, which allowed a weekly market and an annual fair. PBTC donated £500 towards this celebratory project, which was delayed by Covid.

Over the Summer, PBTC used Pateley Bridge Men's shed to upgrade two of the town's historic mileposts. We would like to commend them on a job well done.

North Yorkshire Community Pharmacy Awards Scheme

PBTC would like to congratulate Samina and the team at Pateley Bridge Pharmacy on winning the team pharmacy award back in June at the finals of the North Yorkshire Community Pharmacy Awards (see photo). Cllr. Mike Holt had nominated the pharmacy on behalf of PBTC whilst he was Mayor.



Council business

The council was pleased to welcome Joanna Wright on to the Council in May. Joanna is an environmental scientist and has already made a significant and welcome contribution.

The Council is sorry to lose Paul Anson, who will attend his last meeting in December. We thank him for his very valuable work and wish him well for the future.

The Council will soon have a vacancy for a councillor. If you are interested, please register your interest with the Town Clerk on clerk@pateleybridgetowncouncil.gov.uk. Further information will be published on our website and social media channels in due course.

The Council would like to thank Laura Jowett for her excellent work as Town Clerk. Laura moved on to pastures new in July and we wish her every success with her ongoing career. We welcome Suzanne Smith as the new Town Clerk.

Pateley Bridge Town Council's Share of the Council Tax is Reduced for 2023-24

After careful consideration, the Council has chosen to slightly decrease the precept it raises, which will reduce the amount parishioners pay towards Pateley Bridge Town Council in their 2023-24 council tax bills. Despite facing increasing costs itself, the Council recognises that this is a tough time for all parishioners with huge rises in the cost of living. It does not want to add to that burden. This reduction is guaranteed for one year only. The council will have to reassess the precept when it prepares the budget for 2024-25 and is duty bound to ensure it has adequate funds to meet its obligations. The Council has also frozen its allotment and garage rentals for next year.

Council meetings and Public Representation

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. Representations can be made at a meeting or in writing at any time. PBTC works hard to represent the views of local residents, and to provide support.

Meeting agendas are published in advance on the website and publicised on the Council's social media accounts. You can find out more information about meetings and the work of the council at www.pateleybridgetowncouncil.gov.uk or on the Facebook page at www.facebook.com/pateleycouncil.

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 PBTC 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.

Councillors' contact details:

Paul Anson	07711 537248	John Leggett	01423 711856	Chris Thompson	01423 711377
David Brackley	01423 711939	Stan Lumley	01423 712036	Neil Thompson	07846 123555
Mike Holt	01423 711194	Debbie Marshall	01423 780247	Joanna Wright	07704 112821
Hilary Jefferson	01423 712076	Ian Skaife	01423 712691		
Town Clerk: Telephone: 07751 571 374, Email: clerk@pateleybridgetowncouncil.gov.uk					

Christmas Light Appeal

As usual, the Council will work to ensure that the town has a festive light display to be proud of. To keep costs down, we will not be adding to the display this year. Despite this, maintaining, installing and storing Christmas lights is always expensive and work is going on behind the scenes to ensure these are properly funded by grants. We thank Harrogate Borough Council for its funding.

However, we still need your help. Grants do not cover the whole amount and we need to provide match funding in order to receive them. Are you able to make a donation? We would be very grateful. There are collection tubs in The Spar and Dales Market Corner. Many thanks in advance to those members of the public and businesses who contribute. We are always grateful for your support and we know many people give generously year after year. These donations are increasingly important as the future of grant funding for the lights and the Christmas tree is in doubt. **Thank you.**

Members of Pateley Bridge Town Council would like to wish all parishioners and residents of Pateley Bridge a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.