



(Photo credit Gateshead Council)

## Is twenty plenty?

We're actively responding to concerns raised by residents asking us whether more can be done to reduce the incidence of speeding through the village. In July the Council met with Christian Vassie, our Ward Councillor, and are now considering options including extending the existing enforceable 20mph limit up Dalton Hill and along Main Street to beyond the doctor's

surgery and/or the posting of advisory twenty's plenty signs over a longer distance on main street and Church Lane. While some see cars parked on Main Street as a nuisance, they are also a free traffic calming facility.

In parallel, becoming a community speed watch village is also being pursued.

## Light-up for Christmas

This year we have been given some Christmas trees and we will be arranging for them to be lit with support from neighbouring residents. Join us in lighting trees in your gardens for the Christmas and New Year festivities?

## Benches & planters

The 11 benches around the village are all being renovated as necessary and painted while the better weather is with us. Soon you will see a number of planters installed with winter and summer planting already in mind. Would you like to adopt a planter?

## Apply for a grant

In recent years the most significant grants have been awarded to the Wheldrake Recreation Association for the repair and renovation of the Village Hall.

Now is the time to be thinking of applying for a grant for other purposes. For example, the Youth Club might benefit from some new kit. Other ideas might relate to providing new impetus to village-based clubs and societies. To apply, please contact the Clerk for the inevitable non-daunting application paperwork.

Published by Wheldrake Parish Council to inform residents, businesses and groups of the Council's current work and plans for the future.

# Parish Council NEWS

October 2019

Contact the Clerk: [clerk@wheldrake-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@wheldrake-pc.gov.uk)

## Keeping you informed

The Parish Council really means what it has said in terms of it being open and transparent in seeking to serve residents and businesses across the parish.

What's more the parish Council wants to engage with the village in building our budget for 2020-2021. We want this to be a pro-active process with village consulted on the options for the next financial year and whether there are priorities for action over the next six months.

This edition of Parish Council NEWS sets out options already identified and reports on matters in hand.

We welcome residents joining us for our meetings and provide time at the start of the meeting for you to have your say. Also, you can contact our Clerk, Gemma Powell, who reports correspondence received at the Council's next meeting. Your input

helps us build our agenda for the following meeting. Of course, urgent issues can and will be addressed without waiting for the next scheduled meeting. For example, when there is a need for us to respond to playpark safety issues.

## Remembrance Sunday – 10<sup>th</sup> November

The Parish Council will be placing a wreath on the memorial stone at the church following the morning service. Everyone is welcome.

## Meet your Parish Council

**We are arranging an opportunity for you to meet councillors and discuss our ideas for future action and listen to your views to inform our forward agenda. We don't claim exclusivity in ideas for the budget and welcome your ideas too.**

**Do you support further investment in the playpark to renew equipment for the**

**under-fives? Would you like to see the Parish Council working with our Ward Councillor to establish the feasibility of a safe recreational cycle route to link-up with routes within the City? Do we do enough to support older residents? These are some of the opportunities we could progress. Have your say and join us from 10.00am on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November at The Village Hall.**



## Investing in the playpark

Recently we received a report of damage to equipment in the under-fives area of the playpark. The immediate issue has been addressed and has served to further amplify the message that this is an area in which we need to invest to follow-on from the upgrade made possible by the

funds previously raised by the Friends of Wheldrake Park.

We think that the cost will be in the region of £20,000 which could be part-funded this year if support for this scheme can be taken forward in our budget for 2020-2021.

### Litter-picking

**You may have seen Councillors busy litter-picking on the first Saturday in September. We'll be out and about doing the same each month. We now have enough equipment to equip volunteers who would like to join us in working to keep our streets tidy.**

**We meet outside the village shop at 10.00am on the first Saturday of the month and aim to be finished in about an hour. The next dates are October 5<sup>th</sup>, November 2<sup>nd</sup> (earlier time of 9am) December 7<sup>th</sup> and January 4<sup>th</sup>.**

### Dog poo

While most pick-up after their dogs, we have a minority who think it acceptable to leave the poo where it falls.

This is creating an issue as the village lengthsman has told us that the problem is significant along the verges he is contracted to mow, particularly along Back Lane South.

We know that some of the culprits are from the village and we would like your help by picking-up after your dog.

## Planning matters

The Parish Council is a statutory consultee when it comes to planning permission whether it is a major development or a tree maintenance issue within the parish.

We have a planning group that reviews all applications and generates a draft response to City of York Council as the planning authority.

The draft response is then tabled at the next meeting of the Parish Council. When

timescales are short or when no meeting is scheduled we convene an extraordinary meeting of the Council.

Presently you may have seen surveyors working in the field adjacent to the Crockey Hill end of Back Lane South and on the land presently occupied by a warehouse on the land adjacent to the industrial estate. Should this lead to a further application for a housing development, be assured that your Parish Council will want your input.

### Cycling safely

Previously there have been proposals to construct a safe recreational route to link-up with the City's wider network. We know this will be championed by our Ward Councillor and we believe it is something having wide support in the village. Would you support us working with City of York Council to establish the feasibility of such a link? We know land owner permission will be necessary but first we need your input.



## Let it snow

With summer behind us it's time to begin our preparations for the coming winter. While climate change has given us gentle weather in recent year, the possibility of a harsh winter remains.

City of York Council runs a snow warden scheme to clear a stretch of pavement that can be accessed by those willing and able to help. Equipment is provided and can be accessed via the Parish Council. Further information can be provided. If you would like to know more, please contact the Clerk.

### Sandholes Wood

In 1772 an area of common land was given to the village when agricultural land was first enclosed. While its original purpose is of little relevance today we need to understand the extent the land was contaminated when waste was dumped there in the decades after the Second World War.

When this question has been answered we can consider how best to turn this land from a liability to a village asset. We'll provide an update next March.