



## Thornton le Dale Christmas Lights - 2020

### Covid-19 Bulletin

#### Switch-On Event cancelled

It is with deep regret that the Lights Committee has decided to cancel this year's Christmas Lights Switch-On Event, primarily because we believe it cannot be held safely within the current covid-19 guidelines. We sincerely hope that the Thornton le Dale community and businesses understand and agree with our decision.

#### Village Lights Display to go ahead - hopefully

However, because we all have been forced to adopt and endure a depressing new normal of self isolation, social distancing, sanitisation and face masks we believe the Village really does need and deserve a Lights display at Christmas. As such the Christmas Lights Committee & Volunteers, having carried out a full risk assessment with appropriate risk mitigations and accepting £400 offered by NYCC as a grant (courtesy of Councillor Janet Sanderson) to purchase PPE for volunteers, do intend to provide a 2020 Christmas Lights village display although this may be in a reduced form. Of course, this will still be subject to the government's covid-19 guidelines at the time.

#### Fundraising

The Christmas Lights seek to generate an income of around £8,000.00 annually of which £4,000.00 is raised by the Switch-On Event stalls & raffle and the additional £4,000.00 from donations & gifts. The cancellation of the 2020 Switch-On Event will incur a significant income reduction whilst the major annual overheads such as insurance premiums and equipment maintenance, repair and replacement remain. We therefore plan to distribute our annual Christmas Card to every Thornton le Dale household as usual and invite everyone to donate if they possibly can. Every donation will go towards next year's display and, hopefully, happier times!

26<sup>th</sup> August 2020