

County Councillor Janet Sanderson  
Thornton Dale & The Wolds

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**Report for Thornton Dale Parish Council Meeting Date August 2014**

**Responsible Councillor** Janet Sanderson

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**Joint Ward  
PC meeting**

The July meeting was very constructive with representatives from all PC's except Thornton Dale. Sharon Fox from Highways area 4 gave a verbal report with updates on specific local issues. Elizabeth Walton was also present representing the forestry commission.

Topics discussed –

- The pelican crossing at Thornton Dale.
- Extra funding from central government aimed at improvements to B roads and other rural roads.
- Grass cutting and mapping of “safety” cuts.
- Rally in Dalby forest.
- Improved communication with FC and new dedicated communications officer called “Lal”
- Nabgate / Limekiln Lane road condition.
- Rural broadband update.
- Moorland / Third Energy gas update.
- Use of mobile phone pictures to report incidents.
- Facebook

**Facebook**

This was initially discussed and dismissed at the joint ward meeting, however later in the meeting it was revisited as a possible way of addressing problems regarding recruitment of younger members to PC's and informing the young people in our villages.

I am looking into the possibilities of –

- Community Page for the Ward Parish Councils.
- Community Page for young people in the ward.

**Highways**

The ongoing financial cuts combined with severe winter weather have undeniable led to a significant deterioration of our roads particularly in rural areas.

A major announcement was made at our full NYCC council meeting last week about a £15million investment from the county council into improving road conditions. This funding matches an earlier announcement that has been made both by the county council and by

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Government and, overall, produces a £50million boost on top of on-going spending into the condition of our roads.

This £50million will be injected into road maintenance over the next six years and will be focussed around our more minor C category roads and classified roads; these have been particularly hard hit by some of the extreme weather that we have experienced over the last five or so years.

We have been assured that the allocation of the funds will be on a "Worst First" basis and as the west of the County have already had significant repairs prior to the Tour de France, I will be fighting for our share of the pot! Please back me up by reporting direct to NYCC your areas of concern. [www.northyorks.gov.uk](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk)

**Thornton  
Beck Group**

I have received an update from Peter Stevenson, the Environment Agency Management Team Leader Esk, Derwent, Hull & Coast. He informs me that the result of the funding bid is expected around September but it is anticipated that some work will be carried out to Thornton Beck irrespective of the result in the very near future.

**Pelican  
crossing**

As I have previously reported, this situation is being monitored and additional signage is to be put in place in the near future.

Public funding is always allocated on evidence and therefore it is essential that if an incident occurs it is reported to Highways Area 4 or the police on 101 to back up the reports I have filed and add to the evidence base.

This will take effort from residents and parish councillors. If incidents are reported, there is a chance we can get an improvement. If nothing is reported then it is highly likely that nothing will be done. It is therefore in the best interest of the village to work as a team here and encourage or help residents to file their reports.

Janet Sanderson

1<sup>st</sup> August 2014