

Report for Thornton Dale Parish Council Meeting 4th December 2012

Highways

Alms Houses – I carried out a survey of residents living in the Alms Houses and found issues over the slip road in front of their properties. After Working with Melanie Farnham and Andy Marsden, I can now confirm that Melanie has asked Philip Sharp to expedite "Access Only" signs, as yet I do not have a date for the implementation of these. This was the preferred solution by residents.

Communication – I received complaints regarding communication by Highways over the recent resurfacing of the A170. We have a promise of improvement for the future –

1. Letters to go out earlier.
2. A direct contact for all to the mobile phone of the site manager night and day.
3. Contact to go through Area 4 rather than direct to Richard Marr, this will enable all messages to be properly logged and recorded.

General communication with Highways –

Please use Area4.KirbyMisperton@northyorks.gov.uk

Timber Freight – This has been a constant battle for some time now. Please can anyone seeing timber freight using Whitbygate report the incident to me or direct to Victoria.Hutchinson@northyorks.gov.uk You don't have to have the registration, thought it would be helpful. If you can log the time seen, colour, and if it is full or empty. There has been damage caused on the corner of Whitbygate and there are obvious safety issues for pedestrians.

Reported –

Island in the middle of A170 outside Alms Houses for maintenance.

Street lights outside Grammar School and Church Lane.

Drain outside Grammar School. A170 outside Nab Farm.

Noisy drain outside New Inn.

Highways finance took a hit in the September floods and indication from Government is that they will not be re-imbursing us the costs we incurred. These are estimated to be in the region of £1.8m. The South West seems to be on a better promise than us!

Broadband

Connecting North Yorkshire (CNY) – NYCC are the only authority in the country to have completed the procurement funding for fast speed broadband to cover all of North Yorkshire. 100% of North Yorkshire premises will be connected by the end of 2014, 90% receiving up to 20mbs and the remaining 10% a guarantee of 2mbs but in all likelihood in excess of this. We should know by the end of this month if we are in the 90% but due to the proximity to market towns, there is a high possibility that we will be. The 10% are likely to be the remote areas such as the Wolds. This is a real good news story for us all with far reaching business implications.

County Councillor Janet Sanderson
Thornton Dale & The Wolds

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- Flooding** **NYCC is the lead flood authority** – what does this mean in practice for us?
If a problem has been identified, but there is an issue with an authority taking responsibility, be that Yorkshire Water, Highways etc, ultimately NYCC can take measures to prevent further damage, carry out repair work and claim from the relevant authority. We have one such incident in Thornton Dale where a resident had been given the “run around” NYCC did not actually have to act, but the threat was there and it worked!
- Post Offices** The Post Office has assured us that there will be no more cuts to rural services. Both RDC and NYCC are looking at ways to help make our Post Offices more sustainable. You will soon be able to access some RDC services through Post Offices. I have been holding regular liaison meetings with the PO to consider taking these ideas a step further.
- Gas Plant** No news on this as yet, though I have been approached by Moorland Energy regarding a payment they may wish to make to the village. No time no amount no surprise!
- Collaboration PC/RDC/NYCC** **Flood Protection** – I believe some work is being done here through the Parish Plan. We should have a long term emergency and improvement plan, but given the present situation, I feel that this should be supported by a “fast Track” solution which we can put in place now. Having just completed training on climate change and planning, we should be looking at taking a preventative approach rather than a reactionary one. If anyone needs convincing, then take a trip to Ebberston! I will be meeting with Anne Macintosh later today to discuss the local flooding issues.

Ideas for joined up thinking between PC, RDC, NYCC welcomed.

Janet Sanderson
30th November 2012