

County Councillor Janet Sanderson E-mail: Cllr.Janet.Sanderson@northyorks.gov.uk

Thornton Dale & The Wolds

Tel: 01751 474516

Report for meeting of

Joint Thornton Dale Ward Parish Council Meeting March 2013

NYCC Council Tax

Council Tax has been frozen again for the third year. This will have saved the average household £95 over the three years.

We have striven to keep front line services in tact however we are living in challenging times and living with an ever shrinking budget is not easy.

Superfast Broadband

This has been mentioned before, but residents still appear to be unaware of the funding NYCC has secured to deliver superfast broadband to the whole of North Yorkshire including the remote rural areas.

By 2014, 90% of North Yorkshire residents will receive 25mbs and the remaining 10% will receive up to 2mbs

Details of this can be found at <http://www.superfastnorthyorkshire.com/home>

We are the first authority to have jumped through all the hoops and hurdles to secure this pot of European funding. The package is supported by training to small businesses which ensures they are able to take full advantage of the situation when it is delivered to their area. This has to be considered as being a real success story for our area and I hope we can all take full advantage of what is on offer here.

Highways

The new tracker system for Highway reports is now up and running – link below -

<http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=18261>

Initial feedback has been good, though it is to be noted that it does not rubber stamp all your requests.

It has been recognised that the extraordinary wet weather has taken its toll on the state of our roads which are already in need of attention. We have secured over £70 million over the next two years to address this problem and I will be fighting for our share of it.

I feel that some of the damage could have been prevented had drainage issues been addressed. This has been noted and a specific pot reserved to deal with these matters.

RDC Communication link

www.ryedale.gov.uk

left hand Colum "Report it" I have asked Geoff for confirmation on RDC communication link.

County Councillor Janet Sanderson E-mail: Cllr.Janet.Sanderson@northyorks.gov.uk

Thornton Dale & The Wolds

Tel: 01751 474516

Health

From 1st April 2013 NYCC take responsibility for public health in a move from PCT's (Primary Care Trusts) to CCG's (Clinical Commissioning Groups. Our new director of public health is Lincoln Sargent. (see reports)

Education

Pete Dwyer, the current Director of Children's and Adult Services at York, has been appointed to the post of Director of Children and Young People's Service here at the County Council.

**Village
Speeding**

NYCC have now have an arrangement with parish councils for the hire of VAS (Vehicle Activated Signs - speed matrix) Where the parish feels there is a speeding issue that has not been addressed. This is a positive step towards the control of speeding through our villages.

I am adamant that I would not like to see safety measures taken on the basis of a community's ability to pay. However where the parish feels that there is need, I am happy to support this under controlled conditions.

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!

**Joint PC
meetings**

Representing this collection of villages, hamlets and farms, I can only believe in "United we stand" so for my part, I both support and recommend the continuation of these joint PC meetings to get weight behind important issues and ideas – strength in numbers!

**Thornton Dale
Web site**

Regular reports have been posted for Thornton Dale PC on their web site at the address below and past reposts can be viewed here -

<http://www.visitthorntonledale.co.uk/parish-council/in-touch-nycc-news>

It would seem a sensible idea to extend these reports to cover the other parishes within the RDC ward area of my NYCC division. Your thoughts on this idea would be welcomed.

Good to catch up with you all last week – feedback always welcomed.

Janet Sanderson

Cllr.Janet.Sanderson@northyorks.gov.uk

Walnut Cottage, Thornton Dale. Tel. 01751 474516