

Nether Poppleton Parish Council

Newsletter June 2005

Crime and vandalism in Poppleton

The Parish Council is concerned at the level of crime and vandalism in Poppleton as recently there has been a spate of burglaries and acts of petty vandalism. The Parish Council is trying hard to obtain more police resources from the North Yorkshire Police and in particular the Parish Council is keen to see a more visible police presence in the village. However, Poppleton is a low police priority because the available figures indicate that there is, in fact, very little crime and/or vandalism in Poppleton. The Parish Council whilst not wishing to exaggerate the problem, because Poppleton is, indeed, a very safe place to live, believe that there may be more minor crime and vandalism than the police are aware of.

The Parish Council can only expect their request for extra police resources to be successful if it can be shown that crime/vandalism in Poppleton warrants it. Therefore it is very important that residents help the Council to help them by completing the attached very simple survey.

Contact telephone numbers for non urgent police matters and to report a crime 0845 60 60 24 7

Police Emergency 999,

RNID Typetalk service - 18001 0845 60 60 24 7

Community Rangers Hotline number 0800 7837537

Please complete the enclosed form and return

Update on Council matters and other issues

Speedy motorists

The on-going works to try and defeat the motorists in the village, whether they be residents or passing through, continue with a new road lay-out at the top of Long Ridge Lane and soon to be installed "Slow Down" vehicle activated lights. The Council continues its fight against the installation of humps and speed cushions as these are not suitable in the rural environment which we enjoy.

The Common Land

Works continue with Ryland Horticulture having followed up their survey with crown-lifting and removal of dead and diseased tree wood. Works will continue this year between Riverside Gardens and Riversvale Drive. The Parish Council now has registered ownership of all the Common Land.

A grass-cutting contract has been let to cover all the Common Land up to Ousemoor Lane as well as the Allerton Drive Garden. We still hope to plant more spring bulbs in the future.

Poppleton Park

A large boulder has been positioned in Esk Drive to prevent vehicular access across the pavement. Speeding problems in Severn Green have been reported and instances are being monitored. The work to the play park kick-about area fencing has been completed. We were looking at placing a basketball hoop near the other kick-about area on the York Business Park but this has been refused.

Youth Centre

The old youth club building adjacent to the school can no longer be managed by the City of York Council. A Youth Support Officer has been offered if some other organisation will take over the building and its maintenance. Arrangements are in hand to see if this can be arranged locally.

Parish Finance

For the year 2005-06 the Parish Council has raised a precept of £13,000. This, together with rent received from the Cartshed, leaves a deficit for the year of approximately £500 which will come from reserves. The money will be spent on administration and the Clerk's salary, works to the Common Land and trees and other beneficial uses around the village.

The accounts are available for inspection by appointment with the Clerk.

Overhanging Trees and Hedges

From time to time reports are received about trees and hedges which not only obstruct footways but also lean out over the road. It is not within our power to have works carried out but only report matters to the Highways Department of the City Council. If the Council takes action, the householder will be charged. You are therefore urged to cut back hedges etc to footpath limits. Clippings can be disposed of through the green waste collection.

Poppleton Wildlife Trust

The Poppleton Wildlife Trust is a small band of dedicated volunteers who conserve and maintain the wildlife conservation area next to and including the village pond on behalf of the Nether Poppleton Parish Council. Three or four times a year working parties meet to trim paths, cut the long hedge which runs down one side of the wildlife area, clear vegetation, create wildlife friendly areas e.g. log piles which offer safe haven to a variety of creatures including frogs and toads, clear reeds from the pond, erect and clean bird and bat boxes, plant trees and so on. A register of wildlife sightings is maintained which includes, which birds and butterflies are seen in the area, nesting boxes being used and by which species, life on the pond etc. The Poppleton Wildlife Trust very much welcomes new members. Even a few hours a year is a help. Anyone who is interested in helping to maintain the Village wildlife area should contact Michel Fife on 784578

Parish Council Vacancies

From time to time a place becomes vacant on the Parish Council. If you or a member of your family would like to consider filling a vacancy, please contact the Clerk. Meetings are held on a monthly basis throughout the year on the third Monday of each month. We recognise that members cannot attend all meetings but hope that a regular attendance is made. The next round of elections is due in May 2007 when we

hope to have a full complement of Councillors. The village has a number of organisations which a Parish Council representative can attend. These include the Dodsworth Hall Trust, Wildlife Trust, Moatfield Trust, Poppleton Community Trust as well as other outside bodies. You are not forced on to any of these but if you have a particular interest there may be a way of furthering it. Training can be provided and will show how valuable and important an institution Local Government can be.