

Village View

The newsletter for residents of Green Hammerton

June-July 2017 edition

Green light

by Chris Chelton, Chair of the Keep Green Hammerton Green action group (KGHG)

If Harrogate Borough Council and their planners thought that Green Hammerton would quietly accept their recommendation to build a new town next to our village the launch of the Keep Green Hammerton Green campaign should have changed their mind.

A well timed media release by Susan Goss-Clements and hasty letter drop by the Singleton family and other members of the action team rallied residents in numbers to the Look North TV filming, a welcome boost to already intense radio and newspaper interest. Our argument that Flaxby and not Green and Kirk Hammerton is the right place for this development seems to have come across in every article.

We have learned from the Redrow experience that written objections and reports alone, while important, will not stop more parts of the village suffering the noise, disruption, and longer term impact being seen on Harrogate Road. Our approach to this development threat will be different.



They're in the mood for dancing!

by Liz Hines

A group of my 'breast buddies' took part in Peter Kay's Dance for Life in aid of Cancer Research at Leeds Arena on May 6. As I wasn't well enough to join them they all donned matching t-shirts emblazoned with a photo of me laughing as well as pink sunglasses and comfy shoes. They danced for three hours non-stop and busted some moves with thousands of other fundraisers. So far over £50,000 has been raised by the national series of party nights. You can donate via justgiving.com/teams/danceforlife2017.

From left, standing: Cath Harrison, Laura Tee, Di Burwell, Di Tee and, seated, Jane Morris, Liz Hines and Liz Aspinall.

turn to p2

The 'Great' debate: who's saying what and what happens next?

continued from front page

Signage is springing up around the village and the first of our large banners faces the A59 at York Road junction though I doubt anyone can have missed it. More are being ordered. If you have asked for a sign Alan Smith from the KGHG team will visit you once we have re-stocked.

Our fighting fund is steadily growing allowing us to produce the material we think we will need, be it posters, leaflets or letters, or the signs themselves. A very generous donation from Green Hammerton parish council has ensured we can move ahead with production and thank you to everyone who has pledged so far. We have a bank account and anyone who wants to donate please contact our treasurer Debs Langhorn via delanghorn@aol.com.

KGHG has been joined by Chris Eaton from Kirk Hammerton parish council whose residents will be equally affected by so-called Great Hammerton. He will be organising similar activity in their village to coordinate with ours to ensure we present a united front. It is good to know that both Nun and Moor Monkton Parish Councils have also offered support, recognising the huge impact on the A59 traffic this new settlement will cause.

We know a number of you have already written to Harrogate Borough Council (HBC) with your



Sat 17th June

Green Hammerton Village Hall

7:30 pm

£10 per person (Including supper)

Bar & Raffle

For tickets please contact:

Sally and David Walker
330459 or davidandsally9@tiscali.co.uk

raising money for the campaign to



objections. That is great but we will need to keep some pressure on HBC in the weeks ahead and will almost certainly need to ask you to write again especially during the formal consultation period that is now due to start on Wed 14 July. We will provide guidance but every letter or objection should focus on the social, economic and environmental impact on both Green and Kirk Hammerton, stressing good planning grounds to challenge this outrageous new town scheme.

There are several key meetings scheduled by HBC and we are considering how best to engage with them to demonstrate and protest our cause. We will circulate details and ask for support nearer the time. The most important date is the full council meeting currently scheduled for Wed 19 July at 5.30pm when we will certainly need to get as many of you as possible to go to Harrogate and voice your concern. Make a note in your diary now.

We will do our very best keep you informed of activity through newsletter drops, the village email and the A-board near the postbox. We are forming our own email distribution list so if you want to be kept up to date by email and haven't been asked for your details by one of our volunteers then email Jane Bannan via janebannan@btinternet.com.

There will be some residents who support development around the village and who do not agree with the stance being taken by KGHG or the very public way objection is being displayed. We respect their view but the numerous expressions of support including the unprecedented turn out at the parish council meeting last month speaks of an overwhelming majority with the campaign.

Finally, if anyone has any ideas or thoughts as to how we can further this campaign, especially inventive ideas for protest activity or pieces of good planning evidence that we may not have yet considered then do contact me via chris-chelton@hotmail.co.uk.

Harrogate Borough Council's statement

HBC announced in a press release on 2 June:

Officers have been reviewing the consultation responses and evidence for all new settlement options, including additional locations suggested at Deighton Grange and Cattal (known as Maltkiln), and are minded to recommend Green Hammerton as the preferred location to help meet the district's need for new homes and jobs.

Alongside this, officers are also likely to recommend that additional sites for housing and employment uses be included in the local plan in order to meet changes to housing and employment needs emerging from a review of the evidence base.



Jane Bannan is interviewed by Cathy Killick of BBC Look North for a report on the proposed development. Pic by Polly Kirkwood.

As a revision to the local plan timetable officers will recommend that an additional six-week public consultation be held. If approved by council members, the consultation will commence on 14 July and will give the community and key stakeholders an opportunity to have their say on the additional sites including the proposed location of the new settlement before the plan is formally reported at a meeting of full council later this year.

Nigel Avison, Director of Economy and Culture at HBC said: "It is important that we give people the opportunity to comment on the preferred location of a new settlement as it will play a part in shaping our district in the future. Subject to agreement of the amended local plan timetable this proposed public consultation will allow us to share the evidence underpinning our recommendation and to invite views before the final plan is reported to full council later this year.

"I would encourage anyone with an interest in commenting on the proposed location for the new settlement or the additional sites for housing and employment to register their interest in taking part. They will be notified as soon as the consultation starts, be able to view dates for exhibitions, view the consultation materials, comment on them and read the opinions of other interested parties. Comments sent in ahead of the consultation cannot be taken into account so I would urge interested parties to ensure that they submit their comments during the six-week consultation."

To register for the next local plan public consultation please visit consult.harrogate.gov.uk/common/register.jsp.

... and KGHG's response

KGHG chair Chris Chelton said: "Green Hammerton is not surprised to hear that this site is now being openly recommended by HBC planners as their preferred site but we are very disappointed. Despite the Council's denials yesterday, it corroborates the briefing given to their executive team three weeks ago and the contents of the email released to numerous parish councils last week.

"HBC was heavily criticised by the planning inspectorate four years ago for failing to prepare a viable five year supply of housing. This failing has exposed our village and many other communities to inappropriate levels of development on inappropriate sites by opportunistic developers with little chance themselves of stopping it. Such is the case with the 90-house application being considered at present in our village aside from this proposed 3,000-house settlement.

"The announcement today is at odds with HBC's previous reports. In 2009 they stated that Green Hammerton was one of its most historic and important villages and the Council commissioned at tax payers' expense a lengthy report, the Green Hammerton Conservation Area Character Appraisal, to identify why it should be preserved.

“This is the council that has inexplicably changed horses at the 11th hour from a site at Flaxby that has long been recognised as the most suitable for a new settlement to Green Hammerton, a design which will link two village communities, lose acres of valuable crop producing land, have enormous negative impact on the surrounding landscape and a rich variety of wildlife.

“Little wonder that residents of Green Hammerton and the nearby village of Kirk Hammerton speak of losing confidence in HBC planners to objectively assess this issue. It is for that reason that we will be looking to our new MP to call for an examination in public of the case for a new 3,000-house settlement in Harrogate district. Only then will we be satisfied that a decision will be made, wherever it is, on sound planning grounds free of any local or political influence.”

The developer’s view

Developer Commercial Estate Group (CEG) says that the proposed Great Hammerton development would include investment in transport, education and health provision as well as community facilities and the proposals would be carefully designed to respect the historic core and character of Green Hammerton. “Our vision is to create a mixed-use community, providing characterful new homes that respect the local setting,” said Steve McBurney, head of planning north.

Parish council backs KGHG

by Ivan Andrew

Our focus and the talk of the village are plans to build on land around the village as well as the fact that Great Hammerton is the preference for development in HBC’s long-term plan. This is a double-whammy because not only might we become a small town joined virtually to Kirk Hammerton, Cattal and Whixley but firms are putting in plans to build on other land around the village as well.

The cause of this dual problem is that currently HBC does not have an agreed plan in place. This means that individual building firms can submit plans for development that will be difficult for HBC to reject until its own plan is approved in about a year’s time.

KGHG has been formed to actively fight these plans. The parish council is supporting this group in any way which becomes appropriate starting with a £1,000 donation.

At the parish council meeting on Tues 30 May representatives from Loxley Homes outlined their plans for 90 homes between New Lane and the A59 which would be additional to the 3,000 houses proposed by HBC. Some of the 140 members of the public present were quick to point out mistakes made by the presenters and it was made quite clear that many villagers would do all they could to oppose these

plans. The deadline for comments on the plans has been extended to Sat 9 June. See the village website for the appropriate links.

Chris Chelton presented KGHG’s plans for fighting the extensive new development around our village. As many villagers as possible should make their views known to HBC whether for or against its plan. Let us show the council that we are interested in our village whatever our thoughts may be.

It was agreed that we liaise with Whixley and Kirk Hammerton Parish Councils to consider the HBC local plan. Our plan has been overtaken by events but we intend to continue to work with other councils to oppose these large scale development plans.

Other parish council meeting updates

by Ivan Andrew

Martin Leather and Alistair Taylor have resigned from the parish council. We wish them all the best and thank them very much for their service over several years. HBC has been notified and will be asking for interested individuals to come forward. Please watch the parish notice board for further information. A new clerk, Louise Pink, has been appointed and she clerked the May meeting with Paul Whelan in attendance.

Volunteers are required for keeping the planters on the plinth in good order. If you are interested please let me know and I will pass your details to the new clerk.

It was agreed that the very poor and potentially dangerous condition of the three roads entering the village should be brought to the attention of the county council for immediate repair. We have been informed that the road junctions at the Boroughbridge and York ends of the village are in next year’s plans but not Harrogate Road.

Future ownership of the green was discussed and then deferred pending legal advice currently being provided to the present owners. It was agreed that the parish council will donate £300 towards new netting in the playing field.



Obituary: John Christopher Hague

Born 9 April 1939. Died 4 May 2017

by Brian & Lindsay Councell



As many of you might know John Hague died unexpectedly while on holiday in Italy.

John was born in West Yorkshire, went to Bradford Grammar School and spent most of his working life with Tilcon. He married the girl next door, Pat, in 1969.

John, Pat, Alex and James moved from Cheshire to Gains House, at the top of the green in Green Hammerton, in 1979. At that time he was based at Conyngham Hall in Knaresborough. He had been a very keen member of the Territorial Army in the parachute regiment and during his time in the village he channelled his energies in to being a school governor, church warden and member of the neighbourhood watch group.

Among his varied interests he was an occasional sailor, a regular social golfer until recently and will be fondly remembered for his passion for mowing his lawn, keeping his car immaculately clean and his flag-raising flair.

He was a keen shot and enjoyed being involved with the Whixley shoot. Their method of transport contrasted dramatically with his other great interest which was vintage cars. He owned two vintage MG cars at one stage and was highly involved with organising rallies for a group of fellow enthusiasts nicknamed The Old Sods. They met two or three times a year mainly in the UK but they had also rallied on the continent.

John was seen regularly round the village and will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Beer garden improved

by Tina Clarke of The Bay Horse Inn

The beer garden with new umbrellas is now open for the summer (noon until 10pm from Mon to Sat and 8pm on Sun). A huge thank you to customers who have offered their time to help me with the garden. We hope you enjoy the improvements we are making over time.

Our new charcoal grill has arrived so Jon has recently started a steak and burger menu which is proving popular. We also now have a new coffee machine so can offer lattes, cappuccinos, hot chocolates and other hot drinks with takeaway coffees coming soon. We will

shortly be changing the pumps behind the bar and offering a new choice of lagers and cider.

We're looking for a part-time cook to expand our kitchen team. Experience preferred although training can be given. Hours will include evenings, weekends and bank holidays. For further information contact Jon on 330338. Our darts team is looking for fresh players, both male and female, for Monday night play. For more information contact Neil on 07795 387441.

News from the pews

by David MacDonald of St Thomas' Church

A new vicar has been appointed to the benefice. She is Rev Sarah Feaster who will be coming to us from Manston in the Leeds episcopal area. Her induction service is likely to be on Wed 19 July at Green Hammerton. The recruitment process has been remarkably speedy to the credit of the selection and interviewing panel in the benefice.

The great yard sale in April proved to be a great success raising just over £1,000 for the parish between ourselves and Whixley. The weather was kind to us and, thanks to some wide reaching publicity including word of mouth between regular car booters at a sale in York the previous day, buyers and browsers turned out in force. At about 9.30am on the day I was told by one visitor that he had already done five car boot sales that morning! Sincere thanks to everyone who took part in the sale or supported it in any way.

School report

by Laura Wells-Law

Years three and four represented our school at the cluster cricket tournament against local schools. One of our teams won the overall competition which means they go through to the regional finals.

Children in year one to four had a fantastic afternoon attending a QuadKids athletics session at Boroughbridge Primary School. They had the opportunity to take part in sprinting, long distance running, nerf throwing and standing long jump. The weather was pretty wet and miserable but it didn't stop everyone from having a great afternoon.

We're buzzing with excitement at all of the summer events we have planned. Year five and six pupils are really looking forward to their residential to Kingswood in Northumberland. On top of this we have our sports day and celebration of talents and the children are busy honing their athletic skills and preparing their acts to perform on stage. Also coming up this term is our key stage two production, Panto Pandemonium.

Dance fiesta to mark head's retirement

by Annabelle Polito of
Friends of Green Hammerton School (FOGHS)



The school summer barbecue is scheduled for Sat 8 July. This year, with Ms Wallis retiring after 17 years in post, it will have a twist. We invite the school, parents and villagers to a summer dance fiesta complete with professional dance teachers to lead us in the salsa and other steps. An al fresco supper will be served. Thanks to Harrogate

Borough Council for funding this event and other Active Kids projects across the year. Tickets from Kate Bramley on 339168.

The summer term has got off to an active start thanks not least to a team of four school mums and one brave dad who tackled the Yorkshire Warrior 10k assault course at Ripley Castle. Enduring a deluge of water, mud and over 40 obstacles the team raised £510 for school funds.

A new way to raise money, the Smarties Challenge, is proving popular. Each child has been given a tube of Smarties which, once eaten, they must try to fill with 20 pence pieces. The sum raised by children by half-term will be matched by FOGHS and the class with the most 20 pence pieces will be able to choose what they want the money to be spent on in school. A big thanks to Green Hammerton village shop, Tancred Farm Shop and Skipbridge Co-op for donating the Smarties!

And talking of the Co-op, if you get a loyalty card and start collecting points, you can nominate FOGHS as your chosen charity. It is simple to sign up (just ask in store or go online), only costs £1 and we will receive a proportion of Co-op's community giving.

A word from our sponsor (not this little chap!)

This issue of Village View is sponsored by **Garden Room Therapies**, a new business set up by Jenni Kirkwood of Green Hammerton. Taking care of mind, body and spirit, Jenni provides Swedish and aromatherapy massage, Dru yoga classes and special back care treatments. Visit jennyiyoga.wordpress.com and search for "jenni's Dru yoga" on Facebook.



Round up

• Green Hammerton residents **Kate Bramley and Jez Lowe**, pictured below, are well-known faces and voices on the national and international folk music scene. They've just returned from a tour of Denmark and Jez also recently played at London's Royal Albert Hall as part of the BBC Folk Music Awards. The next highlight of their year will be a gig at Green Hammerton Village Club on Wed 21 June at 8pm. Tickets are on sale now at the Village Club, Badapple Theatre on 339168 or online via badappletheatre.com. Proceeds to the club. Come along for a light-hearted, foot-tapping evening of guitar playing, fiddling and singing with the odd joke and sing-along thrown in.



• Green Hammerton **cricket** season is now well on its way. After three defeats a morale boosting win at Thorner on Sat 13 May was well received. The club is still on the look out for new players with the holiday season fast approaching. Match ball sponsorship is also still available at £20 per game. For more information call Neil Phillips on 07795 387441.

• The **coffee morning and book exchange** still needs permanent organisers after Tom and Annabelle Polito decided to step down after five years. In the meantime, the event will continue to take place every second Saturday of the month from 10am to noon in the village hall with organisers taking turns on a rota basis. If you feel you can spare the time to host one of these per year please contact Liz Powley on 330246.

• Chris Turner of the Green Hammerton Recreational Charity reports another really enjoyable **Meet & Eat** evening despite a poor turnout. She said: "Lots of friendships were renewed and new ones made. Thank you to all who supported it. Because numbers were down the revenue is not what we have come to expect but it will top £500 to be shared between GHRC and the church. So no-one can say they didn't know dates in time the next Meet & Eat will be held on Sat 18 May 2019! I have a couple of plates that belong to people that did canapes and also a gent's umbrella. Give me a ring on 331306 so I can return the items." See pic special, back page.

• The **WI** enjoyed a wonderful display of fashions presented by M&Co in the village hall, Green Hammerton. Ann Johnson said: "You tend to want to replace your whole wardrobe when you see an array such as we experienced. Several members modelled

some of the garments.” Sashaying along the catwalk are, from left, Gill Blacker, Elsie Rymer and Mary Coombs. The next meeting will be on Tues 13 June at 7.30pm at the same venue when award winning wildlife artist Alan Hunt will talk about his work.



• Roger Mattock of New Lane has been taking a keen interest in **dragonflies** following a meeting of the British Dragonfly Society in the village hall which he attended. He said: “One talk from Laura Quinlan of the Freshwater Habitats Trust concerned a project to survey as many ponds, lakes and rivers for water quality. I immediately thought of the pond at Helenfield and the colony of great crested newts. Laura sent me out a water testing kit. I’m happy to report that the pond is free of both nitrate and phosphate contamination which shows there is no run off from surrounding agri-cultural land. I have reported my finding to Laura. The plan now is to monitor the site for the rest of the year and record what species I see. I will report dragonfly sights to the Yorkshire Dragonfly group.”



• The fabric committee of St Thomas’s Church will hold its annual **car boot sale** on the green on Bank Holiday Mon 28 Aug. All profits to the upkeep of the church.

• **Tockwith Show** schedules are now available on line at tockwithshow.org.uk. Paper copies from Steve Ross at spross32@aol.com. Show day is Sun 6 Aug.

• **Andy Paraskos** representing the Conservative party has been elected as county councillor for the Ainsty ward (which includes Green Hammerton) on North Yorkshire County Council. He received 1,922 votes in the May 4 poll. Other candidates were Simon Oldroyd of the Liberal Democrats (396 votes), Guy Allanson of Labour (329) and Elizabeth Collins of the Green Party (178). Turnout was 39%.

• Apologies for the lateness of this issue. The editor held back publication to cover off all the development news and has been away. In the **next issue** we take a look back to Green Hammerton’s regal visitors in 1977 and 1403 and describe a summer holiday bike ride from the village for all the family.

COLLAVOCE CHOIR

RETURNS IN

"THE SOUND OF CINEMA III"

FRIDAY 16TH JUNE 7.30PM
CHAPEL OF ST. THOMAS GREEN HAMMERTON

IN AID OF CHAPEL OF ST. THOMAS

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

TICKETS
£10/£8 CONCESSIONS UNDER 16s FREE • AVAILABLE ON THE DOOR

RESERVATIONS
collavocchoir@gmail.com • 01423 330836

CHORUS DIRECTOR
CATHERINE FIELD-LEATHER

[@collavocchoir](https://www.facebook.com/collavocchoir)

THE SOUND OF CINEMA III

Village View is published bi-monthly and distributed free to every household in Green Hammerton. Also available online at greenhammerton.org.uk/village-view-newsletter.

Edited by Paul Kirkwood, 331396.
Printed courtesy of Mick Harrison and Arena Group (arenagroup.net).

All news to paulkirkwood@talktalk.net.

Next issue out: Sun 30 July.
Copy deadline: Sun 23 July.

Meet & Eat picture special

Pics by Susan Goss-Clements.
See story on p6 and village website for full, colour gallery.

