

Village View

The newsletter for residents of Green Hammerton

Feb/March 2018

Developing situation



by the editor

Richard Raper, newly appointed planning consultant to Keep the Hammertons Green, summed up the challenges ahead to a packed Kirk Hammerton parish council meeting at St John's Church on Jan 29.

Introducing himself he said: "I firmly believe in what you're doing. It appears wrong to me that your small, isolated villages should become a new settlement of such proportions. Of equal importance I also believe that you have a great case to make and I'm confident that we'll get this new settlement, a behemoth, crushed."

"My mantra is this. Numerically, the proposed settlement may be solving Harrogate's housing problem but it's not just about that. It's about doing it where the greatest benefit will be felt, i.e. in the most sustainable location and that's not here."

He said that transport and heritage concerns and a lack of sustainability were solid grounds on which to challenge the plan which, in its revised form, he described as "an amorphous blob".

He also pointed out new central government housing targets for each local authority in England which show a substantially

reduced number of new homes are required in the Harrogate district.

He said: "This will be a long and difficult process that has to be tackled at each and every step if you're serious and don't want this settlement to happen. It's also expensive, unfortunately, and fundraising is an essential element so please give generously."

Richard, who has 40 years of planning experience including 10 years with a local planning authority, recounted his consultancy with the Greenhill Action Group in Bradford. The group began resisting a 450-house development in the mid-1990s. Action is ongoing and houses have yet to be built.

In answer to a question from Martin Leather about the implications of the planning application at Flaxby on the proposed Green Hammerton development, Richard said: "The council's always said there's to be only one settlement so we should focus [our efforts] on challenging the Green Hammerton new settlement."

▪ KGHG will be contacting all residents about making donations. In the meantime see kghg.co.uk for more information. Also see p2 for the parish council view.



The Green Hammerton Alps were briefly back in use on Dec 29. Brrr!

Parish council round-up

by Ivan Andrew of Green Hammerton parish council

As you will have read in the press and the recent Keep Hammerton Green flyer, HBC has decided to take forward a bid for a revised hybrid Hammerton site to the next stage of the development plan. It proposes to merge the Malkiln and Hammerton sites so that the development will not need to go down the slope of the A59 towards Kirk Hammerton. This new plan will be open for discussion from Jan 26 to March 9. Remember that every individual voter can submit an opinion; we are not limited to just one per household. The more views the better, whatever they may be. The local plan will be formally agreed by HBC in mid-April. The group which owns the Flaxby golf club site have submitted a plan to build 2,750 houses there now following the decision by HBC not to name Flaxby as their preferred site for development. It will be very interesting to follow this application because if it is approved then it does make a nonsense of any Hammerton plan. The application will go to HBC and, if turned down, the decision can be appealed against.

Some houses are nearing completion on the Redrow site and the sales office has recently opened. There has been some disruption around Harrogate and Borough-bridge roads caused by drainage work but this is clear at the moment.

St Thomas's Way has been clear over the Christmas period but disruption will occur again now that building has resumed on the Linden Homes site behind the school. Constant heavy traffic, often outside the agreed times, does cause a nuisance to residents and can spread to York Road when heavy lorries arrive together needing to use the Way's limited access. Linden plans to complete the houses by November. Construction of a road at the far side of the green in Meadow Vale is due to start in mid-February and repair work to the three roads entering the village is due to take place in the next financial year which begins in April. Repairs to Skip Bridge may continue into March under the current traffic management.

Just before Christmas Strata Homes started a consultation regarding 70 new homes off New Lane. Over 100 extra cars could use New Lane and the junction opposite the post office if this plan is approved. The plans are at a very early stage but due to these access issues they will merit very careful scrutiny. We have not heard anything from Strata since the open meeting in late November.

We are pleased to be able to report that the Al Khaleej, proposers of the Sugar Beet factory near the Allerton Park incinerator, have withdrawn their plans at least for the moment and are looking elsewhere. The plan to build five houses down Back Lane has been rejected by HBC because of the narrow road. It is believed that plans to build at the junction of York Road and the A59 have also been rejected by HBC in their present form but the developers will submit a revised plan. As HBC appear to want to keep the slopes down towards York

from the village clear we hope that any development in this area will be rejected.

The county council is changing all of its streetlights to use LED bulbs. The parish council is aware that some lights are not working. There is some confusion because it is thought that HBC is still responsible for some of the streetlights in the village. We are trying to resolve this.

Parish Councillors and members of the public have again expressed concern at the speed of some traffic through the village and parking on corners especially opposite the Bay Horse. This will be monitored and a request for help will be made to the Speed Watch panel of the county council.

After very careful consideration the parish council has decided to raise the parish precept from £8,500 to £10,000 per year with effect from April. This will mean a £3 annual rise to this part of the rates for band D households. The rate has not been raised for some years since when the total cost of bills has escalated. For instance, over the past two years the county council reduced its subsidy of village grass cutting and from April will not contribute at all. In the past the parish council drew on its reserves but this is no longer possible or sensible. Do please note that this will not be the only increase to the rate bill. The county council, Harrogate Borough Council (HBC) and the police may also increase their elements of the bill.

HBC have observed the use of the waste bins in the Bay Horse car park and concluded that they are being largely used by trades people and not locals. Consequently, they have made the decision to remove these bins.

The next parish council meetings are planned for the Feb 20 and March 27 at 7.30 pm in the village hall. The latter is the annual open parish meeting at which all village clubs and organisations provide updates. All welcome to attend.

There is currently at least one vacancy for a parish councillor. If you are interested please contact the Chairman, Ian Bailes, on 330477 or i.bailes@btinternet.com. The new parish council will be elected in May.

Harrogate Borough Council is holding meetings for new or prospective parish councillors on Feb 21 and 22 from 5.30 p.m. at the Council Chambers on St. Luke's Mount. No booking is necessary.

Coming up in the next issue ...
Meet the all new Green
Hammerton Recreational
Charity social team and
find out what they have
lined up for 2018.



Pupils like performing

by Laura Wells-Law

Our school choir attended the Young Voices event at Sheffield Arena. We had worked on several songs at school and then spent an afternoon rehearsing them with other schools, a conductor, professional singers and a street dance troop. We performed in the evening alongside 5,200 other children.

Next month we're yet again participating in the dance festival at the Galtres Centre in Easingwold. We will be joining other primary schools from our cluster to perform dances on stage based on a Mardi Gras theme. Music students from the University of York have taught pupils about instruments, pitch and dynamics. The older children also experienced a gospel singing workshop.



This half of term the children in class four have been reading a book called *Boy Overboard* which is about a family fleeing from war-torn Afghanistan and their attempts to seek asylum in Australia. To support study Rev Feaster kindly led collective worship based on the bible story of the good Samaritan and also spoke more specifically to class four about asylum seekers and refugees.

Scarecrow trail set for May

*by Annabelle Polito of
Friends of Green Hammerton School*

We raised a fantastic £1,343 at the Christmas Fair. Thanks to all who supported the event, the school choir who sang so beautifully and Santa who found time in his busy schedule to come in and meet the children in his grotto! Next up is a Valentines Disco, with new compere and DJ Ollie with his bubble machine. The children will also be raising money for Sport Relief through a sponsored bounce-a-thon and non-uniform day.

Meanwhile, our popular Easter teas event is set for Wed 28 March at 3.30pm. Then how about running it off at the Yorkshire Warrior 10k obstacle race at Ripley Castle on Sat 21 April?! We're entering an adult team in the event which involves mud, water, obstacles and most importantly teamwork! Let us know if you'd like to sign up, all in aid of FoGHS. Finally, save the dates of the weekend of May 12/13 when we're organising a scarecrow festival in Green Hammerton and Whixley. More details next time.

News from the pews

by David MacDonald of St Thomas' Church

The church year remains as busy as ever. We are just coming to the end of Epiphany with the start of Lent in the middle of February leading up to Easter at the beginning of April. More details nearer the time but in the meanwhile you may like to make a note of the Pancake evening on Shrove Tuesday (Feb 13) from 6-9pm in Whixley village hall, 6pm to 9pm. Contact Enid Fisher on 331031 for further information.

Just a reminder that café church is held on the first Sunday of each month at 4pm in Whixley village hall with Tots Praise for mothers and toddlers at 2pm on the second Tuesday each month (other than Feb when it will be on the 20th) at Whixley village hall. In both cases, please contact Rev Joan Roper on 331661 for further details. For older children we have a Sunday school at St Thomas's church on the last Sunday of each month, starting at 10.30am and lasting for about 45 minutes. It has been running now for several months and has proved very popular with families in both villages. If you would like to know more, please contact Rachael Holloway via rachael.holloway@sky.com.

By the way, in case you are not already aware, the Parish News which is published each month, is a mine of information about what is going on in all the villages in our benefice plus it has a wealth of adverts for local businesses which are very useful. Copies are £1 each and can be obtained from the village shop or at the back of the church.

Appeal is top of the pop[pie]s!

by the editor

The village contributed £785 to last year's Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal, our highest total ever even outstripping by £20 the sum raised in 2014 when the Remembrance was particularly high profile because of the centenary of the First World War.

Appeal coordinator Rob Hughes told Village View: "Many thanks to all our generous residents and visitors. The new poppy badges, bracelets and wristbands were a massive hit with school children who raised the largest total of £172. Thank you to the headteacher, staff, parents and volunteers for their efforts and the children for parting with their pocket money! The veterans and families receiving aid will be very grateful. Chris and the team at the village shop raised a super amount of £149 and our brilliant door to door collectors, Gill Blacker, Pat Hague and Gerry Reilly, raised over £300 between them. The surgery, pub, Harlands and Village Club also supported the appeal."

If you would like to help with this year's collection which will mark the centenary of Armistice Day either as a door-to-door collector or business premises

collector then contact rob via roberthughes30@hotmail.com.

▪ The Yorkshire Air Ambulance benefitted to the tune of £125 thanks to the Christmas lights displayed by Mr & Mrs Kitson of 9 Harrogate Road and Simon Mack at the Old Reading Room and those people who donated via the collection boxes. Simon said: "I'd especially like to thank the Kitsons who raised £100. They always put on a fantastic display which takes a number of days to put up and take down."



KGHG says ...

Make your voice heard!

Revise and resubmit your previous objections to the Local Plan by Fri 9 March. This is a new review process that will be considered by an independent body. See kghg.co.uk.

Village hall schedule

Here's the annual update of weekly activities at the village hall courtesy of Claire Jeffrey:

- Brownies. Mon 6pm. Mandy Kuunal, 330527.
- Rainbows. Wed 6pm. vickylabbot@yahoo.co.uk.
- Karate. Mon 4.45pm. enquiries@martialartsforlife.co.uk.
- Junior football. Sat mornings. Kate Bramley, 339168.
- Book club. Thu 8pm monthly. Peter Morrill, 331162.
- Pilates. Tues 9.30-10.30am and 10.30-11.30am. Fri 9.30am to 10.30am. Sessions usually run as six-week course. Claire Morrell, 07789 966759.
- Fit4Fun. Wed 9-10am. Circuits-based class. Ian Salvin, 07827 338775.
- Dru yoga. Thu 6.30pm. jennidruyoga@gmail.com.
- Coffee morning and book exchange. Second Saturday in the month from 10am to noon (see below).

Round-up

▪ **Badapple Theatre** will perform a play based on the life of Yorkshire aviator Amy Johnson (see below) at Green Hammerton village hall on Tues 1 May at 7.30pm. More details in the next issue or see badappletheatre.com.



▪ The **book exchange with coffee morning** in the village hall needs a boost. Liz Powley said: "Numbers have dwindled in recent months. We need more customers and helpers too ideally. Don't forget that all proceeds go towards *your* village hall." She can be contacted on 330246. The exchange takes place on the second Saturday of every month at 10am so the next is Feb 10.

▪ The programme at the **Village Club** includes:
Sat 3 Feb, 8.30pm: Bingo and Play your Cards Right.
Fri 16 Feb, Fri 2 March and Fri 16 March, 9pm: quiz.
Fri 23 Feb and Fri 30 March, 8.30pm: Country & Western with Phil Lloyd 8.30pm.

▪ The main event coming up at **The Bay Horse** is a concert by Loki, a "vocal-driven smooth country rock" group, on Sat 10 Feb from 9pm. Free entry. Valentines Day specials available from 6-9pm. Housekeeping staff currently being recruited. For further information contact Tina on 330338.

▪ Sam Blacker and Steve Ross gave a very interesting illustrated talk about their 177-mile walk along the Offa's Dyke path at the January meeting of **Kirk & Green Hammerton WI**, reports Sue Bowe. The ladies next meet on Tues 13 Feb at 7.30pm at Kirk Hammerton village hall when Tanya Umpleby of Cooking Fantastic will provide a demonstration. As an open meeting all visitors are welcome to attend for £4. A speaker from Jenny Ruth Workshops will be the main event at the following meeting on Tues 13 March at the same venue.

▪ Green Hammerton is part of the **West of Ouse Oil Syndicate** which gives members access to probably the best priced oil available with quick and good service. If you are interested in finding out more please contact Jane Bannan via janebannan@btinternet.com or 339442.

▪ Julia O'Connor is urging villagers to support a **Yorkshire Three Peaks Challenge** in June in aid of York Teaching Hospital charity. See yorkhospitals.nhs.uk/threepkchallenge.

▪ Many thanks to Ian & Dicky Black for sponsoring this edition of **Village View**. I still need a new delivery person to do the round of 66 drops along Kirk Hammerton Lane and York Road. No experience necessary! Ed.

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.

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