

## KIRKBY MALZEARD LAVERTON AND DALLOWGILL PARISH COUNCIL

The existing Councillors are now nearing the end of their two-year term of office and a new Parish Council will be formed in May which will run for the next four years. There have been two changes in personnel over the last twelve months – Cllr Mike Hurford resigned in January 2018 and our Clerk, Linda Johns, left in August 2017 and was replaced by Jen Hurford.

The main decision we have made this year, following public consultation in September, was to significantly increase our Council Tax precept over the next two years. The additional funds raised will be used towards increased grants for local organisations in order to help sustain them in the future.

As always, we have continued to liaise with NYCC Highways Department to try and ensure that as much work as possible is carried out to maintain the roads in our area and we have provided responses to Harrogate Council on planning issues throughout the year, as well as making submissions in conjunction with the Draft Local Plan. The new Council will have to consider whether to create a Neighbourhood Plan during the next four years, which would give our community more influence over Planning matters within the Parish. Communication between the Council and the public has been considerably improved by new noticeboards in Kirkby Malzeard, Laverton and Dallowgill and we now use Facebook as well as our website, to keep everyone informed.

We are steadily moving closer towards taking over the lease of the Children's Play Area at the Highside Playing Fields in order to ensure its survival and hope to complete that shortly. We have also actively encouraged and provided financial support towards the opening of a Youth Club and have revived the Community Emergency Team. Grants were also provided to the Mechanics Institute, Highside Playing Fields and Kirkby in Bloom. A publicly accessible Defibrillator has been obtained for Kirkby Malzeard but the most contentious issue, the future of the former Henry Jenkins public house, is no nearer being resolved, despite considerable time and effort. In Autumn last year we arranged a well-attended exhibition to enable residents to view details of a proposed residential development off Laverton Road at the western end of Kirkby Malzeard and to put forward their views on this to the Planning Authority.

The Parish Council actively encourages residents to contact us if they have any concerns about anything where we may be able to help. You can get in touch with Jen on 650363 or any of the Councillors whose telephone numbers and emails are available on the Parish Council website [www.kmldpc.btck.co.uk](http://www.kmldpc.btck.co.uk) Our Facebook address is Kmldpc Parish Council.

Howard Mountain, Chair  
April 2018