

Tanfield Parish Council

ANNUAL REPORT 2012/13

Councillors

David Parkinson has served as a Councillor and Chairman of the Parish Council throughout the year.

Peter Hull has served as a Councillor since July 2012 and as Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council since October 2012.

Steven Houston has served as a Councillor since July 2012.

Chris Pennock has served as a Councillor since December 2012.

Richard Middleton served as a Councillor until June 2012.

Derek Padgett served as a Councillor from May 2012 until July 2012.

Jim Beadle served as a Councillor until March 2013.

There is currently one vacancy on the Parish Council, to serve the West Tanfield ward.

Meetings

9 meetings have been held since the 2012 annual meetings.

4 of these were 'ordinary' meetings when a full agenda of business was considered.

The other 5 meetings were to consider planning applications and other urgent items of business.

Planning and Development

- 9 planning applications have been considered during the past year.
- Proposals have ranged from alterations and extensions to properties, construction of lean-to shelters, new fences, developments at St. Nicholas C of E Primary School to holiday and business units.
- The Parish Council has continued to monitor developments with the preparation of the Minerals and Waste Development Framework by North Yorkshire County Council.

General Highlights of the Year

- The Parish Council now has its own website: www.tanfieldparishcouncil.btck.co.uk The site is filled with information about the work of the Parish Council and provides a point of contact for the public to use. The home page has had over 1,500 hits since going live in July 2012.
- The Parish Council supported local Diamond Jubilee celebrations by paying for the cost of insurance and asking the Parish Caretaker to clean Church Street prior to the event.
- After lengthy discussions it was agreed to contract the 2013 grasscutting in the parish out. The Walled Garden Scheme will carry out fortnightly cuts to the communal areas in West Tanfield, Nosterfield and Thornborough during the growing season. Brian Porteus is thanked for all his previous work cutting the grass in West Tanfield.
- The Parish Council has worked to ensure that the precept (money raised for it through Council Tax and its main source of income) did not need to increase for the 2013/14 financial year.
- The Parish Council helped to organise and co-ordinate the annual bonfire and fireworks event at Nosterfield Quarry. Poor weather meant that there was a low turnout on the evening, although £199.72 was raised for West Tanfield Memorial Hall, and so opinion is going to be canvassed on whether to put on another event in 2013.
- The Parish Council adopted a new Code of Conduct, promoted by Hambleton District Council and the Clerk and two Councillors attended training provided by Hambleton District Council.
- The Clerk attended training on The Localism Act 2011, provided by Hambleton District Council.
- The Parish Council has registered with HMRC for PAYE and implemented a payroll system for employment of the Clerk.
- The Parish Council has continued to operate the Parish Caretaker scheme and with effect from 1st April 2013 has appointed Farm & Land Services Ltd from Knaresborough to carry maintenance work in the parish each month.
- The Parish Council has, in view of the result of speed checks carried out by the Hambleton District Community Safety Partnership, agreed to take no further action in respect of procuring further traffic calming measures in the parish.
- The Parish Council has continued to correspond with Highways North Yorkshire and County Councillor John Weighell about a number of highways faults.
- The design for a new Nosterfield Village Sign has been approved and it is hoped that it will be installed during the next few weeks.
- The Parish Council recently met with representatives of Yorkshire Water to discuss issues with the sewerage system that runs between Well, Nosterfield and Thornborough.

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