

Tanfield Parish Council

Annual Report Covering the 2013/14 Period

Councillors

Peter Hull (Chairman), David Parkinson (Vice-Chairman) and Steven Houston have served as Councillors for the West Tanfield ward throughout the year.

Chris Pennock has served as Councillor for the East Tanfield ward during the year.

There remains a vacancy for a Councillor to serve the West Tanfield ward.

Meetings

The Parish Council has met 7 times since the 2013 annual meetings. 4 of these were 'ordinary' meetings when a full agenda of business was considered. The other 3 were extraordinary meetings to consider planning applications and other urgent items of business.

Planning and Development

- 7 planning applications have been considered for proposals ranging from garage conversions to hedgerow removal to a canopy at St. Nicholas School.
- The Parish Council has responded to consultations by North Yorkshire County Council on the Minerals & Waste Joint Plan.
- Council representatives have attended a workshop hosted by Hambleton District Council on proposals to refresh the Local Development Framework Core Strategy.
- The Parish Council has responded to consultations by North Yorkshire County Council on the Minerals & Waste Joint Plan.

General

- A survey of all parish households was conducted to help determine the Council's budgetary priorities for 14/15. This resulted in the precept being increased by £888 to £7188 to allow services to be maintained at their current level.
- In response to concerns raised by local residents the Parish Council applied to the Hambleton Community Safety Partnership for new speed monitoring checks to be carried out. These shows that speeds are within the acceptable range for a 30mph zone and no further action is necessary.
- The Parish Council continues to operate the parish caretaker scheme, whereby 5 hours of maintenance works are carried out in the parish each month. The caretaker for 2013/14 and 2014/15 is Farm & Land Services Ltd from Knaresborough.
- Farm & Land Services Ltd have also been appointed as the Council's grasscutting contractor for 2014-17. They replace the Walled Garden Scheme who decided not to tender for the new contract.
- The Parish Council is continuing to look in to issues surrounding ownership of the areas of common land in the parish.
- The Council organised a successful bonfire and fireworks event which raised £491.09 for West Tanfield Memorial Hall. The Parish Council would like to once take this opportunity of thanking everyone involved in helping to arrange this event.
- The Parish Council has continued to correspond with Highways North Yorkshire about a number of road defects, including the poor condition of the B6267. Satisfactory resolutions are increasingly hard to come by due to financial constraints on the Highways Authority.
- At the request of the Tour de France organising committee the Parish Council has made contact with the French town of Fontenay-le-Marmion with a view to forging links in the future.
- The Parish Council was represented by Councillor Pennock on the West Tanfield United Charities board.
- The Parish Council was represented by Councillor Parkinson on West Tanfield Memorial Hall's Management Committee & the Lower Ure Conservation Trust's Liaison Committee.
- The Parish Council's Quarry Liaison representatives were the Clerk and Councillor Houston.
- The Parish Council is continuing to liaise with Yorkshire Water about problems with the sewerage operations and pipe between Nosterfield and West Tanfield.
- The Parish Council continued to support the work of the Hambleton Citizens Advice Bureau.
- The Parish Council continues to manage the playgrounds in West Tanfield, Nosterfield & Thornborough.