

2020/21 MAYOR'S REPORT

CO-OPTION POLICY

Adoption of a Co-Option Policy outlining the procedure to be followed when there is a vacancy to ensure the co-option process is fair and equitable.

Cllr Shipley elected at the meeting dated 21 September 2020.

GRANTS AWARDED IN 2020/21:

All Saints Parish Church for £3000 to contribute towards the costs associated with maintenance of All Saints graveyard and Millennium Garden.

Allocation of £1000 to Kirkbymoorside Tennis Club towards the costs associated with the purchase and installation of wash facilities at the tennis courts.

Next Steps Mental Health Resource Centre in the amount of £1092 to cover the cost of rent for the Kirkbymoorside sessions.

Kirkbymoorside History Group in the amount of £600 to contribute to the cost of a full day event in celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the Victory in Europe to be held post CV-19.

Friends of Kirkbymoorside Primary School in the amount of £2000 to contribute towards the project costs to regenerate and add to the existing play equipment at the school.

Ryedale Community Transport for £1,300 to contribute towards supporting the extra financial burden of increased drivers' cost being borne by the charity during the Covid-19 crisis.

Congratulations also to the volunteers involved with the Kirkbymoorside library which continues to celebrate its success as a volunteer run Community Library. This service is invaluable to the community and I'm sure everyone is very appreciative that it has been retained through the hard work and dedication of the team involved. There are plenty of opportunities to volunteer at the library so please do not hesitate to go along and ask any of the volunteers for information.

The Town Council continues to support the library financially by paying a licence fee to occupy the office at Church House thereby contributing to the cost of rent of the building, in addition to contributing to the cost of utilities and cleaning.

PRECEPT & FINANCES

At the Ordinary meeting of the Town Council in October recommendations were received from the Finance Committee regarding the budget for 2021/22 and it was unanimously agreed to once again retain the precept at £74,000.

2021/22 Financial Considerations

Capital Budget

The specific reserves:

£50,000 allocated to the cemetery fund - the surplus of cemetery funds continue to be transferred into the cemetery account at the end of each financial year.

£25,000 earmarked for development (including repairs) of the sports field, play area and skatepark.

£20,000 allocated for specific reserves to include:

- Staff sickness £5,000,

- By-election provision £4,000
- Manor Vale provision £6,000
- Moorside Room provision £5,000

The level of general reserves remains at **£40,000** on the basis that the general reserve is recommended to be at least half of the precept.

The Audit of the Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2020 was concluded with no matters raised (Sections 20(2) and 25 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (SI 2015/234)).

PARKING & TRAFFIC

The Town Council has purchased and installed vehicle activated traffic signs on the A170.

The installation of three planters on the roadside outside 36, 38 and 40 West End, licensed by NYCC Highway Authority, have been effective in deterring motorists from mounting the kerb.

In response to traffic concerns raised by the Town Council on behalf of residents, NYCC Highway Authority have changed the speed limit to 20mph for the length of Westfields, Went End and Tinley Garth.

The Town Council has been actively pursuing Ryedale District Council to determine the feasibility of an arrangement for subsidised parking in Town Farm car park in order to realise the ambition for free parking in Kirkbymoorside. At the meeting on 26 April 2021 information was received in respect of the District Council's agreement to extend the period of free car parking across all of RDC car parks to three hours, to be introduced as soon as practicably possible. We continue to pursue an arrangement for free parking in Town Farm car park.

ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGE POINTS AT TOWN FARM CAR PARK

Two double socket 22kW EV charging points have been installed by RDC in Town Farm car park further to a successful bid for funding to the Office for Zero Emission Vehicles. The units will be aimed at providing local residents without access to off-street charging the ability to charge their vehicles, and help transition more of the residential community to acquire an EV. They will also be available to the wider public and visitors to Kirkbymoorside. Users are required to access the Connected Kerb app on Apple or Android, or request an RFID card from Connected Kerb, to initiate a charging session at 25p per kwh. As it stands, parking remains free overnight for residents, with the allocated period of free parking, for anyone wishing to charge without paying for parking. Outside these hours normal parking charges apply.

Town Farm car park is owned and regulated by Ryedale District Council. On-street parking is regulated by NYCC. The Town Council has no authority on parking or any matters pertaining to the highways and can only make representation on behalf of the residents to the relevant Authority.

If you witness and illegal activity please report this to **101**.

PLAY AREAS

PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDERS

In response to incidents of anti-social behaviour and concern about the associated anti-social behaviour being carried out in areas that jeopardise the safety of children the Council agreed to pursue an application of a Public Space Protection Order, the implementation of which would provide a safer environment and enable the designated officers to enforce penalties.

However, Ryedale District Council's determination is that Public Space Protection Orders for the play areas would not be a proportionate response to the level of harm and nuisance being caused on the basis of data collected from Ryedale District Council's Idox system & North Yorkshire Police reports over a 3 year period.

This lack of data emphasises the importance of members of the public report all incidents of concern to the police via 101 so that the data can be recorded.

OLD ROAD PLAY AREA

A replacement recycling bin unit was installed, the costs covered by insurance, in response to significant damage caused by vandalism.

The toddler cradle swing seats were replaced due to wear and the Oyster roundabout was replaced at no charge by the supplier due to a manufacturing fault.

The Council have purchased a stock of skate ramp panels. One panel of the jump box has been replaced and works have been instructed to replace four panels on the half pipe, as soon as practicably possible and dependent upon the contractor's work schedule.

Commemorative Tree Planting - The Town Council have agreed removal of the three tyre springers at Old Road play area and planting of five suitably mature trees, of varied species, to mark the loss of lives to Covid-19 and celebrate the resilience of the community in response to the pandemic.

RYEDALE VIEW PLAY AREA

Extensive tree works have been carried out in accordance with the findings of the tree safety assessment report.

A new boardwalk has been installed on the woodland trail.

MANOR VALE WOODLAND

In addition to the regular maintenance activities more extensive repairs have been carried out to the steps leading from Manor Vale Lane to Neville's Castle.

Extensive tree works have been carried out in accordance with recommendations of the tree safety assessment report.

SPORTSFIELD

In response to the pandemic, in May 2020 the Council agreed to waive the 2020/21 levy charges and absorb the cost of utilities at the sports field throughout the period that the facilities were inaccessible. This agreement was rescinded at the meeting dated 26 April 2021.

The request by the Kirkbymoorside Football Club to extend the lease agreement beyond March 2021 for a period of 35 years was agreed.

Works have been instructed to fell the diseased Poplar tree on the eastern boundary of the sports field, in accordance with recommendations specified in the tree safety assessment report.

KIRKBY COMMUNITY FRIDGE

The Town Council worked closely with the Scarborough & Ryedale Carers Resource, NYCC Stronger Communities, the Methodist Church and volunteers to set up the Kirkby Community Fridge. The Town Council participated in the project by managing the funds during the interim period whilst the mutual aid group was being established. The Community Fridge was officially opened by me on

Wednesday 25 November 2020. I was pleased to receive the invitation to open this worthwhile and successful project.

PATH FOR EVERYONE

The Town Council agreed to work in partnership with Ryedale Cycle Forum and Kirkbymoorside Environment Group to apply for funding and, if successful, administration of the 'Path for Everyone' project. The application submitted to the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for North Yorkshire was successful and the project was awarded £20,000 from the AJ1 Project Road Safety Fund. The Town Council also agreed match funding of £20,000 from the Council's reserve funds.

The 'Kirkbymoorside Path for Everyone' Crowdfunding page went live on 19 April 2021 and to date £755 has been donated and we wish them every success.

FLOOD PREVENTION IN KIRBY MILLS

In response to the impact of flooding at Kirby Mills in January the Council agreed to contact all the relevant agencies to establish the status of any proposed, pending and/or ongoing plans for works to address the issue. Specifically the status of recommendations as set out in the 'Water Resources Act 1991 Flood Risk Mapping Studies 2002' undertaken by JBA Consulting on behalf of the Environment Agency. The Town Council have been liaising with responsible agencies and an initial site visit was attended by the riparian owner of The Cornmill and representatives from the Environment Agency and NYCC on 16 April 2021. Contact has since been established with Yorkshire Water and the matter is ongoing and will be a focus of the council until the matter is resolved.

THE MOORSIDE ROOM

The Moorside Room has been out of commission for most of the past 12 months. The Town Council offered the venue, free of charge, to facilitate administration of the flu vaccination programme by Towlers Chemist.

Many events needed to be cancelled due to the coronavirus, including the 2020 Open Studios exhibition but it is anticipated that The Moorside Room will again be the venue for the 2021 exhibition in the summer.

The easing of restrictions in November meant that a Christmas craft fair could be held on 5 December 2020.

From 19 May 2021 the first of the weekly Kirkbymoorside workshops will be held by Next Steps Mental Health Resource Centre. Other events that will resume with the easing of government restrictions are the Musical Memories sessions on the first Tuesday of every month and the Repair Cafe hosted by the Environment Group.

Works have been authorised to carry out remedial repairs to the noticeboard and exterior window frames at a cost of £800 (All paint and materials to be charged as extra and sourced from a local distributor).

KEEP KIRKBYMOORSIDE TIDY

The 2020 annual community Tidy Up exercise was due to be held on 4th and 5th April 2020 but was cancelled due to the coronavirus situation. This year's 'Great British Spring Clean' will run from 28 May to 13 June and the Town Council will be working closely with local groups and volunteers to Keep Kirkbymoorside Tidy.

YLCA

The Town Council joined the Yorkshire Local Councils Association in April 2020. This provides the Council with benefits such as updates on legal and other developments and also training for the Clerk and all Councillors in a wide variety of topics. All the training has been delivered online. This membership has been particularly useful during the Coronavirus pandemic.

WEBSITE ACCESSIBILITY

The Town Council website has been re-built in order to comply with Website Accessibility - Compliance with the Public Sector Bodies (websites and mobile applications)(No. 2) Accessibility Regulations, 2018.

CHRISTMAS

Every year the two town trees are gifted to Kirkbymoorside by Holts Farms. Thanks on behalf of Kirkbymoorside community for this very generous arrangement. Thanks also to the organisers of the Christmas tree scheme and everyone who put a tree up in the bracket outside their house, which adds to the Christmas decorations for all to enjoy, and sets Kirkbymoorside apart each year.

Congratulations to the winners of the 2020 Best Dressed Christmas Window as follows:

1st Place 'Something Special' at 7 Market Place

2nd Place 'Bella Bambino Boutique', 4 West End

PLANNING

MANOR WOODS, Land off Westfields, Kirkbymoorside

On 18 February 2020 the planning application submitted by Countryside Properties for residential development of the land off Westfields was approved and the development is in progress. The development will consist of 225 dwellings comprising, 44no. 4 bedroom, 119no. 3 bedroom and 51no. 2 bedroom dwellings and 20no. 1 bedroom dwellings together with associated landscaping, public open space to include children's play areas, highways improvements, and allocation of land for use of the existing primary school.

WAINDS FIELD

The application to continue development at the Wains Field site was approved in October 2019 and works continue:

18/01313/MFUL | Erection of 32no. dwellings comprising 2no. two bedroom dwellings, 12no. 3 bedroom dwellings and 18no. four bedroom dwellings with associated garaging, parking and access | Land To North Of Wains Field Kirkbymoorside YO62 6JG Conditional approval as recommended and subject to S106 agreement

CO-OP

The new Co-op opened on 16 April 2021 and we wish the staff and customers well in their new store.

SYLATECH

The closing date for observation in respect of the planning application for expansion of Sylatech and residential development has now passed and the application is now to be determined by the Planning Authority.

21/00518/MOUT | Hybrid Planning Application comprising 1) Application for full planning permission for the erection of a commercial building for the immediate expansion of Sylatech (Phase 1), together with the reorganisation of the existing car park, formation of new access from West Lund Lane, parking and landscaping. 2) Full planning permission for the erection of 67no. dwellings comprising 11no. four bedroom dwellings, 42no. three bedroom dwellings and 14no. two bedroom dwellings, together with new access from West Lund Lane and associated parking, landscaping and drainage works. 3) Outline planning permission for the extension of the first phase building (Phase 2) with further commercial development to the East of West Lund Lane (Phase 3). Approval sought for access only. 4) Full planning permission for works to West Lund Lane and the former railway bridge. | Land East Of West Lund Lane Kirkbymoorside.

CORONAVIRUS & COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

I can't help but conclude with the Coronavirus pandemic. The past year has been extremely difficult for many of us living and working in Kirkbymoorside.

Whilst there have been many hardships, what has been notable, is the way our community came together and particular thanks must go to the many volunteers, health workers and businesses who contributed so magnificently to help and to protect the community.

The recipients of this year's **Community Award** have been nominated for their outstanding care, devotion and initiative during the lockdowns. Congratulations and enormous thanks to Charlotte Frost and Katy Kallagher for their selfless contribution to the community.

It is to be hoped that we can start to have a sense of normality as the roadmap to a more normal life proceeds. I also hope that, when the right time arrives, we can still hold a community celebration to mark the end of the pandemic and also to remember those who have lost their lives or suffered as a result of the virus.

In the meantime I hope that we will all continue to support the local shops and businesses, both those who have remained operational throughout the pandemic and those who have had to close their doors to keep the community safe.

Thank you.

Nick Holroyd

Kirkbymoorside Town Mayor

4 May 2021