



Upper Poppleton Parish Council - Summer 2014

Parking Restrictions—Yes or No ?

In recent months, some serious issues have arisen with parking in an area stretching from Chantry Gap around to the Post Office. These issues have been particularly serious in the vicinity of All Saints Hall and the Post Office and so your Parish Councillors have been giving some serious consideration to possible solutions.

It is recognised that parking has become more difficult since the former garage site was developed because there was always 'informal' parking on the forecourt but things have now reached a stage where drivers of the No 10 Bus regularly have to leave their vehicle to go in search of car owners because they simply cannot make progress along this stretch of road due to cars being parked on both sides of the road.



Your Parish Council has always resisted calls for parking restrictions to be introduced in this area because the yellow lines and signs which would be required would create a more urban environment in a part of the village which is particularly rural in nature with the Maypole Green, War Memorial and some of the oldest buildings in the parish being in this part of the village.

Whilst it is true to say that, with a bit more consideration from those wishing to park in the area, there need not be a problem, it is clear that such consideration is not demonstrated with drivers opting to park on both sides of the road and thereby making it impossible for the buses to progress.

As you might imagine, your Councillors and others have made suggestions as to how parking in this area could be managed but the only workable conclusion would seem to be the introduction of daytime restrictions on the All Saints Hall side of Station Road between the bus shelter on the Green and Long Ridge Lane. The Parish Council is hoping to have the head of highways management from City of York Council attend the September meeting of the Council to explain exactly what will be involved by way of road markings and signage if such a proposal was to go ahead so there is still time for residents to come forward with alternative suggestions. There is also plenty of time for drivers to modify their parking and possibly remove the need to introduce restrictions.

**A NEW PLAY AREA FOR OUR CHILDREN
SEE PAGE 3 THEN LET US HAVE YOUR THOUGHTS**

TOUR DE FRANCE CYCLE RACE- LE GRAND DEPART

The much heralded English leg of the Tour de France will arrive in York on the 5th July and leave on Sunday, 6th July. The departure on the 6th will leave the Racecourse, parade around the city centre and leave York via Clifton Bridge and Boroughbridge Road progressing onto Harrogate. It will pass along the A59 adjacent to Upper Poppleton from approximately 10.00am onwards being led by many publicity and sponsors vehicles, then the racing cyclists, followed by a very long cavalcade of press vehicles, mobile workshops and other vehicles.



ALL roads accessing the A59, and including the A59, will be closed from about 1.00am on Sunday 6th July until approximately 2.00pm. Therefore the only access to Upper Poppleton will be from the east along Millfield Lane (off the ring road, A1237). The newly opened Park and Ride site will also be closed.

It is anticipated that many spectators will want to watch this event, lining the footpaths along the A59, so this could mean that visitors cars will be parked in Poppleton with people walking up to the Harrogate road via Hodgson Lane, Black Dyke Lane and Station Road to secure good vantage points. This will certainly create inconvenience within the village during that Sunday morning, but by 2.00pm when all the road closure barricades have been removed normal access should slowly be resumed. Special arrangements will in force for emergency vehicle access if necessary.

The event will be covered by up to ten low flying helicopters buzzing around for TV and other media coverage, so it might be prudent for livestock owners to take appropriate protective action.

The churches in Poppleton are cancelling their services that morning as access could be difficult, and many parishioners will want to watch this rare spectacle. Both the Methodist Church and All Saints Church are having refreshments and other outdoor social events on the Green in front of the churches, and the public houses will be open for refreshments. Watch out for publicity notices and flyers relating to what will be available for your pleasure.

This is a special event, and it will probably never happen again that Upper Poppleton will have the world's third largest sporting event on its doorstep.

Given decent weather, it should be quite an event.

Christmas is coming !!

Don't worry, it's some way off yet but your Parish Council is considering making a bit of a splash on the village green this Christmas with some solar powered lights adorning the trees and giving the Green a bit of a Christmassy look. If you have any comments on this idea, please let your councillors have them and, if anyone would like to donate a string of solar powered lights for this project, Councillor Rachel Watters would love to hear from you.



Upper Poppleton Parish Council

**Dedicated to preserving the village environment and to serving residents
Meetings on the second Monday in the month except August and December. All meetings
at The Poppleton Centre starting at 7 pm**

Additional Children's Play Equipment at The Poppleton Centre

As a result of the development of the old garage site near the Green, the developers have been required to pay an amount of money towards providing facilities in the village which would be of benefit to residents generally as well as the occupants of the new houses.

Amounts of £2,791 and £7,795.00 have been made towards the two categories of Amenity and Play respectively.

City of York Council have handed over the Amenity allocation to Upper Poppleton Parish Council and they had indicated that they intended to use the Play allocation to install additional equipment on the play area at the Poppleton Centre. However, the Parish Council was aware of a request by some parents in the village to create an additional play area which would be a bit more up to date in terms of the equipment installed.



The Parish Council therefore asked City of York Council if they would allow the combined Amenity and Play funding to be used with a view to creating an Adventure Playground facility at the Poppleton Centre.



The Trustees of Poppleton Community Trust have been consulted and have agreed in principle to such a facility being created on the other side of the driveway in the area shown in red.

Whilst the combined total of £10,586.00 will make a very worthwhile contribution to funding such a facility, it is felt that some additional funding would be required to create a really good Adventure Playground and so your parish councillors would like to hear from anyone who would be interested in joining a small group to look at taking this project forward.

It is possible that some funding would be available through the land-fill tax grant scheme and grants may be available from other sources so the task of raising additional funding should not be too arduous but a project like this does require a small group of people to take it forward. If you would like to be involved in providing new play facilities for your children or grandchildren, please contact the Parish Clerk, James Mackman, to register your interest and then a meeting will be organised to take this project forward.

James Mackman—01904 399277—jmackman@tesco.net



POPPLETON IN BLOOM

It's that time of the year again!

Under the guidance of the Parish Councils, Nether and Upper Poppleton have jointly again entered the Britain in Bloom Competition. Due to the hard and conscientious efforts of many villagers Poppleton was successful in being awarded Silver Gilt prizes, in the past two years. It would be marvellous, if in 2014, Poppleton could aspire to a Gold Award.

The judges from the Royal Horticultural Society have already made their preliminary visit when both the villages looked wonderful with all the daffodils and cherry tree blossom in full flower, and they will make their definitive visit on July 15th at 2.00pm.

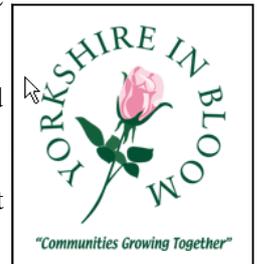
This year, bearing in mind the useful guidance and critique from the judges last year, we are involving the schoolchildren at the village school with their 'year' allotments and renovation of the wildlife pond under the guidance of a member of the school staff, Jane Mansfield. In addition there will be an overall village theme.

For this year's theme, it has been decided to have a red, white and blue colour scheme for the anniversary of the centenary of the start of the World War 1, 1914-2014, which ties in with all the programmes on radio, television, and articles in the press. The Upper Parish Council approved the construction of an angled raised flower bed on the village green alongside the road between the Lord Collingwood and the Methodist Church. This is planted out with appropriate coloured flowers to form a Union flag, surmounted with a memorial cross. A volunteer working group constructed this in early May. The bed will be dismantled in the autumn and the grass restored.

In addition, thanks to the ingenuity of Mike Walker, a suitably floral decorated bicycle will be erected at the top of Station Road, adjacent to the plinth announcing 'Upper Poppleton', to celebrate and welcome the Tour de France passing along the A59 on July 6th.

If villagers could contribute to the overall effect of ensuring the village looks spectacular and welcoming, that will help influence the judges' opinions in July.

Any comments or offers of help would be welcomed by either Mike Walker (790780) or Stuart Robson (794929) to assist in the overall project.



A note from the Chairman

One of the most significant developments in our Parish in recent years has been the Park & Ride facility which is now open for business although various road layouts and traffic signals remain to be completed.

Thanks to help from Fiona Reilly (one of our younger councillors), the Parish Council now has a Twitter account. You'll find us @upper_poppleton and our Parish Clerk, James Mackman, will be posting snippets of news so 'Follow Us' and you will be kept up to date with village events and the work of your Parish Councillors.

Finally, you are urged to carefully study the latest developments proposed by City of York Council for the Local Plan. There is further information on the insert and on the City of York Council web site.

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