



## Upper Poppleton Parish Council - Summer 2013

### Park and Ride Update

Representatives from Upper and Nether Poppleton Parish Councils have been meeting regularly with officers from City of York Council to discuss potential problems for the village during the construction of the Park and Ride and after it is completed.

The City Council has recognised that there is likely to be an increased volume of traffic leaving the A59 at the Red Lion and travelling along Hodgson Lane, The Green and Long Ridge Lane during the construction phase but they still believe that traffic will flow more freely on the A59 once the roundabout at the Ring Road is enlarged. Your councillors are not so sure especially with the installation of traffic signals at the junction with Station Road.



The Parish Council has made some progress and the City Council has agreed to install a pair of 'gates' on the Hodgson Lane approach to the Village as seen in the mock-up on the left. Any further action will be reviewed once the Park and Ride is completed and, if there is still a problem with traffic speeding on Hodgson Lane, speed humps or chicanes will be considered.

Temporary chicanes will be installed on Long Ridge Lane, one within the Upper Poppleton section and one within the Nether Poppleton section and the City Council will conduct a survey of residents while these are in place to establish whether there is support for them to be made permanent once the Park and Ride is completed.

One other measure which your councillors have been able to agree with the City Council officers is that Black Dike Lane will be No Entry from the A59 except for Farm Vehicles needing access to the adjacent fields. This will prevent traffic using Black Dike Lane as a 'Rat Run' route but this measure is subject to review at the end of the Park and Ride construction.

Your councillors are aware that many residents disagree with the views of the City Council with regard to how things will be once the Park and Ride facility is operational but we are having to take things one step at a time.



### To Carve or Not To Carve That is the question ?

The long-standing and much loved Elm tree on the Green has had to be cut down because it was suffering from Dutch Elm Disease but a new tree will be planted in due course.

The Parish Council is now looking at 3 options which are to remove it altogether, to reduce it further and create a seat or to retain the trunk and create some form of carving. It is recognised that there will be a range of views amongst residents on this.

We would welcome your views by email or in writing sent to the Parish Clerk whose details are on the back page or contact one of the Councillors.

**RED ALERT !!**

**POPPLETON VILLAGE UNDER THREAT—SEE PAGE 3**

## Vive Le Tour de France !!



On Sunday 6th July 2014, the A59 past Poppleton may well look something like the picture above. The Tour de France will have started off in Leeds the previous day and the riders will have taken a route through the Yorkshire Dales to end up in Harrogate. It's not clear how they get from Harrogate to York but, on the 6th July, they set off from York towards Harrogate again taking a circular route via the Holme Moss peak to end the day in Sheffield.

The Tour is one of the most popular sporting events in the world so we can expect lots of people to be lining the route past Poppleton.

Your parish councillors are looking for ideas as to how this unique event in our area can be marked so, if you have any suggestions, contact the Parish Clerk or speak to one of your councillors.

## Mind The Kerb

Your Parish Councillors take a particular interest in all areas around the Village Green and we had seen that the areas at both ends of the section in front of the White Horse had been severely damaged by vehicles riding over the kerbs at one end and by vehicles parking partly on the grass at the other end.

We know how difficult it can be for cars and other vehicles in this area but the Parish Council is determined to keep all parts of the Green looking as nice as possible.

Flower tubs have been installed at one end as part of this year's entry to the Yorkshire in Bloom competition and we are arranging for higher kerbs to be installed at the other end to help keep cars and lorries on the roadway

## A note from the Chairman

I am pleased to be able to report that your Parish Council now has a full complement of members once again.

A number of our councillors have had to stand down for various reasons over the past couple of years and we needed four new people to take us back up to our full strength of nine.

In the past couple of months, four people have come forward to say they would like to serve on the Parish Council and we were able to complete their co-option at the May meeting of the Council.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to Fiona Reilly from Long Ridge Lane, John Camplin from Westfield Close, Graham Buckle from Dikelands Lane and Frank Rowell from Bankside Close.

Contact details for all councillors are included in this newsletter so don't hesitate to get in touch with one of us if there is something you think the Parish Council should be dealing with.



**PETER HAWKINS**



## 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

## URGENT AND IMPORTANT

### City of York Draft Local Development Plan

The City of York Council is developing a city-wide plan to support economic growth, which includes proposals to address the apparent shortage of housing. This is a duty imposed on York Council, in common with other Cities and Towns, to meet the central government's new planning guidance, and they expect this to allow a more localised approach to planning. Your Parish Council debated this at its May meeting, when the local ward councillor, Ian Gillies was present, together with Julian Sturdy, the MP for York Outer. Whilst the overarching principle may sound fine, some of the ideas will have far reaching consequences for Upper Poppleton.

Within the plan are proposals to build 36 houses on the Blairgowrie site (adjacent to the Old Forge Surgery), 308 houses on the disused Civil Service Sports Ground (adjacent to Boroughbridge Road), and 998 houses on the former British Sugar Site (which is now disused but which was previously accessed from Millfield Lane).

These properties and their occupants will have an influence on our village especially in terms of access from the main route into York (A59), increased traffic on the already overcrowded ring road, and altering for ever the frontage of Main Street introducing a suburban effect.

Although slightly out of our area, there are concerns about the proposal to locate a permanent Travellers/Showpersons site for mobile homes in Knapton on the field which is adjacent to the roundabout at the Wetherby Road/Ring Road junction.

City of York Council is running a public consultation until 31<sup>st</sup> July, including a touring exhibition with City of York officers in attendance. This will be in the Poppleton Centre, Main Street on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June from 2.30pm to 7.00pm or alternatively in Parliament St, York, 6<sup>th</sup> July from 10.00am.

The Parish Council will further debate these proposals and make its views known to the City Council, however we urge individual residents to make their own views known. Draft Local Plan Comment forms are available at Poppleton Library, or accessed at [www.york.gov.uk/localplan](http://www.york.gov.uk/localplan) or write to Local Plan, City of York Council, Freepost, (YO239) York YO1 7ZZ.

We would suggest that objections be based on logical reasons, such as the effects on the local infrastructure e.g schools, roads, healthcare and hospitals, increased traffic (access, congestion and parking), public transport, reduction in open spaces, removal of trees, shops etc. It is felt that reasoned arguments will carry far more weight than merely stating that we do not want the development, otherwise known as the 'nimby' syndrome.

The City Council has a statutory duty to look at the arguments for and against the draft proposals, and a final plan will be published early in 2014, followed by a further public consultation in February and March 2014. The final decision will be taken at a Public Inspection in 2015. However the emphasis is to act early, as by next year the plans may be set in tablets of stone, which are difficult to alter.

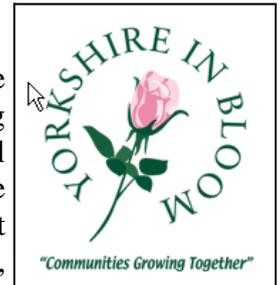
## PRESERVE THE VERGE

We have received several pleas from concerned villagers about preserving the attractiveness of our wide grass verges. Please try to avoid parking vehicles on the grass verges by using driveways where at all possible. It is appreciated that families with more than one car are limited in finding convenient parking spaces, but please help us to keep the village looking attractive with well kept grass verges that are not spoilt by flattened areas and oil spills. Additionally, especially during the summer days it makes for difficult access for the men mowing the verges



## POPPLETON IN BLOOM

Following the very successful entry last year, masterminded by Eddie Allen and Mike Walker, Poppleton has entered the Yorkshire in Bloom competition again in 2013, hoping to win a Gold Award, to add to the Silver Gilt award received in 2012. The judges will visit and tour the village on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July in the middle of the day. In addition to the village award, there will also be an award for the best front garden seen by the judges. It would be delightful if Poppleton looks at its best on that day exhibiting village pride, with no litter and the gardens at their pristine best. You may have already noticed tubs and flower baskets have been distributed around the village by Mike and Eddie in preparation.



**Poppleton**  
Garden Trail 2013  
Saturday and Sunday  
29th and 30th June

After a break of 5 years, the spectacular Garden Trail returns at the end of this month. This is a major fundraising event for Poppleton Community Trust which is responsible for managing and maintaining the Poppleton Centre as well as overseeing the Football and Bowls clubs. Volunteers are needed to help with catering stalls, programme sales and stewarding of gardens so, if you are available and can spare a couple of hours, please contact Ted Kendall who is heading up the organising committee on 01904 338610 or attend a briefing meeting at The Poppleton Centre at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 19th June. Programmes are available now from The Poppleton Centre, the Post Office, Cardland and Barker's Butchers

## **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.



## **Contact Details**

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Parish Clerk—James Mackman

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