

## Hessay Parish Council Chairman's Report May 2015

The Village of Hessay has been served over the past year by the Councillors; Mark Barratt (myself) Roger Hildreth, Helen Candy, Penny Taylor and Andrew Hardcastle, aided by our Clerk James Mackman. The two main priorities for the Parish Council since May 2014 have been pursuing superfast broadband for the residents of Hessay, and the safety concerns around New Road and the junction with the A59.

### **Broadband**

The situation is frustrating to say the least. We are supported by City of York Council employees, our ward Councillors and Member of Parliament, Julian Sturdy, all of whom would like to see Hessay with a fast and reliable Broadband service, as of this moment the broadband cable passes under the telephone cabinet serving Hessay at the junction of Mill Lane, Main Street and Atterwith Lane. The box and the cable are not connected; we are trying to change this. It is yet to be clarified how current funding will be allocated. We have a working group; input from anyone who has experience or knowledge, which may help Hessay get Improved Broadband.

### **Road Safety**

The size of vehicles accessing Hessay Industrial Estate and the problems this causes at the junction of New Road and the A59 and along New Road remains an issue. We continue to push for improvements to make New Road and the junction with the A59 safer. We are constantly looking out for anything which could increase traffic, especially Goods Vehicle Movements. The application for a materials handling facility at Harewood Whin, Rufforth, has to progress through a public enquiry. We will react to anything which may adversely affect Hessay. We have arranged cutting of the roadside verges to improve road safety.

### **Speeding vehicles**

We have asked City of York Council to repaint the red road markings and 30mph signs at the entrance points of the village. North Yorkshire Police are to get another three speed camera vans this summer. We have raised concerns of speeding vehicles with the police, (who favour residents directly reporting speeding themselves). The way to influence their presence of camera vans is via the 95 ALIVE scheme. We encourage all speeding vehicles to be reported directly to the police. The form needed is available from the road safety section of City of York Council's website here:

[http://www.york.gov.uk/info/200185/roads\\_highways\\_and\\_pavements/385/road\\_safety](http://www.york.gov.uk/info/200185/roads_highways_and_pavements/385/road_safety)

Completed forms should be posted to: North Yorkshire Police, Traffic Management Office, Fulford Road, York YO10 4BY. Everyone who reports a vehicle using this form should get a response as to the outcome.

#### **Request to have a speed camera on my street?**

Demand for action to reduce speeds on residential streets in York is high. Police enforcement using the safety camera van is one of a range of tools available, which may or may not be appropriate for use at a given site, depending on the outcome of any investigation under the speed review process. **Placement of the camera van is entirely at the discretion of North Yorkshire Police**, whose current policy is that all requests must be processed through the speed review process,

Extract from north Yorkshire Police website

### **Bus service**

We have lobbied for a service offering a better connection with York. We now have a new provider. Timings of the bus service have changed. Hopefully this is giving an improved service.

### **Tour de France**

Hessay marked the passing of the Tour de France in style with le tour village party. It was a great day all-round. I express my thanks to everyone who made it happen, organisers and attendees alike. The day produced a small surplus which has been ring-fenced for future community events as and when such an occasion arises.

### **Footpath to Rufforth**

We are trying to persuade City of York Council to establish a surface that is easy to walk on, along Wetherby Road at Rufforth, so as to remove the need to walk on the road between the village and the footpath over the fields.

### **Allotments**

Two of the four plots are available for this season. The allotment is in good order with a rabbit-proof fence and a shared shed. Space could be made to make at least one more plot if it were needed. Nick Booth has agreed to be the liaison between the allotment holders and the Parish Council.

### **Hessay Pond And Willow Garth**

New hedging has been planted in the gaps along willow garth hedge, and vegetation regularly cut to the front of the Pond area and along Willow Garth hedge. Working parties in Willow Garth have been held, cutting back unwanted trees and making log piles. Dangerous trees adjacent to the path at Hessay pond have been removed.

### **Main Street, Bench & Grit Bin**

The bench in front of the notice board on Main Street has been repaired. We have asked for the reinstatement of the grit bin opposite Hessay Methodist chapel.

### **Christmas Lights**

Two sets of low voltage LED lights were purchased and positioned in an existing tree within the playground for the festive period.

### **Useful contacts and Village Events etc**

Parish council website: Hessay.org –

Parish Council Clerk James Mackman 01904 399277, the Parish Council normally meets the second Wednesday of odd numbered months 7.30pm in Hessay Methodist Chapel School Room.

Hessay Facebook page: Hessay Community

Hessay Tots – informal gathering for pre school children and parents, 9.30 – 12.00, Hessay chapel each Wednesday of the school year- Contact Zoe Barratt 737171

Hessay Gents – informal drinking club for the menfolk of Hessay – normally the first Friday of the month – contact Pete Rhodes

Hessay Youth group – for 8-13yr olds, Tuesdays once a month in Hessay Methodist Chapel, Contact Sandra Hirst – 738696

Rural Ainsty Parish News – monthly magazine contains local religious and community information – contact Zoe Barratt 737171

Hessay Methodist chapel is available for hire – contact Kathryn Wright 738498

Mobile library calls in Main Street Hessay alternate Thursdays 1.15 - 1.45pm (14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of May, then fortnightly)

Local police – Acomb Police Station, telephone 101. PC Nigel Colley is our primary contact.

A Mobile police station calls in the village 11.50 – 12.05 May 23<sup>rd</sup>, June 20<sup>th</sup>, July 18<sup>th</sup>, August 16<sup>th</sup>, September 20<sup>th</sup>, October 11<sup>th</sup>, November 24<sup>th</sup>, December 20<sup>th</sup>.

Mark Barratt