

Sutton under Whitestonecliffe Parish Council

Newsletter August 2019

Dear Resident of Sutton under Whitestonecliffe, please read this!

Diary dates

2019

September 9 – 13 Monday to Friday Sutton Bank Closure

- The A170 will be shut for work by Highways on the Bank. Please take your annual chance to get essential work done adjacent to the highway. HGVs and agricultural vehicles are forced into the centre when they can't see. If your hedge or tree is overhanging the road it causes the drivers of these types of vehicles to encroach on the other carriageway to protect their mirrors, which are hugely expensive. Other road users are then at risk. Please also see The A170 below.

October 26 Saturday 3.00pm CPR (CALL PUSH RESCUE) Introduction and Refresher Course

including use of the defibrillator. Sutton Village Hall

- We would like to know that at least one member of your family has had instruction in basic CPR and in the use of the defibrillator. Been before? Come and revise. Children are most welcome. Please let us know on 01845 597761 by 23rd October if you'd like to come.
- **THANK YOU** – to the anonymous, generous donor of a set of defibrillator pads. Some new pads from an unknown donor appeared in the defibrillator. The Parish Council formally thanks the donor and will do so personally if anyone can shed light on who it was!

December 15 Sunday 4.30pm Christmas Tree by the crabmill

- Carol Singing with the Royal British Legion Band

2020

March. Day and time to follow Community Resilience Plan Table Top Exercise

- An emergency plan, now called a Resilience Plan, was completed by the former Parish Council, advised and helped by North Yorkshire County Council officers. We are planning for a useful "table-top" session with NYCC input, with scenarios to set up discussion.

Parish matters

Co-option. Sutton under Whitestonecliffe Parish Council needs four more councillors

- Your new Parish Council has lots of plans, but they will severely tax our capabilities. We have seven seats but only three are filled. If one councillor can't make a meeting, the Parish Council doesn't exist and can't operate. A cancelled meeting compromises the regular and valuable attendance of our County Councillor, our District Councillor and our PCSO. Basically, three councillors can't do what seven can. We really need four more people. We don't know what your skills are yet, but we can use them. Your payback is knowing what's going on and publicly working for the wellbeing of all of us.
- Personal circumstances make volunteering impossible for some. That is completely understood and accepted. We don't want to put extra pressure on you.
- We also know well what many of you have contributed to local government in the past. It is not forgotten. We say thank you very much for the service. The commitment of generations of people such as you has laid the foundations for the stable governance we enjoy today.

Chairman. Councillor Alison Pollard.

Vice Chairman. Councillor Christopher Worley.

Clerk. Iris de Wet. clerk@suttonunderwhitestonecliffeparishcouncil.gov.uk 01845 522401

Website: www.suttonunderwhitestonecliffeparishcouncil.gov.uk

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- Change at many levels of government is affecting first-tier councils. It may be that this model no longer serves small communities like ours. If so, we must contemplate change. But for now, we hope we may locally find a way through. We want to be sure that no parishioners rule themselves out of serving, from a notion that they don't have the right skillset. Check the website or talk to one of us about what we have been doing, but even in this letter we mention the TMG, the A170, our defibrillator, CPR, our Community Resilience Plan, information from HDC, NYCC and NYP, our Christmas carols round the tree. Parish Councils are a team effort with mixed skills.
- If you're interested in local affairs, if you have opinions about what's needed and the best way to achieve it, please ring or email the Clerk and tell her so. If you can do it soon, and certainly before 5 September, we can formally co-opt at the next scheduled meeting which is Monday 9 September.

The A 170

- We had a police report at our last meeting concerning a sheep killed by "vehicles" on the A170. Please note that if you see loose sheep in danger from traffic on the road, you can call Trading Standards at NYCC. Give them information about the location and they will investigate. Even if you can't call straight away, please inform them as they are responsible for animal health and welfare. Email - tsanimal.health@northyorks.gov.uk or call 01609 780780
- During the week of closure of Sutton Bank 9 - 13 September, we are expecting Highways to install VMS (aka Vehicle Management Signs) to alleviate some problems on the Bank. Sensors (like those you see on the road surface approaching some traffic lights) on the carriageway of the A170 will indirectly trigger illuminated signs on roads leading to the White Mare Roundabout in Thirsk. It is hoped vehicles intending to ascend the Bank via the A170 will use advance warnings of disruption to re-route. The Parish Council has committed £1,000 to the overall cost of approximately £75,000. It is hoped that delays may be reduced by the new signage.
- The Traffic Management Committee has worked since 2013 seeking solutions to the repeated disruption of traffic flow by HGVs whose drivers meet unexpected problems at the I in 4 slopes and the hairpin, causing obstruction and delays with consequences for our parishioners and other road users. We have fed information into the consultations involving many different bodies. The Traffic Management Group is a committee of the Parish Council. We are proud of the work. It is a good example of what can be done with enough committed people taking turns to take part. See the minutes of TMG meetings on the Parish Council website for the detail. The Bank is not solved yet - for many reasons, but finance is one of them. The Parish Council can continue a watching brief. We are still gathering data – so far this year, HGV incidents on the Bank reported to the Parish Council plus callouts reported by North Yorkshire Police total 44. Many more are likely to have been unreported. Email - alipollard@btopenworld.com or 01845 597761
- You will have seen the VAS 30 mph sign in place again facing eastbound traffic. There have also been police speed check motorbikes which have resulted in drivers taking speed awareness courses.

AND IN OTHER NEWS

- There is soon to be a charging point for electric cars in Thirsk Market Place with more planned.
- Plans are being considered for a Crematorium in the Hambleton Area.

And finally – please ring the Clerk – number below – if you would like to join the Parish Council. Thank you.

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