

Winterton Town Council Newsletter

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Winter 2019

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www.wintertoncouncil.co.uk



Seasons Greetings



As the countdown to Christmas begins, we hope you were all able to join us for our annual Christmas Lights Switch On Event and Christmas Fayre on 29th November 2019. We would love to hear your feedback and thoughts on the event, what you enjoyed the most and if you have any ideas how we can improve for next year?

Our next event is on Christmas Eve. We invite you to join us in the Market Place from 6.30pm to sing carols around the tree. This event really gets you in the spirit of Christmas by bringing families and community together.

Please note there will be a road closure for in place along Churchside and in the Market Place for all vehicles during this event.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all our residents a Very Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year.



Plastic Promise

Almost half a million Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, rangers and volunteers across the UK are coming together to tackle plastic pollution. This is the biggest ever girl led campaign where the groups are calling on the nation to make a #PlasticPromise

An estimated 2.5 billion disposable coffee cups are thrown away in the UK every year. That's almost 5,000 a minute, or 7 million per day. Around 15 million plastic bottles are littered, land-filled or incinerated every day.

In response, the girl groups are joining forces and asking their friends, family, politicians and the public to join them and make a #PlasticPromise, committing to a simple but meaningful lifestyle change to help reduce single-use plastic.

Here at Winterton Town Council we are pleased to support any initiative that ensures a better and brighter future for firstly our community and secondly our planet. Therefore, we have approached the local girl groups and over the next few months will be working closely with them to come up with some ideas that can be easily implemented to tackle single use plastic. Sometimes small changes can make big differences. We would love to hear from you if you have any ideas.



So
there will
be a
Tomorrow

Mayor's Report

For many years there hasn't been an election for the election of Town Councillors and much of that time the Council struggled to get 18 people to form a council, therefore cutting the number of councillors was an obvious solution and one advocated by Ernicca, the legal adviser to the council. However North Lincolnshire Council's decision to slash the number by half was a somewhat Draconian solution. Winterton has never had less than 12 members on it's council even when the population was half the size it is now. The reduction of councillors also coincided with the main political parties putting up their own candidates for the Town Council. Up to 8 years ago Winterton Town Council always had at least one Local Authority member sitting on the Town Council but they did so under their own name.

The new council quickly settled in and one of the first acts was to change the time and date of the meeting from the third Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm to the second Tuesday at 6 o'clock for a trial period of 6 months when the situation will be revisited. However this has already caused difficulties for working councillors. Former Mayor Vicky Mumby unfortunately resigned from the Council, she was an outstanding mayor and will be sorely missed. Two candidates came forward to replace Vicky and Mrs Amanda Bazley was co-opted. Otherwise the Council has carried on as normal, a clerical assistant being appointed in September to help with the Clerk's workload and councillors are helping out with a number of tasks.

We continue to monitor all planning applications but must adhere to planning rules if we are to object to any application. This will be easier once we have adopted a Neighbourhood Plan. Please contact myself or Cllr Elaine Marper if you have a few minutes a month to spare to help with this project.

The North Street/Cemetery Road development of 135 properties will soon be started, however the Council objected to a further 66 houses behind the community pavilion on North Street.

The Panda play playground at the Old School Hall has been extended to allow more outdoor activities for the children. Whilst the Community Pavilion is going from strength to strength under the Town Council's management. On the 17th November the Civic Service was held at All Saints Church and the Federated Junior and Infant School choir as well as the Ukelele Band were in attendance. The Council is working with BBC radio Humberside with their Helping Hands project based on the Hart Lane area. Christmas market organisation is well underway and the event will take place at All Saints Church on the 29th of November with the Christmas light switch on taking place at 6 o'clock that evening. The Town Christmas Carol singing will again be on Market Hill around the Christmas Tree at 6 .30pm on Christmas Eve.

The Council has been pushing North Lincs Council to alleviate some of the problems caused by the Age UK situation and the effect it has had upon some members of our community. Cllr Ralph Ogg has been working hard on this and assures me that the Age UK Offices and the bus are now based in Scunthorpe. The Local Authority have contacted all drivers and offered a short induction course so that the mini-bus is still available for use for anyone wishing to use it.

Winterton Town Council will continue to work for the town and endeavour to make Winterton a safe and attractive place to live, all the councillors appreciate that there are some problems in the town but on balance the positive aspects far outweigh the negatives.

Community Speed Watch

Community Speed Watch is a national initiative where members of the local community join together, with the support of the Police to monitor speeds of vehicles using speed detection devices.

Humberside Police are part of the initiative and are keen to encourage all rural communities to get involved.

How does it work? The scheme must first be adopted by the Town or Parish Council. Residents, who are interested in taking part, receive training from trained officers as well as online training. The scheme requires a minimum of 6 volunteers to make the scheme viable and allow volunteers to work in groups. Each volunteer would be required to commit to a minimum of 2 hours per month.

The aim of the scheme is to educate drivers to reduce their speeds. Drivers caught doing over the speed limit, are sent letters from Humberside Police warning them of the dangers of speeding.

COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH continued..

And the persistent offenders will be dealt with through enforcement.

The benefits of the scheme include:

- Improvement in the quality of life for local residents
- Reduction of vehicle speeds to the speed limits
- An Increases public awareness
- Whilst improving safety on our roads

Monitoring is only carried out on roads within a 30 or 40mph speed limit and only on a road where a speed survey has been carried out in the last 5 years.

For more information, please contact the Clerk on 488085 or email clerk@wintertoncouncil.co.uk

Please see below an article kindly written by Councillor Keyes of Appleby on their experience of putting together a Neighbourhood Plan and the benefits to the community. We are looking to hold our first meeting at some point in January. If you feel this is something you would like to get involved with, please get in touch.

Why a Neighbourhood Plan

Appleby already had a Village Design Statement, but it was apparent that it had very little influence over how planning applications were determined. It was suggested to us that a Neighbourhood Plan could give us that influence.

Our Parish Council started out by asking for volunteers to form a Neighbourhood Plan Group. From that a group of 8/10 people stepped forward, just two of which were Parish Councillors. Only one volunteer, knew anything about Neighbourhood Planning. The Group Lead was not a Councillor.

Throughout the process we engaged with residents and businesses within the Parish to ask how they wanted the Parish to develop over the next 13/15 years. Our progress was fed back to Parish Council on a regular basis to our Parish Council to keep it updated. From the information gathered a Planning Consultant formulated the Plan in Planning language. This was put to our residents for approval.

So – our Plan was developed by residents , for our Parish Council to use, from information gathered from our residents and local businesses.

Our Plan and data collected can be found on our website at http://www.applebypc.org.uk/Neighbourhood_Plan_25388.aspx

Our Plan has been adopted by North Lincolnshire Council which means that it **must** be taken into consideration when determining Planning Applications by NLC Planners.

Since the early part of the year NLC Planners and our Parish Council have referred to our Plan on a number of occasions. For those that have been determined one has been refused and the rest approved and there has been agreement between the Planners and our Parish Council on each occasion.

The way our Parish Council has worked on Planning Applications now is always with reference to our Neighbourhood Plan policies. There are no personal judgments made by our Councillors, just a reference to the Policies to determine whether an application fits with our Plan. Our approach as a Council is thorough, but always using the same method. We are consistent.

An independent Planning Inspector verified and approved our Plan. i.e. ensured that it met with National Planning Policy Framework. It was very satisfying to know that an independent body approved the work we had done. The Inspector was very helpful regarding how correct wording could improve our Plan.

Although there must be a presumption in favor of development we feel that we can determine the type of development and how it fits within our Parish, specifically within our Conservation Area.

-The Design Principles within our Plan are a reflection of our original Village Design Statement, so that has not been lost.

-We have learned a lot about Planning decision making.

-We have a better working relationship with Planners through our improved understanding and

-Without a Plan you have virtually no influence. With a Plan you will have some influence.

-Our expenses were met by a grant. It cost our Parish Council virtually nothing.

Contact Us

Councillors

Mayor

Cllr Don Johnson 01724 732698

Deputy Mayor

Cllr Marilynne Harrison 01724 733358

Cllr Bob Bridge 01724 733038

Cllr Norma King 07836 734116

Cllr Elaine Marper 07557 566210

Cllr Paul McCartan 01724 379485

Cllr Ralph Ogg 01724 732216

Cllr Helen Rowson 01724 720701

Cllr Amanda Bazley 07549 877025

Clerk Lisa Newstead 01724 488085

Unflushables

Anglian Water have recently been in Winterton to deal with a blockage in the sewer near Holmes Lane. Under further investigation it was discovered that the blockage was caused by cooking fat and sanitary products. Clearing the drain and rectifying the sewer cost in excess of £80,000.

The sewers in Winterton run on a gravity and not a pump system, therefore are not able to clear blockages of fat bergs caused by any type of fat/oil solidifying with sanitary items and wipes.

We are asking for your assistance, please ensure these items are disposed off in your general waste bin and not down the drain or toilet.

Accessibility Map

If you are a mobility scooter or wheel chair user we are asking for your help!

We are looking to put together a map of the local area that will show the easily accessible routes for people who rely on their wheels to get about. Whilst the aid of scooters helps people to stay independent unfortunately there are hazards that can cause a hindrance, for example, no dropped kerbs and narrow streets.

The aim is to show mobility scooter safe routes linking local destination such as the doctors and shops. This will not only benefit local residents it will be especially helpful for anyone new to the area. If you have experienced any problem whilst traveling by mobility scooter please get in touch with us at the council office or email Asstclerk@wintertoncouncil.co.uk

Town Council Meetings

Forthcoming dates

Tuesday 10th December 2019

Tuesday 14th January 2020

Tuesday 11th February 2020

The Town Council now meets in the Old School Hall commencing at 6.00pm. These meetings are open to the public. Local residents can speak but need to arrange this in advance with the Mayor or Town Clerk. Committee meetings are also occasionally held and are advertised on the Council Notice Boards and the Winterton Town Council Website.

Agendas for future meetings and minutes of past meetings can be found on the Town Council Website at www.wintertoncouncil.co.uk