

WHITLEY ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

Currently there are no vacant plots, but if you would like to go on the waiting list please contact the secretary whitleyallotment@outlook.com

AROUND THE VILLAGE

We know many of you use the footpaths in our area, if you see any antisocial activity you can report it to NYCC via their website www.northyorks.gov.uk/rights-way-maintenance.

HEATING FUEL CO-OPERATIVE

The Oil Cooperative organises a group order for anyone in Whitley and the surrounding communities every 2 months. If you're interested, email whitleyoilcooperative@btinternet.com or ring 01977 662917 for more information. And if you have LPG, often the best deals are by being part of a group on your estate or in the village.

CHURCH SERVICES

Our two local churches are St Edmunds in Kellington and Eggborough Methodist who both hold regular services.

www.kellingtonwithwhitley.org.uk
eggmethodist@gmail.com

SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow our Facebook or Nextdoor page [WhitleyCommunity](https://www.facebook.com/WhitleyCommunity). For local news from the PC, residents, and other community updates and information join our

[WhitleyCommunityGroup](https://www.facebook.com/WhitleyCommunityGroup).

[WhitleyNeighbourhoodWatch](https://www.facebook.com/WhitleyNeighbourhoodWatch) is also one to follow about incidents in our area.

Parish Council Meetings for the Year

2022 July 19th September 20th October 18th November 15th

2023 January 17th February 21st March 21st April 18th May 16th

Parish Council Chair: Kath Walton KTWalton.wpc@outlook.com 01977 662720

Parish Council Clerk: John Hunter clerk4whitleypc@gmail.com 01977 277503

All parish councillors are Whitley residents and take local issues very seriously.

Our **SELBY DISTRICT** and **NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR** is
John McCartney 01977 662558
jmccartney@selby.gov.uk
cllr.john.mccartney@northyorks.gov.uk



SUMMER 2022

NEWSLETTER

www.whitleycommunity.co.uk



Whitley Community

PUBLIC SPACES

Your parish council maintains some of the verges around the village. We concentrate on those areas alongside the pavements and we would like to thank those residents who look after areas near their homes. Hedges adjacent to the verge areas are normally the responsibility of the landowner, and you can report problems to NYCC through their website. Our open spaces in the main park next to Whitley Farm Close, the common land off Gravel Hill Lane and the smaller park/play area in Blackthorn Close have not been maintained as well as we would like, primarily due to the pandemic restrictions. Hopefully we will be able to improve things over the next year. Your local council tax contributes to our expenditure for these areas.

****our audited finances are published annually on the website***

M62 PEDESTRIAN UNDERPASS

We took the decision to try to improve the condition of the two underpasses this year. Seriously flaking paint, graffiti, poor lighting and overgrown vegetation have made this a sad and neglected site for a number of years. We were particularly concerned for the children who have to use this to walk to school every day. Responsibility for this lies with a number of agencies, Highways England, North Yorkshire CC & Selby DC, though getting anything done in today's economic climate is always a challenge. In the end, our local county councillor John McCartney sourced funding from Selby, and the parish council was able to employ a local decorator to repaint both sites. Undergrowth was cut back and new lighting improved. Graffiti will never be absent from public spaces, but we have given the underpasses a super new look!

****do let us know if the graffiti artists return!***

ALL SAINTS CHURCH & ROSSLYN

These two notable Whitley buildings on the A19 between the pub and Learning Lane have been of considerable interest to residents for some time. They both now stand empty awaiting either demolition or a new lease of life. The church has been put up for sale, and Rosslyn will almost certainly be redeveloped for housing. The parish council monitors all planning applications in the village and forwards comments to the district council as appropriate.

****all residents are able to comment on planning applications in their area.***

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

Speeding continues to be of concern as it has for many years. You will have seen the new pedestrian crossing at the south of the village, and we know some residents would have liked to see it elsewhere, unfortunately we have to follow advice from NYCC Highways. The road markings, our speed sign, the police camera van patrols all help a little but we know many motorists still ignore the 30mph speed limit. You can raise your concerns directly to the senior officer responsible for road policing elliott.foskett@northyorkshire.police.uk.

****we publish the speed data from our VAS sign on our social media pages***

MEET YOUR NEW PARISH COUNCIL!

The 2022 intake is chair Kath Walton, vice chair John White, and councillors Frank Blackburn, Sarah Cole, Simon Humphrey and Tim Woodhead. Our clerk continues to be John Hunter. If you take an interest in parish matters, you might notice that the new parish council looks a lot like the previous one! Councillors are elected by their community, and the election took place this year on May 5th. However, the number of local people who applied was one less than the number of places available, so all six councillors were automatically returned to office. Good news though! Any Whitley resident can still apply to join as a co-opted councillor.

****contact our clerk if you are interested***

CHAIR'S ANNUAL REPORT

Having taken over the role as chair to the council, my work has been made so much easier thanks to the support of all my fellow councillors. I would also like to express my gratitude for all the efforts of my predecessor Simon Humphrey who has served as chair to this parish for more years than he would care to remember. It is thanks to his diligent management of the affairs of the parish that I have been able to take over the position in the knowledge that parish affairs and resources are in a sound and stable order.

As we emerged from the restrictions imposed by the pandemic, the parish council resumed its open public meetings in the usual venue at Whitley and Eggborough Primary School.

The earlier parish meetings were largely dominated by the legal campaign against the decision of North Yorkshire Planning Committee to grant approval to the Gale Common Ash Extraction proposal. Legal counsel was duly consulted who presented persuasive arguments in the merits of mounting an appeal by Judicial Review and the parish council began a campaign in partnership with our neighbouring councils to raise funds in support of the costs to bring the case to the High Court. Regrettably, following the case hearing at the Leeds High Court in December 2021, the matter was decided in favour of North Yorkshire Council. Notwithstanding the disappointing result, the parish council considered that it was important to take a stand against North Yorkshire Council's approach to this decision, and to highlight the deficiencies and failures of the present planning system. A planning system that must be put under scrutiny as we move to a much more centralised unitary authority. Despite this, our lawyers still think there are strong grounds to appeal and if so, there will be no further costs to us.

The state of the repair of the M62 pedestrian underpass between Whitley and Eggborough received attention. Graffiti on the walls, the poor state of the lighting and the condition of the surrounding vegetation were all issues that the parish addressed.

The volume, and particularly the speed, of traffic is an ever-present concern to all the village. Road safety for pedestrians has been improved with the installation of a pedestrian refuge crossing at the southern end of the A19. Data on vehicle movement throughout the whole length of Doncaster Road extracted from the recently installed Vehicle Activate Sign is providing valuable evidence of the speeding issues faced by Whitley residents. Evidence that the parish can use to lobby our newly elected Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for introduction of further traffic calming measures.

Kathleen Walton

COVER PHOTO

Our cover image shows the planters on the A19 receiving some new care and attention. Tunstall Healthcare UK, in conjunction with students at the Doncaster Deaf Trust, have been busy growing these beautiful plants which have been used to brighten the planters.

The Queen's Jubilee was celebrated here with events at the George & Dragon, including the lighting of our own beacon, and the planting of two cherry trees in the Daffodil Park.