

VILLAGE NEWS

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Play Park Footbridge, completed end July '23



This is a vital link between the two play areas and minimises the use of the public highway. The original bridge was constructed in 1992 by two village residents with financial support from the Steam Gathering. The original cost was circa £150. How things have moved on. The new bridge has cost around £11,500 and will last at least as long as the old one. Projects like this are only able to be completed with financial support through grants and donations. The Parish Council extends its sincere thanks to the following organisations who contributed towards the cost:

Richmondshire District Council

Hunton Steam Gathering

Broadacres Housing

Jack Brunton Trust

Pantomime Group

Financial support is just one of the factors; what has also helped is the work of a number of individuals who oversaw the bridge installation. **In particular, our thanks go to Nick Robinson, Ian Tunstall and Paul Durrant and his team from the company he works for, AECOM.** The guys from AECOM gave up their time from work on a 'Social Value Day' and did the main assembly. Their help and support was greatly appreciated.

Village Work Day

21st October 2023 @ 10.00am. Meet on the Village Green.

Hunton is a great place to live and has a well tended feel about it. To help keep it that way, some general maintenance works need to be completed. So its time to get the shears and loppers out of the shed and come along and support the workday. The more the merrier and the sooner we can get finished. **Main tasks will be to clear along the beckside between Captain's bridge and the bridge across the ford** but other tasks will include the painting of the bus shelter. Please come along and support.

Village Maintenance

As part on ongoing maintenance and improvements, the nets on the goal posts have recently been replaced.

Approval has been granted for the installation of a dog waste bin along the Bedale Road which has become a popular route for dog walkers and we would hope to have this installed by the end of November.

The benefits of having a defibrillator installed has been demonstrated by a number of recent incidents where the unit has been called upon. The unit is registered with the

emergency services so that in the event of use the PC is notified immediately so that new pads can be installed. Checks are carried out every three months to ensure the unit is in full working order. A new battery and pads have just been installed and there are also a set of paediatric pads available. **In the event of an emergency, the ambulance service will give out details of the code to open the cabinet. This is critical so that the use can be properly monitored and pads replaced.**

Reduction in Speed to 20mph

The Parish Council looked at having the speed limit in the village reduced from 30 to 20mph, in 2022.

There were many reasons that made it difficult to take this forward, including cost.

However, we have decided to approach North Yorkshire Council again to see if they will consider reducing the limit in Hunton to 20mph instead of 30mph.

Reasons for pursuing this again are:

- 1 We have many children at the school, who have lessons on the green areas and in the hall.
- 2 Children who play in the park and are out and about on their bikes, giving them much independence.
- 3 The village also has many horse riders, using the roads.
- 4 People walking around the area, often on the road as we don't have footpaths on all the roads around the village.
- 5 From doing a poll, the majority of people in the village would prefer the reduction to 20 mph from 30 mph.

Parish Council Members

The Parish Council plays a key role in village life, so we do need to hear from any individual who would like to join the PC in the future. Elections take place next year, when existing Councillors will decide whether to retire. There are 5 council positions; at least 3 posts must be filled at election for the council to be quorate. **If you are interested or would like more info please contact a member of the PC or come to a meeting. We'd very much like to hear from you.**

Proposed development of 15 residential dwellings, Wild Hill Lane

North Yorkshire Council Planning Committee will meet at 10.00am on Thursday 12th Oct. at the Civic Centre, Stonecross, Northallerton DL6 2UU.

The planning dept. recommendation is to approve this development. In accordance with NYC guidance, one objector and one member of the Parish Council will be called to speak. There were a number of formal objections to this development **This is a public meeting.** You may attend as an observer and numbers attending will be noted for the record.

To contact a member of the Parish Council or clerk, please go to huntonpc.org 'Parish Council' - Council Members, or use the 'Contact' tab on the Home Page.

Asian hornets - An invasive species turbo charged by climate change

64 nests in UK, including 2 in Yarm this year!

How can you help? Go to nationalbeeunit.com for rolling updates on nest locations. Download the phone app (Asian Hornet Watch) to record and report possible sightings. **Never go near a suspected nest.**

Oliver with a Twist.

Panto, January 2024

25th 26th Evening.

Matinee and evening performances 27th Jan.

We need someone to choreograph the children's dance performances, plus adults to supervise the children, throughout the evening and matinee performances. We thank you in advance

Contact: jdownes67@btinternet.com

Countrymans Inn

Now serving food, incl. pizzas, 6 days a week.

Kitchen closed Tuesday.

Contact details: 01677 451554 Countrymansinn.co.uk
huntonpub.co@outlook.com

Wildlife areas

Phases 1 & 2, Captain's Bridge and East park under the oak tree: we have rotavated Phase 1, 7th/8th October, and will sow annuals in Phase 1, and plant shade loving indigenous plants and bulbs in Phase 2.

The orchard: this will be cleared and resown when the seeds have dropped, later this month. Fruit trees will be pruned this autumn. This area is a spoil heap with poor dry soil, so we have been manuring it, to improve water retention and to feed the trees. We hope to achieve a good display of colour next season in the face of climate challenges.

The areas support wildlife, ground feeding birds, seed eaters, frogs and toads. Beck margins have created cover for ducks, little egrets, heron. Many species of pollinators have been spotted. **Jan Wylie & Wendy Knight.**



CORONATION TREE : GSC Grays have kindly agreed to fund a tree for us to plant to commemorate the coronation of King Charles III. Originally this was going to be planted close to the War Memorial, but we have been unable to find a suitable site, so the Parish Council have suggested a site on the village play area; they will also provide a second tree. The trees will replace a dying conifer which will be removed in due course.

BULB PLANTING We are having a big push on bulb planting this autumn. Thank you to all who have donated bulbs....over 1200, and to those who have helped with the planting so far.

YORKSHIRE IN BLOOM RESULT: We entered the category called "It's Your Neighbourhood" which is aimed at small groups and those just starting out. We had a visit from a judge in late July and have just had our feedback..... we were awarded the top level "OUTSTANDING"

"Hunton is a small village in a rural area. There is a very active In Bloom team that works alongside many other community groups in the village. We met the team in the excellent multipurpose village hall. There is a steering group of 6 who have responsibility for certain areas in the village. They have at least a further 30 supporters who join them. The whole village was spotlessly clean. The areas this team are working on have been completed with a lot of consideration for wildlife and bio diversity. Planting schemes have been designed to make the best use of the natural environment. Around the well maintained bus shelter two beds have been put in place containing wildflowers. A further two areas by the wall of the village hall have been created using oak and planted with perennials. The team sought advice from a well-known lavender garden for the lavenders planted either side of the footpath. The War Memorial is a work in progress, planting has commenced around the outside of this space in keeping with its location. The Pinfold is a lovely area, appropriately planted and tended. There are a number of sedum green roofs on entry signs and in the Pinfold. The playing fields, playground facilities and orchard area have been improved to a high standard. The work of Hunton in Bloom is actively supported by the town council. This team can only go from strength to strength. "

Thank you to everyone who has supported us this year. Next year we will enter the small village category of Yorkshire in Bloom which will be judged in July. We will share our plans about further developments with you and will need plenty of help and support to help us step up into this category. Is there an area of the village you'd like to improve and care for? Can you help us raise funds or simply answer a call to come and help for an hour or so?

FUNDRAISING: We have got a table at the Village Hall Craft Fair on Saturday 18th November from 10am to 3pm. We plan to sell garden/nature based items. If anyone would like to make or donate anything for us to sell we would be very grateful. Speak to Claire, Janet, Maria or Linda or email us at huntoninbloom@gmail.com.

Summer 2024....we hope to organise an Open Gardens event together with the Village Hall Committee. We are hoping that there are plenty of you who would like to show off your gardens and get some inspiration and ideas from others. The provisional dates are Sunday 23rd or Sunday 30th June, plenty of time to get your garden into shape. To express an interest please contact Claire Seaborne (cnseaborne@gmail.com)