

District Councillor's Report

Penyghent Ward



January 2023

Councillor Robert Ogden





Ward Member Grant Scheme

The Ward Member Grants is a scheme run by Craven District Council that enables councillors to dish out small grants to local community groups. I think it is an excellent opportunity to help those small groups that make a real difference in Penyghent. The scheme for 2022/23 is open, and it will be the final opportunity to gain grants from Craven District Council before it is abolished. I strongly encourage you or your local community group to apply for funding! To find out more, and access the application form, visit the CDC website using the following link:

<https://www.cravencdc.gov.uk/community-living/grants-community-projects/craven-district-council-ward-member-grants/>

The deadline for applications is 1st February 2023.

Unfortunately, I have not yet received a single application. Your January parish council meeting is the last one where you will have the opportunity to meet and discuss the funding of any projects within your parish. I urge you not to leave this to the last minute!

£1000 of funding remains available.

Legacy Subcommittee

The Legacy Sub-Committee has been established for Craven District Council's final year to formally recognise projects, organisations, teams, voluntary groups and individuals who have provided an exemplary service to the District.



Applications closed on Friday 6th January. I hope to see a strong showing for North Craven, and look forward to sharing the results of this consultation in the coming weeks.

Proposed sale of a registered Asset of Community Value in Horton-in-Ribblesdale

Craven District Council received notice in 2022 of the intended disposal by North Yorkshire County Council of the Former Horton in Ribblesdale Primary School Playing Field. The Former Horton in Ribblesdale Primary School Playing Field is a Listed Asset of Community Value which means that eligible community interest groups with a local connection may register a non-binding expression of interest to make a bid for the Asset.

The period where interest may be expressed on the site ending on Monday 12th December 2022. No expressions of interest to bid for the former primary school site were made. This now allows the property to be sold freely. The Community Asset Register has been updated accordingly.

<https://www.cravencd.gov.uk/community-living/localism-community-rights/community-right-to-bid/register-of-assets-of-community-value-in-craven/>

Lord's Close development - Giggleswick

I have received requests from residents of Penyghent Ward for more information relating to the Lord's Close development in Giggleswick after it has cleared the final planning hurdles and been approved. Interest was particularly related to the affordable housing provision on the site. I contacted the developer for further information. Affordable housing for local people is one of my key concerns, and I am eager for this provision to be used. Below is the key information from the reply received in December:

“A number of local residents have been in touch with us too, we’re anticipating high demand. Please can you direct people to sales@newetthomes.co.uk – this is the sister company to Wellesley Homes and they will be managing enquiries. The affordable housing provision on the site will be paired with a registered provider and they will manage the release of these houses separately, I understand they have eligibility criteria including local connection to the area.”

Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy for North Yorkshire Council - Response

As Vice-Chair of the Licensing Committee, in conjunction with the Chairman and officers, we have recently drafted a response to the Licensing Policy consultation put out by the new North Yorkshire Council. In our view, the new policy is not ambitious enough, and falls far below the standards of policy currently in operation in the district of Craven.

The following areas were highlighted in our submission:

- Taxi cameras
- Penalty point scheme
- Daily inspection sheets
- Vehicle card payment machines
- English proficiency
- Vehicle age
- Vehicle branding/advertisement
- Accident reporting
- Smoking
- Driver conduct
- Private hire operators

The policy that will come into effect in May will be legally sound and operable. However, I believe that licensing is an obvious area for adopting the best practice from district councils, and setting clear ambitions for the coming years to achieve the highest of standards across the whole county. The current system scrapes the bare minimum across the line, ready for the rushed transition to a unitary authority on the 1st April 2023.

Once the full letter has been circulated among members of the Licensing Committee and Craven District Councillors, the detailed response will be attached to my February District Council Report.

Clr Robert Ogden

Penyghent Ward



If you have any queries, or would like to report an issue, please contact me using my email address:

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