

# District Councillor's Report

## Penyghent Ward

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November 2021

Councillor Robert Ogden



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# Meetings



## Yorkshire Dales National Parks Authority

As stated in last month's report, I recognise that the YDNPA is an important and influential organisation in our area, and has a significant role in planning and shaping its future. I intend to maintain regular communication with the YDNPA, in order to deliver continual results for our area from a key partner organisation. It was therefore a great pleasure to have met recently with Kate Hilditch, the area manager for the Southern Dales, of which Penyghent is a key part. This was an important and productive meeting.

One of the items that was discussed was the litter issue at Stainforth Foss. It was agreed that this is a long-term issue that has no quick fix. There is a generational problem with the littering attitudes of visitors, and this can only be improved through education. As a teacher, I do my part to educate young people in the countryside code and environmental concerns such as littering. Kate also highlighted the role the YDNP takes in, seen in action at the car park in the village of Stainforth.

I have suggested better linkage between the car park and toilet facilities and the Stainforth Foss site as a way of alleviating some of the pressure on the foss beauty spot. When I was there litter picking in July, I had to deal with multiple instances of visitors relieving themselves and leaving piles of tissues. This to me seemed bizarre when proper toilets are a mere 5-minute walk away.

Previous signage at the foss that has specifically targeted littering has been vandalised on multiple occasions, with antisocial yobbos seemingly infuriated that their selfish actions have been called out. I believe that purely directional

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signage from the foss to the car park and toilets would benefit the site by ***appropriately*** transferring ***some*** of the burden to a place where the Parish Council has placed a bin that Craven District Council then empty. At this stage, we must look to better utilise the waste infrastructure we already have

I also spoke about the Three Peaks mass events that impact Horton-in-Ribblesdale. No organisation can prevent these events from taking place on public rights of way and open access land. However, we spoke in detail about the notification scheme that YDNP operates to promote the Three Peaks Code of Conduct. This code, if followed by all, would immediately resolve many of the tensions between visitors and residents. In order to increase its current usefulness, I pointed out that the appearance of the code halfway down the Three Peaks webpage on the YDNP website limits exposure, and I have asked for it to appear at the top of that web page. This will hopefully be woven into the current website redesign that is being worked on.

Finally, I enquired about footpath maintenance that is required on the Stackhouse side of the Langcliffe locks footbridge. Unfortunately the area in question lies between the responsibility of the YDNP and North Yorkshire County Council. I have reported the field gate, just within the national park, so that a firmer footing can be sorted. Separately, I have contacted NYCC about the path between the field gate and the footbridge, which has been made very uneven through footfall erosion and flooding. I am yet to hear back.

Residents can report issues on public right of way in the Yorkshire Dales National Park to: [info@yorkshiredales.org.uk](mailto:info@yorkshiredales.org.uk)

Footpaths outside the YDNP should be emailed to [paths@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:paths@northyorks.gov.uk) using the form at: <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/rights-way-maintenance>

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# Craven District Council Press Releases

For further media information contact Craven District Council – Nick Lavigneur 01756 706315



**13<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

## **Councillors support motion for North Yorkshire Police and Fire and Crime Commissioner to stand down\***

Craven District Council members have voted in support of a motion of No Confidence in the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, Philip Allott. At a meeting of the full council on Tuesday evening, a motion was brought by Cllr Linda Brockbank that said: “In respect of the recent conduct of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, ‘this Council has no confidence in the Commissioner’.

Councillors from all parties unanimously backed the motion. The motion came ahead of a meeting of the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel on Thursday. Cllr Brockbank commented: “The murder of Sarah Everard was such a horrendous crime. We need to be able to put our trust in the police and those who are overseeing them. I brought this motion of no confidence in Mr Allott as there was clearly agreement among members of all parties that something needed to be done.”

***\*(I was present at full council and voted for this motion).***

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**21<sup>st</sup> October 2021**

## **Skipton Town Hall solar panel and insulation completed**

Skipton Town Hall is now benefitting from renewable energy and reduced heating costs after a project to install 60 solar panels was completed.

Contractors from experienced renewable energy firm Feed It Green successfully installed and commissioned an array of solar panels on the south facing concert hall roof. The panels, which are expected to save carbon emissions equivalent to planting more than 270 trees, were turned on within minutes of the final solar panel being bolted to the roof on Friday, October 15. British sourced sheep wool insulation is also being installed, which will reduce heating costs in the concert hall.

The recent £4.7m redevelopment of the Town Hall has included other low carbon measures such as more efficient lighting, fans and smart controls. Technology to monitor energy use has also been fitted and the Council will be able to display this on screens available to the public in due course. The project is part of the Council's £1.2m Zero Carbon Craven scheme – 50% of which is funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) – to cut our carbon footprint to net zero by 2030.

Cllr Carl Lis, lead member for the Environment, said: “It’s great to see another big step taken towards our Zero Carbon Craven goal. “It is important that the Council leads by example and this project shows what can be achieved to try and help slow down the climate emergency and also potentially save money in the long run. I look forward to seeing the project completed on our other buildings, especially Craven Leisure, which has the biggest carbon footprint of all our buildings.”

Further work to install insulation and energy saving technology such as solar panels will take place at the crematorium and Craven Leisure.

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# CLLr Robert Ogden

## Penyghent Ward



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

**[ROgden@cravendc.gov.uk](mailto:ROgden@cravendc.gov.uk)**