

## **KIRKBY MALHAMDALE PARISH COUNCIL : CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT**

### **Key Events & Actions between AGM 2023 (May 2023) and AGM 2024 (May 2024)**

- Malhamdale Emergency Plan maintained (and tested) with significant input continuing to be provided from Mike Harrop.
- KMPC monthly meetings maintained throughout 2023-24 period with all meetings being in-person meetings. A now standard practice is that there is no KMPC meeting held in August (Summer recess).
- Arrangements have been made for 2 of the KMPC monthly meetings to be held in Kirkby Malham Parish Hall, with the remaining meetings held in Malham village hall.
- The AGM is held annually at the beginning of that months KMPC meeting.
- Parking donations via 'milk churns' continued to generate revenue for KMPC and funds the lengthsman costs which helps with the upkeep of Kirkby Malhamdale Parish/Wards generally. Thanks to Annabelle Bradley for her help in collection, banking of donations plus provision of comparative data on donation takings. As reported in 2023 it remains a consideration for, and relevant to, the future financial position for KMPC that there has been a noticeable reduction in this revenue stream due to combined effects of lockdown meaning that people carrying little or no cash since the impact of Covid-19, and there is a potential impact on donations arising from the "cost of living" crisis that has impacted households disposable incomes, and visitor generosity, in 2023/24. This has continued to be the trend on an ongoing, current basis.
- The positive work and value provided by the 'lengthsman', Mick Parker.
- Public conveniences maintained and operated by KMPC and lengthsman.
- The "lengthsman" has now also assumed full responsibility for maintaining and cleaning the Public Toilets in the centre of Malham village which are owned by KMPC following the transfer of ownership from Craven District Council. This cost is also completely funded from revenues received by KMPC from the parking donations, the honesty box located in the public toilet building, and the Tomato Pay online donation system established by Pat Wherity, Treasurer for KMPC.
- Monthly report from our NYC County Councillor (Simon Myers) who provides useful updates in the relevant areas which is invaluable to the PC.
- Funding has also been kindly and generously provided by Cllr. Simon Myers towards the cost of installing the "gateway" at the entrance to Malham village as a further part of the Traffic Management Plan which KMPC have been gradually working on, as part of the traffic management approach adopted to try and help Malham cope with the ever increasing visitor numbers and the associated traffic issues this continues to create.
- The Malham Traffic Management Plan continue to move forward with the installation, after public consultation and scrutiny, of the road "gateway" at the entrance into Malham village in March/April 2024. This is intended to deter unnecessary through traffic entering Malham village and to also reduce the speed of vehicles driving into Malham village where there is a high density of pedestrian traffic walking through the village.
- Thanks to Area 5 Highways for their considerable assistance in the planning for and installation of this traffic "gateway".
- Financial reports provided on a monthly basis by the Treasurer, Pat Wherity.
- Support provided to (and from) the MEG who work closely and constructively with KMPC.
- Peak days strategy in place and continued to better manage the weekends/days of highest visitor numbers. Field parking capacity increased materially during past few years with help from Malham Show Committee and other field owners providing long term parking assistance.

- A very positive development during 2023/24, towards managing the considerable and unavoidable parking challenge that exists in Malham, has been the granting of permission by YDNPA Planning of an increase in (doubling of) the days per year that the “parking fields” are permitted to open. This planning application was positively supported by KMPC.
- Numerous planning applications considered, responded to and commented upon to YDNPA – Planning Department.
- Highways contacted frequently to achieve repairs, maintenance of roads and replenishment of salt/grit bins during winter months.
- Good relationship maintained between KMPC and Area 5 Highways.
- Various Village Green issues continue to be handled carefully managing costs, local concerns and planning rules.
- Dog poo initiative and special thanks to the ‘locals’ working party who operate rota to empty and maintain.
- Parking cones deployed when and where required thanks to efforts of the lengthsman; to help alleviate parking issues. Thanks to all who are involved in assisting with this.
- Interaction and input from National Trust, and specifically from Jess Darwin from the NT attendance at KMPC meetings on an ad hoc basis.
- Interactions on a regular basis with National Parks via Rob Ashford who attend PC meetings periodically and provides valuable assistance to PC.
- Local council insurance cover maintained. (Renewal date in June each year).
- Annual financial audit undertaken. Major contribution by Pat Wherity, Treasurer. The financial position of KMPC remains stable thanks to prudent running of KMPC.
- The Parish Precept has again been set at £0 for a further financial year. This reflect the largely self-sufficient basis upon which KMPC performs its function for the 4 Wards of Kirkby Malhamdale.
- Annual tree survey undertaken as part of ‘risk assessment’.
- Provision of Christmas trees for Malham and Kirkby Malham.
- Installation of Water Fountain in Malham.
- Maintenance and upkeep of 2 Minute Litter Pick Stations in Malham and Gordale.
- Thanks to Pat Wherity (and others) for taking and drafting the Minutes of the KMPC meetings throughout the year.
- During 2023/24 there have been no changes to KMPC council membership.
- Thanks to all KMPC councillors for their willing contribution of time, energy and efforts to the 4 Wards within Kirkby Malhamdale they represent, which is all undertaken on a totally voluntary basis.
- Despite communication and request for input from local police this has not been forthcoming.