

Mayors Diary - Boroughbridge Monday 16 January 2017

A rather gentle start to the New Year but an important one as the council voted on the acceptance of a new member of the council. Following informal interviews and a vote at the full council meeting Geoff Haldenby was unanimously accepted as the newest member of the council. Geoff has lived in the Town for over 30 years and joins the council with great enthusiasm.

Following the last council meeting I can now confirm that we are almost there with completing the HGV weight restriction process with North Yorkshire County Council for Boroughbridge and surrounding parishes. Once complete around April time HGV vehicles will be restricted to 7.5 ton on Wetherby road, Horsefair and over the bridge to the Milby roundabout. Roecliffe lane will also be restricted. So there should be no HGV vehicles coming through Boroughbridge unless they require access. They will still have access for fuel at Morrisons via the roundabout at Minskip

It's that time of year when people look towards the spring and summer months as well as new challenges for the year ahead. It is also when organisations try to recruit new members to their group. The Boroughbridge Community Choir is one such group. Liz Linfoot their musical director tells me that anyone wishing to join should contact her on 01904 796094 or e-mail her on liz@boroughbridgecommunitychoir.co.uk. Liz will then welcome you to join one of their rehearsal nights.

Whilst speaking to Cllr John Goss a few days ago he informed me that their group Brighter Boroughbridge are looking for more volunteers to help with various garden projects in the town. Some fresh funding has just been released and they are in need of some people power to help make Boroughbridge a brighter place. Their AGM is on February 15th 7.30pm in our Council office on Hall Square. I hope people can come along and support this group whose efforts are clearly appreciated in the town

The volunteer group now running our library (BACLA) are putting on a Murder Mystery event called Bannocks and Blood. This has been written by Ann Cleeves of "Vera" and "Shetland" fame, and as they say "as seen on TV". The date for your diary is Friday 3rd February at 7.30. Tickets will be on sale at the library for £4.00

Boroughbridge Live are also trying hard to brighten up dreary February by organising a quiz night in the Coronation Hall on Saturday 18th of February. Tickets are £5.00 including food and can be obtained from Baileys in Horsefair. The quiz starts at 8pm. So plenty of things happening just keep an eye out for those posters for more information.

On Sunday Pauline and I attended the Plough Service in Ripon Cathedral. This was a lovely service that reminded us all of our rurality and the importance of the farming community putting food on our tables. To do this they rely on one of the most ancient implements known to man and that is the plough. Although it has come a long way from the piece of flint with a crude wood handle first dragged by humans, oxen and horses to the massive steel ploughs we see today pulled by huge tractors sometimes with satellite navigation.