

Mayors Diary Boroughbridge Sept 18th

A busy couple of weeks find me with little time to write this column so hope I meet the deadline at the news desk. On Thursday of last week, we held our quarterly Joint Parishes meeting where once again the main issues were focused around surrounding development plans. One thing we all had in common was solidarity in our objections to the over development of our community, the motorways services area and the sugar beet factory. I was able to report that the council are now in a position where we can receive quotes to remove the "blot on the landscape" the Water Rats Club. I was also able to bring the group up to date with the latest news from Yorkshire Waters with regards to their plans to improve the waste water situation. This will involve a major capital investment by the company to be able to separate the top drainage water from the waste water during heavy rain fall. It was feared however that this would not alleviate the issues experienced recently in Langthorpe and further representation was to be made. I also reported on the latest situation with the HGV restrictions through the town. The task force to see these restrictions through will meet at the end of September. However, I was disappointed to hear from Lorry Watch who are a part of Trading Standards that there was little or no support they could offer apart from volunteers phoning in the registration numbers of offending vehicles to allow them to send a letter to the company. And they can only act on UK registered vehicles. All will be discussed at the meeting of the task force. The next meeting will be in December when we shall be inviting a representative from Yorkshire Water to attend and explain their position.

Following a recent public meeting with Northern Sugar in Marton-Cum-Grafton with so many questions unanswered, plus the site will impact on Boroughbridge, another public meeting has been arranged in Boroughbridge. Mark Beardwood has agreed to give a further presentation on the 27th of September at Boroughbridge Primary School starting at 7pm. I hope as many people as possible can attend. Once again, your chance to have your say instead of using social media chatters.

On a lighter note, it's always nice to report success stories. Following Brighter Boroughbridge and Boroughbridge lives very successful secret gardens event they were able to present Boroughbridge High school with a cheque for £100. High School pupils work hard with the Brighter Boroughbridge team in helping them achieve another Silver Gilt award for their efforts.



The presentation of £100 from Brighter Boroughbridge & Boroughbridge Live's Secret Garden event to Teresa Pridmore, Work Skills teacher at Boroughbridge High School.

Behind the pupils who have helped Brighter Boroughbridge garden at Chatsworth Grove, is Head Teacher Kathryn Thompson, Teresa Pridmore, Hazel Goss (Brighter Boroughbridge) and Geoff Hustwit (Boroughbridge Live).

On Sunday, Pauline and I represented Boroughbridge at the Thanksgiving Service to commemorate the Battle of Britain in the Spa Gardens in Ripon. Thankfully the weather stayed kind and did not rain as I laid a wreath on behalf of the town. After the ceremony RAF Leeming were given the freedom of the city in a very impressive march past.

Finally, please keep those nominations coming in for my community awards. There are lots of people out there who work tirelessly to help our wider community. Its time they received some recognition with your help.