

Boroughbridge digest Cllr Peter Phillips May 2019

It's the time of year when Boroughbridge begins to look its best, and we should celebrate the fact we live in such a magnificent and safe town, with a vibrant town centre.

Over the past few months the council have been working hard on a few projects one of which is making sure that our residents and visitors can go about their business feeling safe. Our new state of the art CCTV camera system is now fully functional with 15 cameras covering all the town centre, covering more than the old cameras. Many thanks to System Vision LTD of Holmfirth for working with us on this project. The cameras give clear digital



images should they be required. The system is not monitored but every camera is recorded and kept for 30 days. If you are involved in an incident you need to phone the police giving as much detail as possible including the date and the time you then need a crime number. Once this is done the police have full access to camera footage. If any incident reaches the courts, System Vision provide a full evidence pack for the police to use at no extra cost. That said in the case of an emergency situation the police can access the images 24 /7 .Insurance companies can also be provided with pictures but that will be at a cost to the insurance company.

Whilst we are on the subject of keeping safe the Boroughbridge Emergency Response team has been re-energised under the leadership of Pauline Phillips



The group was originally set up in the 1980's mainly to assist the local authority during local flooding. It was formalised in the early 90's and dealt with the flood of 1992 when the Ure breached the flood defences and flooded the Town Centre. In 2001 The group assisted the emergency services in providing refreshments to stranded motorists on the A1 following a major RTA.

Over recent years the emergency committee has had very little to contend with. Along with past volunteers leaving the area it was felt that the group needed re-energising. A job that the Town Council took in hand.

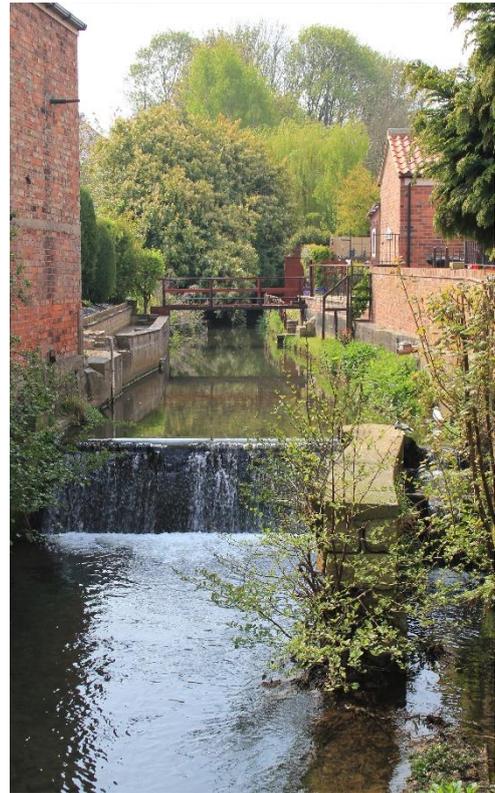
On taking over the leadership of the group Pauline has been working hard with other members, new and old to update the Resilience Plan to ensure that we are ready for any emergency. This plan contains vital contact details in the case of any emergency, and also includes evacuation points, and information of other vital support agencies.

The group can be called to any emergency. For our community this usually means the risk of flooding but could cover, major road traffic accidents, Major Utility Failure or explosion etc. The group has also undergone a training course on how to deal with emergencies in an efficient manner.

The group is a team of volunteers that liaises closely with the emergency planners at Harrogate Borough Council and the environment agency.

The group is a standalone group totally independent of the Parish councils, although it receives great support from Langthorpe, Milby Parish councils and Boroughbridge Town Council who provide a small budget for essential items

The group was called in to action only a few weeks ago when some residents were in danger of flooding.



Finally on the subject of keeping safe you may have noticed that the police station is now up for sale and no longer occupied by any of our police force. The council have worked hard and supported our local community policing team to enable them to secure a base in the Fire Station. This enables our community policing team to still have a base and presence in the town. Also the HGV restrictions are starting to have an impact especially on Horsefair. It is difficult to monitor at the moment with all the development work going on but a handful of companies have been reported by councillors resulting in a positive response