



1894-2014: Serving the Residents of Romanby for 120 years

Romanby Parish Council Newsletter

Spring 2014

Issue 1

Special points of interest:

- Council Tax precept to remain the same for 2014-15
- Residents help needed for Parish Resilience Plan
- Plans for Parish Office underway
- Romanby War Memorial refurbishment planned as part of centenary commemoration of World War I.
- Three new co-opted Councillors.

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2014-15 Romanby Parish Precept to remain fixed for Residents

Some good news has emerged for Romanby Parish residents, in that we have managed to maintain the Parish Precept for 2014-15 at the same level as it has been for the past 2 years.

For those of you that don't know, every Parish Council in England gets its funding by receiving a small amount of the local Council Tax. This is referred to as a The Parish Precept.. Parish councils set their own level of precept and let the district council know each year what level they would like to set it at.

Romanby Parish Council estimates the money we will need for basic running costs for the year is £52500, to carry out all the tasks we do, such as grass cutting, maintaining the play equipment, leisure parks, gardens and so on. Our finance committee have worked very hard to ensure that this year's "ask" of council tax money is exactly the same—so the good news is, your Parish Council is not making any additional financial demands of the residents through Council Tax to provide the services we do!

“Every Parish Council in England gets its funding by receiving a small amount of the local Council Tax, known as the Precept”

Parish Resilience Plan—Residents Help Needed!!

Around a year ago the Parish Council asked local people to become part of a Community Resilience Plan (CRP). The idea is that if there was a local crisis such as a disaster or really bad weather, the Parish will have a plan to support local people if needed. However, plans stalled as there was not enough support from the community.

We have all seen recently the devastation caused by flooding and it is only a couple of years ago we had really bad winter weather with people trapped in their homes for days.

A CRP would help to reduce the effect of these sorts of events by getting local people to support local people. This would be by having a contact on

every street or estate in the Parish and if there was a problem these people could highlight who needed help. We will also look at local snow clearing if we can find volunteers. We have the basic plan in place but **need to identify people who might be contacted if the need arose.** On the Romanby side of the railway line we have an offer from the Methodist

Parish Resilience Plan (continued)

Romanby Parish Council Newsletter

Church to use their premises if there was a problem; but we are yet to find a similar premises/hall on the Broomfield side.

What Can You Do?

Basically we need your help and involvement to help maintain and develop our CRP! Your involvement can be as much or as little as you wish—there may be a little training so you know what is expected but in general, if you know your area you know who is at risk if things get difficult. In the event of a big disaster the work involved would only be to help pending the arrival of emergency services.

So.....What We Need:

1. Volunteers with an interest in offering help if needed (snow clearing, marshalling, organising, or just making a cup of tea!)
2. People who know their local area/ neighbours to act as area “wardens” who could alert the CRP authorities of people at risk when conditions require it.

Once we have names, we will call a meeting to take the CRP work forwards.

TO get involved please contact the Parish Council (see P4) and together we can get our CRP established.



From The Chairman

Welcome to this re-launched newsletter from your Parish Council, aimed at providing residents of Romanby Parish with details of what your Parish Council is doing for you, your families and our Parish at large, I hope you find the newsletter informative and interesting; As you can see, there is a lot going on behind the scenes in the Parish, and if you see something here that you wish to get more involved with, then please do not hesitate to contact us on

the Parish Council website (see p4). One of the reasons for us producing this newsletter is to try and build community involvement, through better communication, for those tasks and projects we are working on. We are YOUR Parish Council, here to help make and keep our Parish a fantastic place to live—but we can't do it alone! We are aiming to produce a newsletter every 3-4 months, delivered



to every household in the Parish—if you wish to contribute to future editions, or have any suggestions about what could be included, then please contact the Editor (Stuart Bradnam - my deputy), or the Parish Clerk (Mandy Lambert); contact details are on the back page. We look forward to hearing from you.

John

Romanby War Memorial & Gardens Renovation Project



As part of the commemoration of the 100th anniversary of WWI, Romanby Parish Council is preparing a business case to the **Heritage Lottery Fund**, seeking funds to carry out a refurbishment (clean) of the Village War Memorial Clock Tower (built/unveiled in 1920), as well as using the opportunity to improve the garden adjacent to the memorial, to create a beautiful, tranquil memorial garden area that can be accessed and enjoyed by all

members of our community. We will be seeking to involve you, our residents, in this project throughout all the work, and in particular, our local Primary Schools in the Parish, who will be involved in researching life in the village during WWI, and in particular of the men commemorated on the Memorial. Learning resources, will be produced by/for the schools as part of this work, and some of their research will be incorporated into

the design of the memorial garden. For parts of the garden improvements, we are looking to run a design competition, to encourage all-age community involvement in the project.

Once complete, we would look to have an appropriate opening ceremony for all to attend, to mark the work completed and the 100th anniversary commemoration. **To get involved in this fantastic project, please contact Stuart Bradnam, through the Parish Website, on 07766057643 or email me direct on stuartbradnam@me.com**

Plans for Parish Office underway

After many years of deliberation, the Parish Council have finally agreed proposals to begin work on the construction of a formal Parish Office for Romanby. The office space will provide, amongst other things: a routine workspace for Mandy, our Parish Clerk; storage space for Parish records and material; a meeting place for the variety of Parish Com-

mittees, and a physical focus for members of the public when wishing to make contact. The office will be built as an extension to the Sports Pavilion on the Ainderby Road Leisure Park (a Parish Council-run facility), and planning permission has already been approved. We will keep you updated in later newsletters as to progress over the coming months



Meeting dates for 2014

ROMANBY PARISH COUNCIL Meeting Dates:

Next Meeting 13th May 2014

Romanby Primary School

All meetings start at 7pm.

All 2014 meeting dates will be published in the next newsletter, and on the Parish Council website

Northallerton & Romanby Cemetery

You may not be aware that Romanby Parish Council, in partnership with Northallerton Town Council, manages the Cemetery behind All Saints Church in Northallerton. Each year the parish uses some of the precept monies to help pay for the upkeep of the cemetery. The cost of keeping the cemetery in good condition is ever increasing and prices will be increasing again by 5% in April. If

you are considering purchasing a plot, act now before the price increase. You can obtain an up to date price list from Kay Lambert, Clerk to the Burial Committee at Northallerton Town Hall. 01609 776718.

Whilst we have limited facilities, at the cemetery, for the ashes of loved ones to be scattered, we do not have a place where plaques

can be placed. The burial committee is considering establishing a memorial garden within the cemetery



to enable plaques to be placed or rose trees planted commemorating departed loved ones. We hope that, shortly,

the plans will be available at Northallerton Town Hall, for the public to comment and suggest any alter-

ations or their support for the project. The cost of establishing a garden will be subject to funding bids and the more public involvement we have the better chance any bid has of succeeding. If you have an interest in the project and would like to get involved please contact Councillor Paul Fisher on 01609 771776 or the Parish Clerk, via the website. www.romanby.org.uk

Romanby Parish Council Committees

To ensure the smooth running of the wide variety of business that the Parish Council has to oversee, we have 4 separate committees that oversee specific aspects of Parish life. These groups meet at different times from the main full council, and then report into the main committee to explain their work and progress.

As you can see from the who's who on page 4, we have 4 committees that we run as part of normal business:

- **Parks**—responsible for the maintenance and improvements to our open spaces
- **Finance**—responsible for the financial management of all Parish business
- **Projects**—responsible for all the new and one-off initiatives that the Parish Council oversee
- **Joint Burial Committee**—a jointly run (with Northallerton Town Council) committee, re-

sponsible for the management and upkeep of the main Northallerton and Romanby cemetery.





Romanby Parish Council—Who's Who

Parish Council Newsletter

Editor: Stuart Bradnam

Clerk: Mandy Lambert

Want to contribute? Have something to say?

Phone: 07783949546

E-mail:

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or contact us through the Parish Website - address below

WE'RE ON THE WEB:

WWW.ROMANBY.ORG.UK



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Councillor John Smith

Chair of Council

Member of Finance Committee



Councillor Paul Fisher

Chair of the Finance Committee. Member of Projects & Joint Burial Committees.



Councillor Carol Thompson

Member of Joint Burial Committee



Councillor Dave Atkinson

Member of the Parks Committee



Councillor John Best

Member of the Finance & Parks Committees



Councillor Angela Smith

New councillor (Mar 2014)



Councillor Stuart Bradnam

Vice-Chair of Council

Chair of Projects Committee



Councillor Dave Rawson

Chair of Parks Committee

Member of Projects Committee



Councillor Kevin Hardisty

Member of Joint Burial Committee



Councillor Malcolm Walton

Member of the Finance and Joint Burial Committees



Mrs Mandy Lambert

Parish Clerk/RFO

STOP PRESS—NEW COUNCILLORS (March 2014)



Councillor Mark West

New councillor (Mar 2014)

Councillor Matthew Day

New councillor (Mar 2014)

(Photo next issue)

Romanby Parish Council Parks

The role of the Parks Committee is to maintain

and enhance the open spaces and other facilities in the Parish, providing opportunities for you and visitors to enjoy recreation and sport.

At Ainderby Road we support football for children from a wide area and other outdoor activities including a large play area. The pavilion has changing facilities and the only public toilets in the area! (Summer – all

days, Winter – weekends /school holidays). Broomfield Park has a football pitch and play area. Altogether, we have seven play areas.

As well as routine maintenance (grass cutting, hedge trimming and gardening) we have recently undertaken tree maintenance and planting; consulted residents about some tree planting and held a litter-pick with the cubs and beavers.

We provided a Space Net (see the photo) recently at Ainderby Road and want funding for more, with plans to provide or upgrade equipment this year.

Romanby Parish appoints contractors to help us manage the Parish gardens, trees, hedges and grassland.

