

## Update from Parish Council meeting held on 13 November 2017

- Reports were received from PCSO Lorraine Kavanagh and District Councillor Jessica Carrington both are available on our website.
- Elections – Polling Station – Community Centre Bell Lane
  - Following the May elections we had received comments that people were queuing out of the centre and around onto Hardaker Lane. We wrote to the Elections Officer at Wakefield Council and asked them to look at the situation with the possibility of having an additional polling station at Brackenhill. She had responded to say that they would look “at creating a double polling station as this is the only realistic and easily achievable step as they have no legal power to add another polling building within the same polling district”
- A planning application has been submitted to Wakefield Council for permission to erect a notice board at the Pavilion. Planning permission is required because Carr Bridge playing field is within the conservation area.
- John Gully’s Grave – The Parish Council are in the process of taking on the ownership of the grave following correspondence from Mr Gully’s descendants who live away from the village but want to ensure that this piece of history is maintained for the future. The Parish Council are working with Ackworth Heritage Group and St Cuthbert’s Church on this project. A funding application will be submitted for the cost of the restoration of the grave and also to provide a suitable path to it.
- A local resident has brought to the Parish Council’s attention the condition of the footpath and the stream at the River Went and Hessele Bank. The Parish Council has agreed to co-ordinate a site meeting of interested bodies to look at this issue.
- HS2 Update – The Clerk attended a meeting of the Town & Parish Council Liaison Group at Wakefield Council recently and an update on HS2 was given:
  - The route through the district has been slightly amended. There will no longer be a rolling stock depot at Crofton this will now be in the Leeds area.
  - They are currently looking at a station between Sheffield and Crofton – included in the discussions are Mexborough, Clayton, Hemsworth and Crofton.
  - The environmental impact through the district is currently being looked at and Wakefield Council are engaged in this process.
  - HS2 should release 20% capacity and Wakefield Council are working with partners to maximise the benefits for the area.
- Carr Bridge playing field – recently planning permission was granted to remove two trees from the playing field. The area these were removed from is not suitable for replanting. The Parish Council have agreed to remove the tree copse with the failing willows and other poor specimens, clear away the bramble and weeds, regrade the area, remove the stumps and then plant three native hardwood trees in this location. A date for this work to take place has not yet been agreed.
- Brackenhill playing field – there was a metal post on the corner of the entrance to the field which had been stolen. It has been agreed to replace it with a new one.