

# Newsletter from Irton Parish Council

December 2024



Dear Residents,

This year has been a challenging one for the Parish Council, but I'm pleased to say that we now have some very proactive Councillors and a new Clerk to support them. With all the administrative matters behind us we can now focus on providing the service to the community that is expected by our residents. Thank you for the patience and support you have shown throughout the year.

We are looking forward to the coming year, and the preliminary draft budget for 2025-2026 reflects our intentions and commitment. While leaving the precept (local taxation) unchanged from the current year, employment and administrative expenses have been drastically reduced, with community spending increased to more than 40% of the overall budget. Please join us at our next meeting on **Monday, January 20<sup>th</sup>**, where the draft budget will be presented and discussed. Your attendance and input are always welcome and appreciated.

Until then we would like to wish you a *Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!*

With kind regards, John Luckock, Chairman of Irton Parish Council

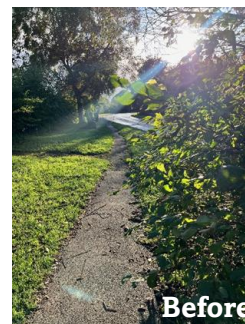
*"Christmas is the day that holds all time together"*

- Alexander Smith -

## Updates on Council Activities

### Keeping Pavements and Pathways Clear

Following up on an issue raised by residents, the Council contacted property owners regarding overgrowth and hedges that were blocking pavements and pathways in the village. We would like to thank all the property owners for their understanding and their efforts to resolve the issue.



### Cleaning of Public Benches

After many years, our public benches were in desperate need of cleaning. All seven benches, and the underlying concrete pads, were chemically cleaned and pressure washed. The "marble" benches have some staining that could not be removed, but they certainly look a lot better than before. We still need to paint the rectangular planter boxes when we get a warmer and sunny day. Some help with this would be greatly appreciated. Please email your contact details to [jluckock@outlook.com](mailto:jluckock@outlook.com) and we'll reach out to you to set up a "painting" day.

## Litter Bin for the Ayton Road Layby

We have ordered the Litter Bin from North Yorkshire Council, and we are currently waiting for it to be installed. The bin will be emptied by North Yorkshire Council along with the bin located adjacent to the bus shelter.

## Stay Informed - Meeting Agendas & Minutes

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Meeting agendas are posted on the Council Notice Board on the Tuesday prior to our meetings. In addition, the agenda **and supporting documents** are available on our website. You can sign up on the website to receive these by email. Draft minutes of the meetings are now available on the website **within 7 days** of the meeting.

## Additional Councillor Needed

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We still have a vacancy for one more Councillor and would welcome anyone who would like to join our team. This is a great opportunity to serve the community. Apply now and start off the new year by being appointed at our upcoming meeting in January. A simple application form is available on our website or contact the Clerk for more information.

## Christmas Events in the Community

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- **Carol Singing** at Irton Garden Centre, Friday, 13th December at 2pm
- **Carol Service** at Seamer and Irton Memorial Hall, Tuesday 17th December at 7pm

### Christmas Church Services

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- **Carols by Candlelight**, St. Martin's, Saturday 21st December at 4pm
- **Christmas Carol Service**, Seamer Methodist, Sunday 22nd December at 3pm
- **Nativity and Christingle Service**, St. Martin's, Christmas Eve at 4pm
- **Christmas Eve Communion**, St. Martin's, Christmas Eve at 11.30pm
- **Christmas Morning Worship**, St. Martin's, Christmas Day at 10am
- **Christmas Day Service**, Seamer Methodist, Christmas Day at 10am

## Have Fun – Be Safe

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Some of our younger residents are enjoying the use of bikes, scooters, e-bikes and e-scooters within the village. Please note that for the safety of riders and others it is mandatory to have lights or reflectors when riding in the dark. Extra caution is required as others may not hear you approaching. The Council strongly recommends the use of helmets for the protection of the riders.

## Send us Your Items for Inclusion in the Newsletter

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For next year we are hoping that residents will submit items of interest for inclusion in the Newsletter. We would love to hear about significant achievements, birthdays & anniversaries, local history and special events such as fundraisers. Pictures are always welcome. Items can be submitted on our website.

