

# Tadcaster Town Council Newsletter



SPRING  
2023

## Mayor of Tadcaster 2022 - 2024

I attended Tadcaster Grammar School from 1996-2003, and moved into Tadcaster itself in October 2011, before joining Tadcaster Town Council shortly after the 2015 general election. At the time, I believed that the role would serve as a gentle introduction to the world of local government. That belief lasted as long as December of that year, when the town bridge collapsed. Between that, a pandemic, another major flooding event, and too many other things to count, being a town councillor has always remained a challenging role – yet also an immensely rewarding one. My first year as mayor was very much one of change, marking the final year of North Yorkshire County Council and Selby District Council, before their merger into the new unitary North Yorkshire Council. However, the biggest change, and the defining event of the year, was of course the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. We celebrated her unprecedented Platinum Jubilee last May, and in September we were forced to say farewell to her. This May saw the Coronation of King Charles III, and I am pleased to say that Tadcaster again rose to the occasion with our town Scarecrow Trail, which saw a total of 38 entries from

businesses and residents. The creativity and effort put into all these entries was truly impressive, and it was a pleasure to view them, and we hope this event can go from strength to strength.

The spirit of community and togetherness is something that has always made me immensely proud, no more so than the job the various community groups have done over the past winter of helping and providing for those in need during the cost of living crisis we still face on an ongoing basis. Whatever the next year may bring for the town, my sincerest wish is that we continue to demonstrate that spirit throughout.

I will be continuing as mayor for the 2023/24 council year, and am immensely looking forward to seeing what the next twelve months bring, and to working with the people of Tadcaster, my fellow town councillors, North Yorkshire Council, and anyone else who can help achieve the best for our wonderful town.



## North Yorkshire Council – Councillor Kirsty Poskitt

As many of you will know, as of the 1st April 2023, the district councils as we have known them are no more. All 8 now come under the new North Yorkshire Council. But what does that mean for the residents of Tadcaster? In short, you should see no interruption of the council services you receive, from waste collection to housing, all will continue as they have before. However there are going to be changes along the way as the council look at how they can harmonise such things as council tax across the county to make it fair and equal for all.

Of course one of the major changes is we go from having 3 District and 1 county Councillor for the town to having just 1 county councillor. For many of you, this is a big change, our district councillors have always carried out an important role and I am very happy to be able to continue working with them at Tadcaster Town Council. As the elected member for Tadcaster, it is my job to ensure that your

voices are heard at a county level. Since the election last May, I have been busy listening to people talk about the challenges we face as a town and what the future holds for us. I want us to be able to speak up for what matters so I will continue working with our leisure services, our community centres, voluntary sector and our businesses to ensure we are heard at county level.

The new council comes with a new website, you can find all the information you need at [www.northyorks.gov.uk](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk) and the new customer service line is 0300 131 2 131. If you would like to chat to me about issues you may have in the town then you can contact me via email [kirsty.poskitt@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:kirsty.poskitt@northyorks.gov.uk), via mobile 07711 659759 or on Facebook. I work in Tadcaster so can always make time to get together face to face to go through any concerns.



## Help our town become a safer place

It is important to us that our communities experience a totally victim focused service, prioritising our services on people at risk or suffering threat and harm. Preventing people becoming victims, helping and assisting if they do, and working to bring offenders to justice is the bedrock on which policing is built. Therefore if you've been a victim of a crime, or witness to incidents of anti-social behaviour within your community then please contact North Yorkshire Police on 101 (999 in an emergency). You can also report crime and anti-social behaviour via our website. If you want to report a crime, but you don't want to identify yourself, contact Crimestoppers. They'll ask questions about the crime but won't ask about you. If you're concerned your call could be traced, dial 141 before 0800 555 111, this will block your phone number.

With your help we can make our Town a safer place to live and work.

## Neighbourhood Police & County Councillor Monthly Surgeries

County Councillor Kirsty Poskitt will begin hosting monthly surgeries next month with Neighbourhood police officer PC Nick Woods. The aims of the meetings are to allow residents across the town to ask questions about ongoing issues, discuss things that are impacting them and find out how the police, council and other agencies can help support them. We will be inviting along other agencies, such as highways, to future surgeries. Details about upcoming surgeries will be shared on social media, at the Town Council, Tadcaster Library and all three Community Centres in the town. To make an appointment please contact [cllr.kirsty.poskitt@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.kirsty.poskitt@northyorks.gov.uk)



## New Tadcaster Historical Society Website

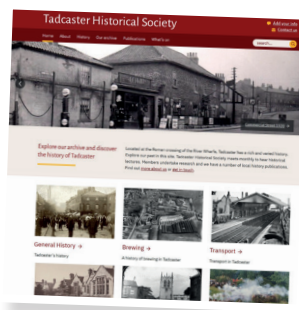
Eleven years after Tadcaster Historical Society had its first website, it has just launched a new site, taking advantage of the technological developments. The new website makes it possible to incorporate pictures, videos, and audio clips onto the site. How much use will be made of some of these features is debatable, as the Romans did not leave us many videos when they left in 410 AD!

The site includes pictures, with descriptions, of the town and surrounding villages, many being over 100 years old. The oldest known picture of Tadcaster, dating from 1858, is included. As well as a general history, there are illustrated articles on the town's industries

including brewing and milling, on education, transport, religion, as well as battles that have taken place in and around Tadcaster.

The website is not a "finished article" but will continue to be developed in the future. Readers will be able to contribute articles or photos for inclusion.

Why not have a look at the site at <http://tadhistory.org.uk/> and contact us with suggestions for future material.



Tadcaster Flood Alleviation Scheme

Thank you to everyone who came to see us at our drop ins throughout March/April, and who gave us their thoughts via the consultation. We had over 250 people attend our drop in events, which is a fabulous turnout. We had lots of really positive constructive comments and feedback, and some great connections were made within the community. We met some really interested and interesting people and it was great to see such enthusiasm and people taking the time to come and see us; we hope everyone found the events as useful as we did. We will produce a summary of the results and share these with everyone who requested updates.

## Tadcaster Neighbourhood Plan

Work on the town's Neighbourhood Plan (our 'chapter' of the Selby Local Plan) is progressing well, guided by our professional consultant, Mike Dando. The 'pre submission' draft Plan will go to the Town Council for approval at their 16th May Council meeting and, all being well, we will then begin the formal Regulation 14 consultation on the draft Plan. This consultation is planned to take place over 6 weeks from 23rd June to 4th August. A summary of the Plan and survey form will go to each house and business in the town, as well as drop in events across the town at The Ark, Rosemary House, Kelcbar Centre and Calcaria House. Full copies of the Plan will also be available online and at public places such as the Library, the Barn and the Swimming Pool. We hope to get a great response to this consultation which will then shape the final version of the Plan to be submitted to North Yorkshire Council.

## Artisan and Craft Market – 15 July

Following a successful launch in March, we plan to continue delivering a fabulous Craft Market on the Britannia carpark every other month in partnership with our good friends at Little Bird Made until November this year. The third Market of the year will be on 15 July and will run from 10am-3pm and feature live music, great food and drink as well as dozens of local craft producers AND a big gazebo dedicated to Tadcaster crafters. If you have a little business you'd like to promote, get in touch with David or Kirsty, event organisers, on 830524/davidgluck@tadcasterandrural.co.uk - see you there!

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## Geophysical Survey on the riverside

Readers may have seen the recent geophysical survey taking place on the riverside near the motte & bailey castle and St. Mary's Church. Tadcaster Historical Society have been able to carry out the survey using ground penetrating radar (GPR) equipment kindly loaned to a THS member who has been studying at the Department of Archaeology of the University of York. Permission was granted for the survey by the Town Council, St. Mary's Church and Historic England (as part of the survey was on a scheduled area). This equipment sends radio waves into the ground and measures the reflection of these waves by different features beneath the surface in the same way that radar is used to detect aeroplanes and ships above ground. The depth that features can be detected depends on the makeup of the ground. We carried out the survey to supplement the archaeological dig carried out by the society in 2015. In particular we are looking for any evidence of possible Roman archaeology as it has been predicted that the Roman road from the West, heading towards York, may have crossed the river in this area.



## Tadcaster Community Litter Pick

A huge thank you to all volunteers and

Councillors who helped in the Tadcaster Community Litter Pick on Saturday 25 March 2023. The event was very well attended by individuals, groups, and associations. Litter is an ongoing problem throughout the year and in an effort to "Keep Tadcaster Tidy" the Council can provide and lend litter picking equipment i.e., black bags litter pickers and gloves to anyone who wishes to help.

Anyone interested please contact The Ark at [clerk@tadcastertowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@tadcastertowncouncil.gov.uk) or call 01937 834113 during working hours Monday – Thursday 9.30am – 12.30pm.

**DOG FOULING** on pavements around the town continues to be a very frustrating situation for all. There are over 60 litter bins in the town that can be used for both litter and dog bags, please could dog owners be encouraged to pick up after their dogs and use the bins provided.

## Tadcaster Town Councillors

### Tadcaster West Ward:

**Paul Emmott** E: [paulemmott@icloud.com](mailto:paulemmott@icloud.com)  
**Peter J Grasby** M: 07778 437311  
**Don Mackay** T: 01937 835776  
**Chris W Metcalfe** T: 01937 832501  
**Kirsty Poskitt** T: 07711 659759  
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**Dr Claire Stephenson**  
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**Richard H Sweeting** M: 07842 164034

### Tadcaster East Ward:

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**Margaret Middlemiss** T: 01937 834872

### North Yorkshire County Councillor:

**Kirsty Poskitt** T: 07711 659759  
 E: [cllr.kirsty.poskitt@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.kirsty.poskitt@northyorks.gov.uk)

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W: [www.tadcastertowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.tadcastertowncouncil.gov.uk)

Tadcaster Town Council Office, The Ark, Kirkgate, is open to the public Monday – Thursday 9.30am – 12.30pm telephone during office hours, or answer phone or email anytime at the above address.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this Newsletter.

Tadcaster Town Council makes every effort to provide accurate information but is not wholly responsible for the views expressed in this newsletter, which may be those of various contributors, any views or opinions in this newsletter are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the Council.

All information and details of events taking place was believed to be accurate at date of print.

