

## Stokesley Town Council Newsletter



**Councillor Resignation** – We are sorry to advise that Councillor Blakemore has tendered his resignation from the Council. We thank Ian all his hard work, particularly in the Communications & Events and Employment Committees.

**Councillor Vacancy** – Would you like to be a Town Councillor, help to make Stokesley a better place to live and fill the current vacancy. The vacancy will be filled by co-option, whereby the council considers applications from interested persons and then selects someone to fill the vacancy. If you are interested, please write to the Town Council and include details on why you would like to become a Councillor and enclose a copy of your CV. If you want more information about the role, please e-mail Julie McLuckie, Clerk to the Council, at [contact@stokesleytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:contact@stokesleytowncouncil.gov.uk) or telephone 01642 710270. Closing date – Friday 28 November 2020. The Town Councillor role for Stokesley also includes being a Trustee to the Manorial Lands and Town Hall Trusts.

**Markets** – The weekly Friday markets and the Farmers' Markets continue to operate with appropriate social distancing measures.

**Christmas and New Year Friday Markets** - With Christmas Day and New Years Day both falling on a Friday, the markets in these weeks will be held on **Christmas Eve, Thursday 24 December, and New Year's Eve, Thursday 31 December**. Make a note of the change of days. The market will return to Fridays from 8 January 2021.

The next monthly **Farmers' Market** will be held on **Saturday 5 December 2020**. The popular **Christmas Farmers' Market** will be held this year on **Sunday 20 December 2020**. The **January Farmers Market** will be held two weeks later than usual – on **Saturday 16 January 2021**. Again, make a note of the change of date.

**Craft Fairs** – Subject to the easing of Covid-19 restrictions in early December, it is planned to hold these popular events in the Town Hall on Saturday 5th December 10am–4pm and Friday 11th December 9.30am–3.30pm.

**Christmas Lights Switch On** – Without the usual ceremony because of the Coronavirus restrictions, this will take place on Thursday 26 November 2020. For similar reasons, it will not be possible to host a visit by Santa to the Town Hall this year.

**Christmas Toy Bank** – The idea - To provide toys FREE of CHARGE in time for Christmas for those who like them and to give good toys a new life. Donations of no longer wanted toys can be deposited at the gazebo outside the Town Hall on Friday 4 December 2020. The toys will be cleaned and sanitised, repaired (if needed) ready for display at the Town Hall in the Stokesley Room on Saturday 12 December, from 10 am until 2pm; a donation to Zoe's Place is optional. Any toys left over will be offered to Zoe's Place first and the rest will go to the Stokesley Charity Shops. This year's event is supported by the Rotary Club of Stokesley.

**Stokesley Bounce Back** – As part of this initiative, ten bike racks have now been installed in the Town Centre close to cafés and restaurants for the benefit of visiting cyclists and to seek to keep footpaths clear for pedestrian use.

**Lighting at Tanton Road / B1365 Junction** – The Town Council is seeking to progress discussions with both Hambleton District Council (HDC) and North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) for the provision of street lighting at this junction.

**Town Council Meetings** – The next meetings will be held on **Tuesday 8 December 2020** and **Tuesday 12 January 2021**. All town council meetings continue to be held remotely using Zoom. If you have any questions or comments that would usually be covered in the public session, please submit these in writing to the Town Clerk via e-mail – [contact@stokesleytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:contact@stokesleytowncouncil.gov.uk) or post them through the Town Hall letter box. If you wish to participate in the meeting then please notify the Clerk at the same e-mail address who will issue with a ‘Zoom’ meeting invitation to enable you to join the meeting remotely. Each meeting starts at 7.00pm and opens with a public session.

**Surgeries** – These are currently suspended because of the COVID-19 restrictions but you can still submit questions to the Town Clerk by e-mail to [contact@stokesleytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:contact@stokesleytowncouncil.gov.uk), in writing using ‘Freepost STOKESLEY TOWN COUNCIL’ or through the Town Hall letterbox. Please include your name and contact details to enable us to respond.

**Levenside Footpath** – Thanks to everyone who attended the public consultation on Saturday 26 September 2020 in the Town Hall or participated in the on-line consultation. We are now reviewing the proposals in the context of the feedback received and will provide updates on the Town Council website.

**North Yorkshire Devolution** – Two separate devolution proposals are being prepared for consideration by the Government that would enable additional regional powers and funding to be secured. The NYCC proposal covers the whole of North Yorkshire, but excludes the City of York. The other, being prepared by the District Councils, provides two unitary councils with an east / west split of the county and includes the City of York.

**Coronavirus** – Please note all events are subject to revision / postponement or cancellation due to Coronavirus control measures. Please check the Town Council website, Facebook and Twitter pages for the latest information.