

Pannal & Burn Bridge

PARISH COUNCIL

UPDATE FROM YORKSHIRE WATER

Following a detailed request from the Parish Council, we wanted to provide an update on information received from Yorkshire Water regarding the ongoing works across the parish. We wholeheartedly share the concerns residents have about the scale of the works, construction traffic, disruption and environmental impact. The Parish Council now has more **detailed information** across a number of specific areas. We are seeking further documentation from Yorkshire Water and we will share relevant information as we receive it.

We would encourage everyone with an interest in the works to take some time to look through the **additional documents** provided. Together with the responses below, they provide a clearer picture of the current programme, the permissions under which the work is taking place, arrangements for traffic, and Yorkshire Water's stated approach to environmental reinstatement.

Yorkshire Water has specifically asked residents to report evidence of its vehicles or teams exceeding speed limits or using unsuitable routes. If you witness something you believe is contrary to the guidance, Yorkshire Water has provided a direct route for reporting this evidence.

Yorkshire Water's **permitted development rights** mean the project can be carried out without planning permission, limiting the Parish Council's opportunity to comment or influence the scheme. But we will continue to raise the wider concerns of the community and we also encourage residents to **contact the appropriate authorities directly** if they have specific concerns. This helps ensure individual incidents are properly recorded while also demonstrating the collective impact the works are having across the parish.

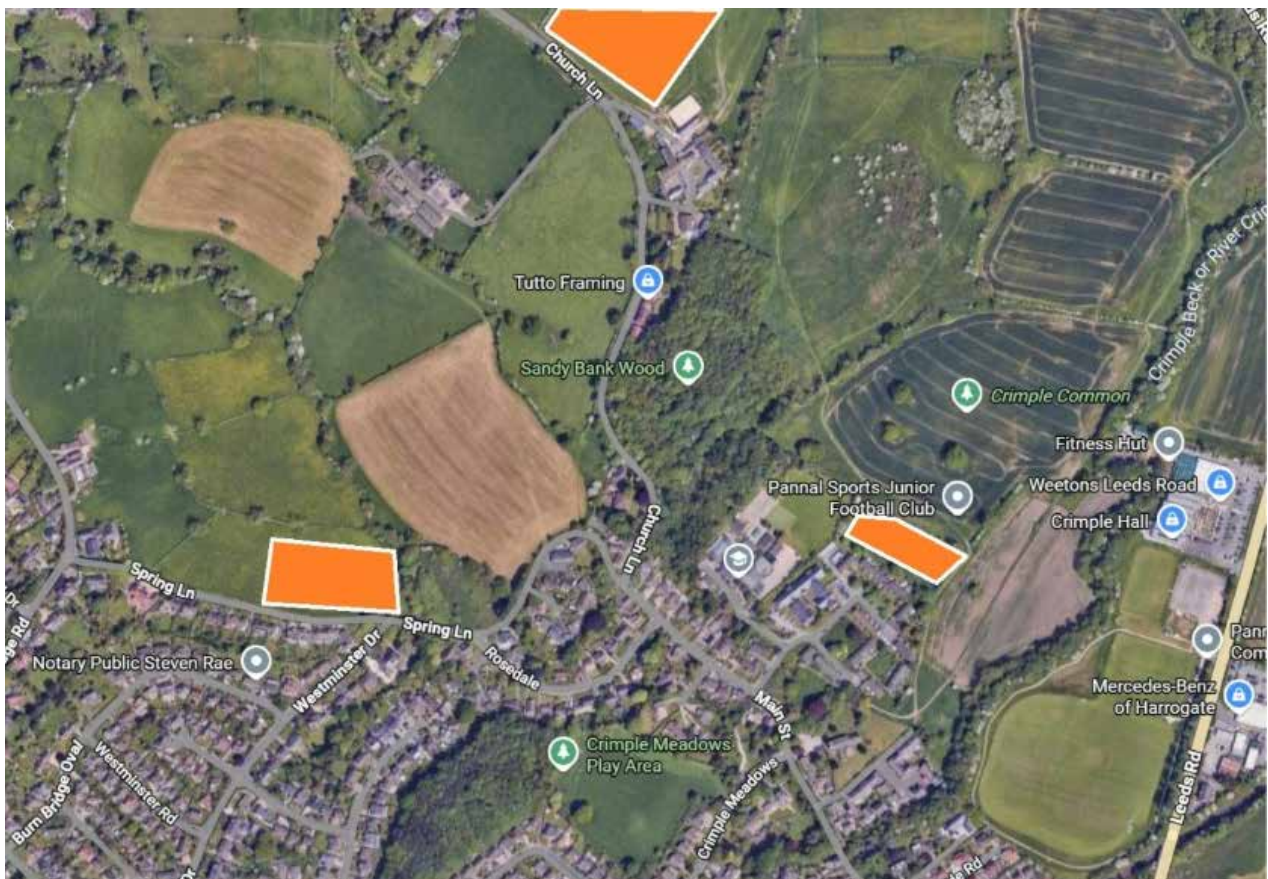
Our next **Parish Council meeting is on 12th November**. Residents are very welcome to attend, and meeting details and the agenda will be published on the Parish Council website in advance.

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ROUTES, CONSTRUCTION PLANS AND TIMINGS

We sought clarity about the individual elements of the works due to concerns raised about the scope and scale of the work.



Yorkshire Water response:

"The Parish Council and members of the public can refer to the One Network website: <https://one.network/uk> for details of any Yorkshire

Water permits associated with these works, as well as all permits/works happening in the area by any utility company etc. This is updated regularly, providing the most up-to-date information regarding permits, so it is the timeliest way to check permits."

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CONSTRUCTION TRAFFIC AND ACCESS

Construction traffic continues to be one of the concerns raised most frequently with us. If you witness something that you believe is contrary to commitments made by Yorkshire Water, we encourage you to record the date, time and location and, where safe and appropriate, take photographs or video. This gives both the Parish Council and Yorkshire Water something specific to investigate.

Yorkshire Water response:

"Our construction traffic will take different routes to these sites, as well as our additional sites on Fulwith Mill Lane and at Harlow Carr, depending on where they are travelling to and from. Customers and parish councillors can therefore expect to see our construction traffic and deliveries in the area around Pannal and Burn Bridge while our works are taking place. Most of these deliveries will be taking place within our core working hours of 7:30am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, but sometimes may need to take place outside of these hours to ensure that core aspects of our works aren't delayed.

Access for emergency vehicles is maintained at all times by our site teams.

Currently, pedestrian and cycle routes are not affected other than the public bridleway leading from Church Lane up to near Stone Rings Close on the outskirts of Rossett Green. There has been signage in place here since the closure began, and we expect the closure to be in place until the end of the year. This is because we're laying a section of our new wastewater pipework across the footpath, which will connect to our expanding network.

Residents' access should not be impacted as part of our projects.

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CONSTRUCTION TRAFFIC AND ACCESS

Yorkshire Water response cont:

However, if this is anticipated we will get in touch with residents directly to inform them of this and will liaise with them accordingly to ensure we're maintaining access as much as possible and are considering any special circumstances residents may have.

If any residents have evidence of our vehicles or team members driving above designated speed limits throughout the area or via unsuitable routes, then we are happy for this evidence to be shared with our

Capital Customer Experience Team, who can be contacted at 0344 848 1099, and the evidence raised with the reference 'Capital YW.203241'.

Our project team and any subcontractors working on the project collaborate closely to ensure any vehicles or deliveries to site take the safest routes, adhere to local speed limits, and try to minimise disruption to local customers as much as possible."

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PLANNING STATUS

We know there have been questions about how works of this scale have been able to proceed without going through the conventional planning process.

Yorkshire Water has clarified that, as a statutory undertaker, it has additional permitted development rights which allow certain wastewater infrastructure to be constructed without seeking planning permission from the local planning authority.

This means the Parish Council does not have the opportunity to comment on or influence all elements of the scheme through the normal planning application process. Where we have been consulted, for instance regarding hedgerow removal, our objections have not been upheld. But where an element of the project does require planning permission, Yorkshire Water says the application will be available through the Council's normal planning system once submitted and validated.

Yorkshire Water response:

"Due to our role as a statutory undertaker, Yorkshire Water benefit from additional permitted development rights under Schedule 2, Part 13 of the General Permitted Development Order 2015 (as amended). Class B of Part 13 details what type of wastewater development can be undertaken without the need to seek planning permission from the local planning authority."

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ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT AND REINSTATEMENT

The environmental impact of the project, particularly the removal of trees and hedgerows and the works around Sandy Bank Wood, is understandably a significant concern. We asked Yorkshire Water for more information about both the environmental impact of the construction work and what will happen to affected areas afterwards.

The documents now available include further information and reference images showing what reinstated sites could look like. These are indicative rather than a guarantee of the eventual appearance of individual sites, but they provide useful additional context for residents. Yorkshire Water has also provided the following response regarding vegetation removal, reinstatement and Sandy Bank Wood.

Yorkshire Water response:

"We have had to remove some trees, hedgerows, and other vegetation as part of our works in Pannal at different site locations (including our storage tank location to the rear of Pannal Green and at our site for the Spring Lane Pumping Station) but any removals are discussed with and approved by the local authority, as well as any landowners, and this is the same for reinstatement. Wherever possible, in line with the wants and requirements of the local landowner and council, we restore our working areas to at least their original condition once our works are completed.

We often plant young hedgerows, instead of mature ones, when we carry out our reinstatement works, as they are more likely to survive being transplanted and provide better coverage as they establish and grow. This is something that will be discussed with and agreed by the local landowner accordingly."

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ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT AND REINSTATEMENT

The three hedgerow removal notices associated with the project:

25/04579/HEDGE

26/03195/HEDGE

26/01390/HEDGE

On Sandy Bank Wood specifically, Yorkshire Water says:

“With regards to the trackway through Sandy Bank Woods in particular, which leads to our proposed storage tank location: upon completion the stone laid for the track here will be removed, and work will then begin to restore the woodland in line with the landowner’s reinstatement strategy.”

Yorkshire Water has told us that it will not make all of its ecological and environmental documentation publicly available because some documents contain information relating to protected species, land ownership, access arrangements or other sensitive third-party and commercial information.

We encourage anyone to document any trees in particular they can see being damaged or removed and check on the council portal as to whether they are subject to Tree Protection Orders (TPO).

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ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT AND REINSTATEMENT

All images provided in document PANNAL PRESENTATION.PDF

DURING EXAMPLE



AFTER EXAMPLE



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LAND RIGHTS

We have also asked for clarification about Yorkshire Water's rights to undertake works and access private land.

Yorkshire Water has explained that discussions concerning individual areas of private land take place directly with the relevant landowners or their agents.

Yorkshire Water response:

"Matters regarding works taking place on private land are discussed directly with landowners or their land agents.

Yorkshire Water as a statutory undertaker have powers under the Water Industry Act 1991. Section 159 of the act allows YW to construct relevant assets, along with enabling Yorkshire Water to carry out any works requisite or incidental to, the purposes of any works outlined above.

Notices have been served on relevant parties, and notice period, as well as engagement with the necessary parties has taken place. All rights listed above allow Yorkshire Water the rights to access land for construction purposes which is temporary."

WAYS TO KEEP UP TO DATE AND SUPPORT

Here's a recap of the links mentioned within this update, along with the contact email for Tom Gordon, the local MP and also the Parish Council website where the additional documents can also be found.

Yorkshire Water permits can be viewed here:

<https://one.network/uk>

*For any traffic infringements by site traffic, please contact:
Capital Customer Experience Team, on **0344 848 1099**, and the
evidence raised with the reference '**Capital YW.203241**'.*

*Tom Gordon MP **tom.gordon.mp@parliament.uk***

<https://pannalandburnbridge-pc.gov.uk/>