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August/September 2018.
Dear Parishioners,

Quarterly Parish Council Newsletter No. 40 (2018)

Co-option of new Parish Councillor onto the Parish Council

I am delighted to announce that Councillor Paul Leake is returning to the Parish Council after an absence of a couple of years. He is replacing the late George Marsden as a Councillor for the East Ward of the Parish. Welcome back, Paul!

Retirement of Parish Clerk

I must inform readers of the Quarterly Newsletter that I am retiring as Clerk to the Parish Council on March 31st 2019, by which time I will have completed 18 years' service. It's time for me to go out to pasture and the search has already begun to find my successor.

The Coal Column (A New Piece of Art for Bowburn)

Discussions have been ongoing for some considerable time between the Esh Group, Durham County Council and Bowburn & Parkhill Community Partnership about the source of funding for a Piece of Art to be known as "The Coal Column". The Artwork will show a representation of the seams of coal beneath Bowburn to reflect the Village's Industrial Heritage. The Artwork will be prepared by Mr. Colin Rose. In addition, a pathway leading up to the Artwork will also be constructed. Funding for the Project Cost will be provided from moneys received from the Developers by virtue of Section 106 of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990.

After much debate, the Site agreed upon for the Artwork is near the junction of Mary Terrace, George Street and Dallymore Drive, Bowburn on the other side of the A177 from the Cape Site Development. Careful research has ensured that there are no power lines or water pipes underground at or near the proposed location for the Coal Column.

Finally, Groundwork UK, on behalf of the Parish Council, will commence a public consultation exercise in September 2018 to gauge public support for the Project.

Summer 2018 Hanging Baskets, Tubs, Planters and Flower Trees

Readers of the Newsletter will have noticed that the time of year is nearly over once more when the colourful Summer Flower Baskets, Flower Tubs, Planters and Flower Trees have adorned the streets of Bowburn, Parkhill, Tursdale and Cassop. Floral decorations are also in place near to the various Village Entrance Stones. The Parish Council has also assumed maintenance and insurance responsibility from the County Council for various Flower Planters at Bowburn and Tursdale. Parishioners will be familiar with the well known black and gold planting boxes with Village Names shown on them. I am pleased to report to Parishioners that Messrs. Thinford Nurseries continue to provide a service second to none.