

## December Parish News

This month's meeting was held in the Parish hall on Monday the 16<sup>th</sup> of December.

At a quiet meeting we considered the proposed new footbridge over the River Yar at Langbridge. This is the long awaited alternative crossing for pedestrians who at the moment have to take their chances crossing the narrow old Packhorse Bridge whilst dodging the heavy traffic that is also vying for priority on the crossing.

As a Council we are convinced that this will be an asset to the Parish and are prepared to do our utmost to get it commissioned. To that end we are looking to finance it by asking local businesses and community groups to consider donating towards the cost and if any individuals can offer anything it will all help. The proposed structure will be manufactured and installed by a local company of a maintenance free material and will be designed for pedestrians only with no access for Cyclists or Horses.

If you know of any organisation that would be prepared to donate or give grants to such a venture we would be pleased to hear from you.

We, also at this meeting, considered next year's annual budget, and having kept the Parish precept ( the Parish portion of your council tax bill) static for over 4 years we would like to do the same this year but must consider the costing of the proposed bridge which will be at considerable cost to the Parish funds. A final decision on any change to the precept will be made in the spring but the more we can raise for the bridge project, the less we will need to raise for our annual expenditure.

Next month's meeting will be held on Monday the 20<sup>th</sup> of January in the Parish hall at 7.30pm and as always you are welcome to come along and watch the proceeding. There is 15 minutes allocated at the beginning of each meeting where residents may address the Council on matters that concerns them.