HAMBLETON
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Parish Council's Weekly Briefing

5 March 2021

Welcome to this week's briefing with the latest key messages and COVID-19 update.

COVID-19 Response

- The Civic Centre will remain closed to the public until 12 April at the earliest.
- The three basic pieces of advice continues to apply, remember to:
  - Wash hands often and for 20 seconds.
  - Keep a safe distance from anyone you don't live with (two metres where possible).
  - Wear a face covering in shops and in crowded outdoor spaces where keeping two metres apart is not possible.
- It's tempting to relax now we know there is light at the end of a very long tunnel, but please remember all the steps in the roadmap depend on the data which will reviewed at every stage to check it is safe to move forward.
- Covid is still out there and continues to be a real risk to us all, so this is no time for complacency or letting our guard down. It's important we all continue to work together and follow the rules so we can all come back together by the summer.

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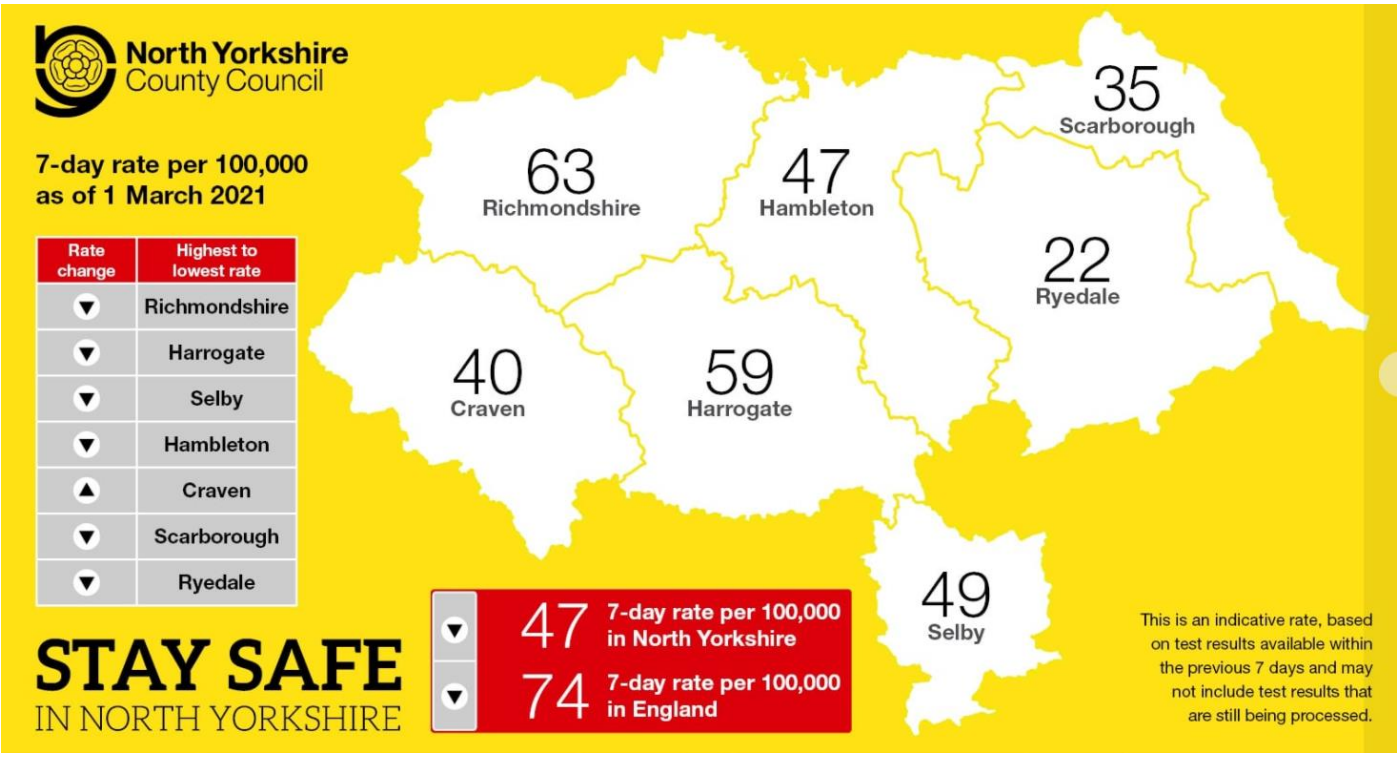
COVID-19 – the local picture

Figures continue to be generally on the decline across North Yorkshire with some fluctuations seen in Craven.



HERITAGE ACTION ZONE PROJECT

- A series of short films to promote a new funding stream for Northallerton town centre has been launched.
- Four two-minute montages have been shot to highlight the cash available through a £386,480 Historic England grant. Northallerton is one of nine Yorkshire towns to receive funding through the body's High Street Heritage Action Zone scheme which aims to boost high streets.
- However, with many of the usual communication channels restricted due to the coronavirus pandemic, Hambleton District Council has decided to take a different route to get information out to local people and business owners.
- We have made films to introduce the grant funding and its various strands, the second video will be published on our social media feeds this weekend.
- For more information visit: https://www.hambleton.gov.uk/events-2/northallerton-high-street-heritage-action-zone?documentId=238&categoryId=20020

NEW FLEET OF WASTE VEHICLES

- A new fleet of waste vehicles have taken to the road this week and the vehicles are not only collecting 'recyclable' waste but are helping to reduce carbon emissions.
- The six new trucks are part powered by electricity; the first time Hambleton District Council has employed this technology.
- They will be used to collect recyclables including paper, cardboard, cans, plastics, glass – which householders place in recycling boxes and bins for fortnightly collection.
- Due to the length of the rounds these trucks cover, the vehicles cannot be fully powered by electricity however we do use four fully electric vehicles for other waste and street scene work.
- The six new vehicles, which are part of a rolling programme of leased replacements, replace five ageing vehicles in our fleet.
- One extra truck has been added to cope with the increasing number of properties in Hambleton.

NEW HAMBLETON TOURISM FORUM

- Tourism in Hambleton is set to get a real boost when it needs it most, thanks to the new tourism forum.
- The Hambleton tourism forum will meet virtually for the first time this month with their key focus on making sure our tourism sector recovers well from the Covid crisis.
- The forum will bring together representatives from each of the key tourism businesses across our district, such as visitor attractions, historic houses and gardens, pubs and restaurants, hotels, bed and breakfasts, holiday cottages and holiday parks.
- The independent group will also work with Hambleton District Council on its Covid recovery plan for the tourism sector over the coming months.
- The government's road map published last week, has set out a clear timescale for when hospitality and other key tourism focused businesses can open so the launch of the forum could not come at a better time.

Thank you everyone, enjoy the weekend, stay home, and stay safe.