

Pontefract Vision 2028



Pontefract Newsletter - No. 3 - Summer 2019

Welcome to the Pontefract Newsletter!

The Pontefract newsletter provides an update on the delivery of the Pontefract Vision 2028. The Vision (www.wakefield.gov.uk/pontevision) sets out the future aspirations for the town.

In this edition, we update you about what has been achieved and things to look forward to in the future.

You can expect news on current projects, future projects and upcoming events. The updated action plan is now available at: <https://www.wakefield.gov.uk/Documents/planning/regeneration/pontefract-action-plan-update.PDF#search=pontefract%20action%20plan>.

Highlights:

- ❖ Tour De Yorkshire Coup
- ❖ Leisure & Wellbeing Hub Update
- ❖ Yorkshire Day
- ❖ Pontefract Liquorice Festival
- ❖ Stuart Road Crossing Improvements
- ❖ Planters installed in the Market Place

Stuart Road Crossing Improvements

165K has been spent adding a new puffin crossing to Stuart Road. This is part of the £1.3m Knottingley Connect Cycle route scheme. When complete the scheme will provide over 8km of cycle routes, linking the communities of local railway stations and provide existing and new residents with more sustainable travel opportunities. The project was managed and delivered by Wakefield Council's Highways team in partnership with the Stuart Road Doctors Surgery. The owners of the surgery have authorised permission (through a S228 Highways Act agreement) for the Council to construct a DDA (Disability Discrimination Act) compliant ramp on their land. This ramp provides better access for users of the Stuart Road Puffin crossing to get to the Sessions House Yard.



New planters installed at the Market Place

Six sets of planters were installed at the Market Place at the beginning of June. These beautiful planters are being managed by Pontefract in Bloom and aim to create a greener and more attractive town centre for the whole community to enjoy. The planters were an aspiration of the Action Plan to create a stronger environmental impact within the area. Once the plants are fully established, the Market Place will be even more spectacular!



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Tour De Yorkshire Coup

Following Tour De Yorkshire's huge success on the 2nd - 5th of May, Pontefract Civic Society congratulated the Tour De Yorkshire team led by Peter Dodd (Commercial Director), accompanied by Christian Prudhomme (Director General of the Tour de France) and Thomas Voeckler (Tour de Yorkshire 2016 Winner). Gifts were awarded by Paul Cartwright (Civic Society Chair), Phil Cook (Civic Society Vice Chair) and John Turner (Pontefract Town Crier). The highly talented St. Giles C of E Academy Choir performed during the event and a tour was made of the towns' vibrant decorations. A special thanks was given to everyone involved.



(Photo Taken By Chris Pennock)

Pontefract Liquorice Festival

Sponsored by Tangerine Confectionery, the Pontefract Liquorice Festival took place on Sunday the 7th of July and offered plenty of street entertainment and family activities, most of which were free! In addition, Pontefract Castle showcased a variety of movies and hosted activities and visitors enjoyed travelling between the town centre and Pontefract Castle by the Liquorice Train. Over 30,000 visitors attended the event, making it a huge success.



Council breaks ground on Five Towns Leisure & Wellbeing Hub

Work is almost complete on drainage and other infrastructure, to be followed by construction of the building and its amenities. Pool hall foundations will be complete by August. If you're interested in following the works for the leisure hub, a bespoke web page has been created allowing you to see the latest updates, images and plans. This can be accessed via - www.wakefield.gov.uk/fivetownsleisure. The £20.8m first class facility is expected to open in Autumn next year and aims to create new opportunities for the health and wellbeing of residents. Cllr Jacquie Speight, Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Sport stated "The benefits are enormous and will have a lasting impact and a role in tackling health issues such as childhood obesity, long-term respiratory and circulatory diseases and mental health conditions".



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Yorkshire Day 1st August

In the Town Centre you'll be able to have fun on fairground rides, marvel at the wide range of craft and elected member stalls and even drench a local estate agent with the Dunking Stool. There will also be Heritage walks, face painting, sand art, street entertainment and even the Diggerland ride. To top it all off, a talented dance group will be performing and the infamous "Pooch show" will be appearing.



The next Pontefract Newsletter (Edition No.4) will be available in Autumn 2019. For more information please contact: majorprojects@Wakefield.gov.uk