

new bridge over the river Goyt giving access to the school grounds. I would envisage the new bridge crossing the river just south of the small bridge crossing the stream near the playground area. However the scheme would only work if the new reservoir spillway was built on the Reservoir Road side of the dam. Coupled with the bridge and spillway construction the pathway from Wharf Road would be upgraded together with riverside piling to cure Wharf Road flooding issues. I would expect the Canal and River Trust to play a significant part both financially and practically in both projects.

It is a matter of making a positive out of a negative. With the closure of the Buxton Road entrance it would mean much less polluted air and much more exercise for the children. If any parents have doubts or objections let them consider the facts below. The number of asthma sufferers last year hit a record high level up by 30% over six years coupled with a £1 billion bill for inhalers and 1,308 asthma deaths. NHS hospitals last year admitted 79,500 people with asthma, a record high, with a quarter of them being children. Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) the toxic exhaust pollutant is thought to affect the developing lungs of children more severely than adults. It is believed between 40,000 and 64,000 die early each year as a result of air pollution.

Grit update

The grit from DCC arrived this week and will be distributed by the end of the week. I have also placed an item on the agenda to consider the placement of the spare grit bin.

Sports Pavilion Usage

I have had a request from HPBC for a cabinet for the new Park Ranger to be placed in the common room. Staff are not overjoyed at the prospect as he has routinely left general rubbish and other items around the common room which has not been an issue due to the room not being in use but could well become an issue when the Pavilion is back in use. He also already has a cupboard in the kitchen he can use. I have also received a request for the Sports Pavilion to be used as a testing centre by Taxal and Fernilee School, this would only be for the school's use.

Town Clerk, 7 January 2021