

Welton Parish Council

Chairman's Report 2017-2018

This has been an extremely busy year with 12 full council meetings since the Annual Parish Meeting on May 17th 2017. In addition there have been regular meetings of the Finance and Policy Working Group along with meetings of the Planning and Personnel Committees. Councillors have represented the parish on the Memorial Hall Trustees Committee as well as the Brough South Liaison Committee. The council is also a member of the East Riding and North Lincolnshire Local Councils Association.

Council's Standing Orders and Financial Regulations were on the agenda back in May 2017, these had been previously updated so were proposed to stay as they were for this year.

We welcomed two new councillors during the year, Mike Johnson and Mike Thane. Unfortunately Mike Johnson has since had to leave us, leaving Mike Thane who has become a valued member of our team. We still have vacancies to fill should anyone in the parish be interested in taking up a role.

The council has recently placed articles in the parish magazine to try and encourage residents to join us. This initiative is required to try and make sure the council properly represents the parish, and responds accordingly to the resident's needs.

My thanks go out to all councillors on the various groups and committees for all their hard work during the year.

Budget/Precept

The precept will remain at the same level as last year at £33000 which means a slight decrease to each household.

The budget has been discussed and prepared by the Finance and Policy Working Party and accepted by Full Council.

There has been investment in various projects throughout the year and this will continue as and when they are highlighted at future council meetings.

Planning

Various planning applications throughout the year continue to be discussed at our monthly meetings. These are typically residential, commercial and Tree Preservation Orders (TPO's)

Grant Scheme

The Parish Council has a scheme to award grants to support not-for-profit groups which benefit the local community. Grants were made during the year to support maintenance of the cemetery, and to support the continuing publication of the Villages magazine, which is hopefully delivered to every house in the parish.

Mill Dam

Further work has continued into this year with planting out around the newly installed island ramp. This will hopefully encourage wildlife and keep at bay the algal bloom spoiling the look of the pond.

An inspection of the work carried out earlier last year has now taken place between the council and contractors involved, prior to final payment. This inspection highlighted one or two minor defects which have now been rectified.

Website

The new parish council website has been up and running since the start of this year and has had some positive feedback from residents which is most welcome by councillors.

We have provided our new clerk with some training to enable her to update the website as we go forward.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all involved with the work on this project.

Community Led Plan

The council have continued to work with a consultant to help move this project forward.

A final draft has now been accepted by council and a printed booklet will be available shortly.

Brough South Development

Both parish and ward councillors have continued to attend the Brough South Liaison Committee at regular intervals throughout the year, trying to deal with any problems as they arise. The meetings are held in public and residents do regularly attend.

The construction of the new railway bridge is all but complete.

The new school and 1st phase of the housing will be the next stage of the development to be built along with associated works.

Wind Turbines

Two turbines are now operational.

Discussions have taken place with the operators of the wind turbines and the financial contribution to the local community will now be paid directly to the parish council.

The parish council will use these funds to finance future projects in the community as they become apparent.

Church Tower Lighting

Work has been carried out on the lighting of the church tower which was in disrepair. This has been replaced with new lighting units which have provided much better illumination.

On 17th May 2017 I took over the role as chair of the parish council from Alison Peck. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Alison for her hard work, time and commitment in the period that she was chair of the council.

Around the same time we had a change of clerk, with Catherine Law eventually taking up this position. Catherine is now settling into her role and is carrying out her job admirably.

On behalf of the parish council and residents I would like to thank Catherine for all her hard work and effort this year and I look forward to working with her on into the future.

I would also like to take the opportunity to thank both of our ward councillors for all their hard work throughout the year. Both have been involved with the Brough South Liaison Committee as well as reporting, advising and assisting council on various other matters.

My thanks also go out to all who have generously given their time and effort in their roles as parish councillors. They have assisted me throughout the year, and I can honestly say, have made my job a pleasure to do.

Wayne Wilde

(Chairman)