

## “Parish Council ~ Chairman’s June 2021”

Hello everyone.

I hope you are all enjoying a little more freedom and the road back to a new normal. There seems to be a promise of some nice weather so lots to look forward to over the coming month.

I am delighted to confirm that I was re-appointed as Chair at the May annual meeting with Anthea Byrne as my vice chair and we all look forward to being of service over the coming year.

Parish Council business continues as usual, with face to face meetings resuming from 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2021.

The main areas of business are currently:

**Benches:** The “Bench Project” launched in January continues with the first four benches 2 for the conker field & 2 for the playing field have now been delivered and should be installed soon. The sites for the next round of the project have been approved including 2 further benches in the conker field and 1 each on Melton road opposite the allotments, next to the Preaching Stone, Station Road next to the letterbox, Bleakmoor Close Green & on Melton road opposite the Horse & Groom on the site of the old phone box. The Clerk will write to neighbouring properties and apply for the appropriate licences.

**Church Services:** There has recently been some major discussions within the Church and it's future and whilst we are very blessed to have a dedicated vicar in Mary who has continued to host services via zoom through the pandemic and hopefully back in the church soon, we need to be mindful that without local support both in attendance and financial we could face the sad prospect of seeing some of our churches become dormant and even possibly close.

**Community Remembrance Garden / Garden for Reflection:** The PC is currently considering creating a garden area where people can sit and contemplate and remember loved ones who have sadly left us. The area being considered is at the top of the play park and would utilise the area next to the fence / hedge that runs along the church walk. The area would be fenced off and accessible from the church walk only. Further details will be issued as they become available.

**Conker Field:** The planning application to remove the old diseased horse chestnut has now been received and the tree surgeon has been notified to remove the tree. This should be done as soon as permitted after nesting etc and should complete the original tree work project from when the conker field was passed over.

The larger dog poo bag dispenser has been installed and the new steppingstones to the bins will be installed with the new benches.

Talks are currently in progress with Brooksby College about the spinney and how best to manage the area.

**Dog Poo:** Dog walkers, please watch your dog, pick up its poo, bag it, bin it, it's your responsibility! Remember, report dog fouling direct to Charnwood BC online at [www.charnwood.gov.uk](http://www.charnwood.gov.uk) or on 01509 634564.

**Litter Picking:** The great work continues, thank you to everyone helping keep our village tidy.

**Neighbourhood Plan (NP):** The Consultation continues, a formal examiner has been appointed and we will continue to update details on the village website.

**Parish Meeting:** A Parish meeting will be held on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2020 at 7.00pm in the village hall. All villagers are encouraged to attend so we can openly discuss topics relating to the village.

**Planning:** At the time of writing the Gaddesby lane development still has not been formally submitted once it is we will ensure details are on the website so residents can comment accordingly if they wish. The area of land issue to the rear of William Everard Close adjacent to the track from Mill Lane is still being investigated by Borough Council Enforcement, we will update residents on the website as necessary.

**Play Park:** I would like to appeal to parents whose children use the play park for your help with two points please, firstly can we please encourage the children to play ball games at the top of the park and not around the play equipment or against the adjoining properties fence and secondly, could we ask parents to consider others when smoking on the play park please.

**Playing Field:** The PC have agreed to investigate costs of installing a permanent grind rail for skaters next to the halfpipe.

**Post Covid Coffee Morning:** As mentioned previously I would like to organise a post covid community coffee morning to be held in the village hall and have provisionally booked it for Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2021 to encourage residents to meet up and interact / socialise with each other. More details to be issued soon!

**Speeding in the Village:** Random Police speed checks are expected soon and the electronic speed sign is now up and running again. Please drive carefully at all times through our village.

**Tree Project:** The "Tree Project" continues to move and will now be discussed at the June PC meeting. The proposed project will potentially include Mill Lane Brook bank (3 Willows), Conker Field (5 Horse Chestnuts), Playing Field (1 Elm plus 5 others on southern and eastern boundary), Station Road / Wreake Drive (3 trees pocket orchard), Verge on Wreake Drive (Small pocket orchard) & Gaddesby Lane hedgerow down to the bypass (Oak, Conker and Elm).

**Wardens:** We currently still have vacancies for a Tree Warden, Heritage Warden, Snow Warden, and a second Flood Warden to support Paul Matts. If you are interested in learning more about one of these important roles and possibly becoming a Village Warden please contact the Clerk.

**Website:** If you have any information you would like us to add please let us know via email [councillor5.rearsbypc@btconnect.com](mailto:councillor5.rearsbypc@btconnect.com) or [councillor2.rearsbypc@btconnect.com](mailto:councillor2.rearsbypc@btconnect.com)

Don't forget the next Parish Council meetings are be on the first Thursday of the month at 7.30pm in the village hall for more information see the village website or the PC notice board next to the Packhorse bridge.

Thank you & please KEEP SAFE ~ Martin Cooke (Parish Council Chair)