

“Parish Council ~ Chairman’s September 2021”

Hello everyone.

Well, there has been a lot going on in the village since my last note, with Covid restrictions almost fully lifted and it has been great seeing people out and about again.

I wanted to mention Councillor Richard Metcalf who has recently decided to stand down due to work commitments and to thank him for his support during his time on the Council. Richard has kindly agreed to continue with the village speed sign and Christmas tree.

At the September PC meeting we hope to announce a new Councillor joining the PC.

Whilst the Parish Council didn’t meet in August there is still much to do, and the following are a selection of some of the topics we have either concluded or are ongoing:

Benches Project: The first 4 benches (2 Conker field & 2 Playing field) have been installed and we have received some great feedback from parishioners about them.

Commemorative plaques will be fitted to three of the four benches over the coming weeks, one bench on the playing field will be dedicated to Peter French for his work in the community, one on the Conker field we be remembering the Nuns for their generosity in donating the field and the second bench on the conker field has been sponsored by Hollie Stone / Beardsley’s.

The sites for the next round of the project (some of which were proposed by parishioners) have been revised and approved including 2 further benches in the conker field which will be installed later in the year, plus 1 each on Melton Road opposite the allotments, next to the Preaching Stone, Station Road next to the Rearsby Residential Home, Bleakmoor Close Green & 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. Anyone interested in sponsoring a bench should contact the Clerk.

Church: We are delighted that services are now returning to the Church albeit with some slight changes. Service details can be found on the village website.

Community Garden: The PC will be discussing at the September meeting the idea to develop a community garden and propose to develop a three-part garden for Remembrance, Reflection, and the Queens Platinum anniversary. We are still investigating planning and layout options before we reveal the idea in full to the community and apply for the relevant approval from the Borough council. Further details will be issued as they become available.

Conker Field: The tree work in the field has finally been completed for this year however, the PC is still in discussions with Brooksby College regarding support in managing the spinney and the additional trees in the field.

Dog Poo: Dog walkers, please watch your dog, pick up its poo, bag it, bin it, it is your responsibility! Remember, report dog fouling direct to Charnwood BC at www.charnwood.gov.uk or 01509 634564.

Litter Picking: Thank you to everyone who continues to help to keep our village tidy, it is very much appreciated by so many people.

Neighbourhood Plan (NP): The plan has now proceeded to examination with the next steps being a report and referendum, please see details on the village website as they become available.

Planning: At the time of writing the Gaddesby lane development still has not been formally submitted and the planning issue over land 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 the village website as necessary on both these issues as information becomes available.

Playing Field: The PC is investigating possibly installing a permanent grind rail for skaters next to the halfpipe as the temporary ones are being removed due to health & safety concerns. We would again like to appeal to parents whose children use this area to ask them for comments about this and let the council know if they feel it worthwhile installing new equipment.

We are also investigating costs and interest in installing an outdoor table tennis table on the field.

Post Covid Coffee Morning: What a fantastic morning in the village hall, with over 50 people coming and going through the morning before many went on to the village garage sale in the afternoon. It was a real pleasure to see so many people out and chatting with others, thank you to everyone who came and to those who helped.

Queens Platinum Anniversary: The PC would be interested in ideas for village celebrations for the Queens Platinum Anniversary in June 2022.

Speeding in the Village: Random Police speed checks were carried out in late July / early August, and more are expected. Please always drive carefully through our village.

Tree Project: The PC are continuing with the proposed tree program for the village agreed in June and the Clerk has written to LCC regarding suggested sites for trees not on Parish Council owned land, these include Mill Lane Brook bank (3 Willows), 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 are hoping to announce the appointment of a new tree warden in September which would be great news.

We still currently have vacancies for a 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 or councillor2.rearsbypc@btconnect.com

Don't forget, Parish Council meetings are held 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)