

Annual Parish Meeting 13th May 2024

Chairman's Report

Eight Councillors were newly elected at the April Elections 2023. Councillor Morgan resigned in September 2023, I would like to thank her for her contribution during her short time on the Council. The vacancy was taken by Councillor Birkin who was co-opted in November 2023.

Being a Councillor takes hard work and dedication. We are all volunteers; we are not experts, and we all work to the best of our ability for the good of the Parish. We attend Full Council meetings, committee meeting, working party meetings and on occasions meet informally to discuss matters relating to the village. At informal meetings no decisions can be made but it allows us to discuss village issues, chat and enjoy time together.

I wish to thank all my fellow Councillors for supporting me in my role as Chair. I would like to thank Councillor Maddison our Vice Chair, he has been a tower of strength supporting me when I have asked for his advice and help.

The Council welcomed Joe Roberts as Clerk/ RFO (Responsible Financial Officer) in October 2023. I would like to thank Bonny Smith for taking on the role of Locum Clerk whilst we advertised and appointed a new Clerk.

Thanks go to Stephanie and Andy Foster for decorating the Parish Rooms at Christmas. Jane Slaymaker for cleaning the Parish Rooms, Jane recently cancelled her cleaning contract with us and a new cleaner is expected to start in June 2024. Mick Holmes for maintaining our grounds and benches.

Sue Maddison took on the voluntary role of Booking Clerk for the Parish Rooms. I understand the time and effort this role takes and on behalf of the Council I would like to say how much we appreciate Sue's commitment and hard work. Sue is often seen popping over to the hall, this can be late evenings as well as mornings. Thanks Sue.

We thank Councillor Gray and Councillor Grover for attending our meetings and supporting Hundleby Parish Council in their work. Councillor Gray is very knowledgeable on local issues and highway issues. This proves useful when the public attending our meetings wish to seek information from ELDC.

Councillor Grover in March 2023 awarded the Parish Council a Grant of £400.00 towards the continuation of broadband for the Parish Rooms and a replacement outside entrance light. The new light is due to be fitted in the next few days.

Finances are monitored closely and we are advised by Joe our Responsible Financial Officer. Budgets are set and this year we increased the Precept to keep in line with predicted expenditure and income. We are monitored by an internal auditor before our AGAR form is sent to the external auditor. The Finance Committee meet three times a year and review the budget and make recommendations to the Full Council.

The Council are aware of the issues with parking and speeding in the village and continue to pursue any ideas that may help reduce the problem. Highway Issues are reported on "Fix My Street" and any member of the public can report pot holes etc.

We planted 12 free fruit trees on a small area of the Allotments, these trees were given as part of a Community Orchard Scheme launched by ELDC. Further trees may be introduced at a later date.

Once the area is established we will arrange Open Days

The daffodils we purchased and planted to Commemorate the Coronation of King Charles and bloomed for the first time this spring. We were thrilled to see such a pretty display along Raithby Hill and the main road through the village. This will be a lasting reminder of the King's Coronation for many years to come. On the Village Green we have a small area where we planted wild flower seeds also to commemorate the King's Coronation.

A poppy wreath from the Parish Council was laid at the war memorial in the Church grounds in November for Remembrance Sunday, this will be an annual event going forwards. Thank you to everyone involved in making this happen.

The Council sent out its first Newsletter last month. Councillors sent in their contributions and Councillor Tilsley edited the Newsletter, feedback has been very positive. The Newsletter is a way to inform the village of what is happening and events that are coming up.

On behalf of the Parish Council thank you to anyone who has helped and contributed to the work we do to look after our village .

This concludes my report and I will now move to the Parish Rooms report.

Lynette Corten-Miller