

BLAXTON PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 16 APRIL 2015

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2014/15

I would like to start with thanking my fellow councillors for all the work put in over the last year and also thanks to our Clerk Philip for all his hard work.

I would also like to thank, on behalf of the Council, John Hargreaves for all the work he does for us around the village.

In February we had 4 Springie items for younger children installed on our playing field and we are now looking at putting another table and benches there in the future and moving the ball wall to stand between the play area and the football pitch so it is more accessible. I am pleased to say all the new equipment is getting a lot of use.

We are involved in plans to work with the Blaxton and Finningley Joint Playing Field Association and Finningley Parish Council to secure funding from DMBC Section 106 payments (received from builders who have constructed housing in the area) to build a pavilion on the playing field.

We have made representations to DMBC about a number of issues including the road resurfacing, drainage and Bus Stop standing areas on Bank End Road, the condition of the planting on the roundabout, overhanging hedges and the speed of traffic throughout the village, street lighting, vehicle speed and turning issues on Park Lane. We find getting replies to our queries very difficult but our Clerk perseveres.

We continue to provide floral displays in the planters around the roundabout and maintain the 11 seats in the village, again thanks to John.

We continue to liaise with the Police about village issues and Police representatives attend Parish Council meetings when shift patterns permit.

We are represented on the Joint Playing Field Committee, Airport Consultative Committee, the Parish Council Joint Consultative Committee and Blaxton Village Hall Committee.

The Village Hall at the moment is in need of maintenance of the walls which are showing signs of damp. This is being looked at by the Parish Council. Bookings of the hall are very good and the Committee which runs it is doing a sterling job.

At present the War Memorial is not looking at its best. Very soon we are going to have some groundworks done. This will improve the surrounds so the cables are covered, wreaths do not blow about and gravel does not escape on to the pavement. We are looking to the War Memorials Trust for a grant to clean and repoint the Memorial.

When we hold the Armistice Service at the War Memorial we liaise with the Police, Scouts, DMBC and Rev Redeyoff.

Last year we purchased low voltage coloured lights for the festive season and later this year we will probably have to purchase another set because the old white ones are coming to the end of their life.

Our website was set up in December 2014. To date we have had 2,700 hits but only two Contact Enquiries, one requesting information about the War Memorial and the other complaining about overhanging hedges. We welcome any enquiries or queries

Thank You

Norma McCarron