

# Cliffe Parish Council

## *Chairman's Report 2022*

I'd like to start the meeting this evening by welcoming everyone, including Parish and County Councillors, and especially any members of the public present. This meeting is being held in the Village Institute, having taken the decision to move the Parish Council meetings back here from St Andrew's Mission during the last year.

Due to the pandemic, the 2021 report covered a two-year period from 2019 to 2021. Thankfully, normal order has now been restored and therefore this Chairman's report covers the last year since the Annual meeting in May 2021.

The Parish Council undertakes a large number of services within the Parish and I would like to look back at what has been achieved over the last year through the efforts of all our councillors and members of the public, as well as looking forward to the future with planned projects and objectives.

I have compiled the list of brief highlights below to give an overview of the projects, challenges and achievements the Parish Council has made over the last year:

- Installation of new litter and dog bins,
- Continued utilisation of the village speed sign (with survey facility), including four installation locations (A63 eastbound, A63 westbound, York Road northbound & York Road southbound). This has been used to good effect, highlighting areas of concern for speeding vehicles, and providing data to the authorities for consideration in future speed monitoring efforts,
- Two recent speed surveys have been commissioned, on York Road and on the A63 through Lund. These have also provided data to the authorities for consideration in future speed monitoring efforts,
- Village website, which continues to be an essential source of informative information,
- Work to the western side of Main Street, including tree felling/trimming,
- Planting of trees along Main Street and a special tree on the village green to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022 (including special plaque),
- Maintenance of parish street lighting network,
- Grass Maintenance, ensuring the grassed areas within the Parish are maintained in a healthy condition, are free from litter and competition from weed growth.
- Monitoring of public footpaths throughout the parish, ensuring landowners are reminded of their responsibilities to keep them clear,
- Constant liaison with Highways on issues such as road surfaces, signage and pathways,
- We have provided funding to a number of organisations within the Parish in recent years, including:
  - Cliffe VC Primary School
  - Cliffe Pre-School
  - Cliffe Playing Fields Association
  - Cliffe Village Institute
  - Cliffe Community Fundraising Group (for Cliffe Fair)
- Monitoring of ground works and landscaping at the Plasmor site, including site visits
- Monitoring of issues regarding water drainage in the village, collating comments from residents and approaching authorities/utility providers with the aim of resolving issues,

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- Liaison with the Police Community Officer on a number of concerns raised by residents,
- Monitoring of HGV traffic along York Road (which remains a concern), contacting local businesses and haulage contractors, reminding them of the 7.5t weight limit through the village and offering alternative routes to be taken.
- A village book library has been erected on the village green,
- Continued monitoring and pro-active participation (in partnership with Hemingbrough and Barby/Osgodby Parish Councils) in efforts to revive and improve the public bus services for the village,
- Continued monitoring and pro-active participation (in partnership with Hemingbrough Parish Council) in efforts to retain a Doctor's surgery in Hemingbrough,
- Maintenance of the footpath through Broad Lane Wood, including repair, resurfacing and replacement of the four bridges which cross drainage ditches within the woodland,
- New signage installed at Broad Lane Wood,
- Extension of the village green to the village institute (by culverting the ditch).

As evidenced from this list of highlights, a significant amount has been achieved over the last 12 months. There are also a number of additional activities which are 'ongoing', and which are mentioned later in this report.

The Police Community officer reports often don't mention Cliffe due to there being no crimes reported. Whilst not claiming credit for this, it is important to note that the Parish Council plays a big part in helping to tackle local crime by facilitating information sharing, making sure the police reports are accurate and representative and in supporting members of the public who are experiencing local issues such as antisocial behaviour.

Within the last 12 months we have welcomed three new Councillors; Andrew Pulleyne, John Jewitt and Karen Wedgwood, who have all taken to the role of Parish Councillor with positive vigour, forfeiting their time and efforts to a number of projects which would not be successful without their help, thank you all;

Thank you to Cllr Howard Cross for his ongoing commitments to the Mary Waud Trust and Cliffe Combined Charities. Thanks also go to Howard for being the primary force behind the research and procurement of the trees along Main Street, as well as the Jubilee tree on the village green;

Thank you to Cllr Jon Wallinger for maintaining the excellent village website ([www.cliffevillage.com](http://www.cliffevillage.com)) which provides the Parish with news, updates, links, parish council minutes, councillor details etc. it's a fantastic resource and a huge amount of personal effort has gone in to keep this updated to Jon's high standards.

Thank you to Cllr Andrew Holman for his continued work on the Drax steering group and for supporting me in his role of Vice-Chairman;

Thanks to Councillor Ralph Woodall for his work with the village flag pole on the village green, always ahead of the game when it comes to having the right flag for the right occasion flying in the correct manner;

Thank you to Cllr Paul Maw for representing the council at Cliffe Village Institute and Cliffe Playing Field Association Committees;

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I'd like to thank District Cllrs Karl Arthur and Mark Topping and County Councillor Mike Jordan for their hard work and support for our Parish, including providing funding for the culverting project.

Thank you to our clerk Julie Leighton-Eshelby for all her hard work and dedication to this Parish Council, I appreciate your knowledge, guidance and help. On behalf of the Parish Council and the Parish, thank you Julie.

I must also thank our two 'handymen', Alan Parker and Mark Blundell who help us with their practical craftsmen skills repairing and maintaining fences, bridges, notice boards & seats etc.

The next year promises to be as challenging as ever, with a number of new and existing projects and objectives on the list, including (but not limited to):

- Completion of the village green extension to the village institute (by rerouting pathways, grassing the newly created space and adding fencing/gates etc),
- Reviewing & reducing HGV traffic through the village on York Road,
- Reviewing & resolving water / waste / flooding issues throughout the village, especially around the village Institute / Pre-School area,
- Ensuring Highways issues such as road surfaces, signage and pathways are maintained,
- Highways – investigate possible provision of passing places on roads to South Duffield,
- Ensuring public footpaths are clear and available to all whilst ensuring they are used properly and responsibly by raising awareness of where the public can and cannot walk, whilst respecting the land, owners and wildlife properly (follow the country code),
- Continue to support groups, organisations and charities in the Parish and those representing the parish,
- Re-purposing the Village Paddock at Cliffe Common into a nature reserve,
- Ensuring there are sufficient general waste and dog waste bins around the parish,
- Maintenance of Broad Lane wood,
- New decorative signage at village entrances.

That concludes the Chairman's report for this year. If I have missed anything or anyone then please accept my apologies. I look forward to working with you all going forwards in the future for the benefit of the Parish and its Parishioners.



Gary Wilson (Chairman, Cliffe Parish Council)  
9<sup>th</sup> May 2022