

Chairman's Report 2019

I'd like to thank you all for coming to the meeting tonight and welcome members of the public, and returning and new councillors. I'd like to introduce our new councillors Paul Maw and David Allenby who we look forward to working with.

As always we undertake a large number of services within the Parish and it's really important to look back at what has been achieved last year through the efforts of all our councillors and members of the public, as well as looking forward at the year ahead.

I've put together a list below which I'll run through to give an overview of projects, challenges and achievements to demonstrate the number of elements we have covered and resolved:

- Footpath to the rear of William Jacques Drive flooding issues;
- New Hay lane Right of way;
- Turnham lane footpath verge clearances and improvements;
- Clay lane levelling out the ruts in liaison with the Ouse and Drainage Board and NYCC Rights of Way officer;
- New litter and dog bins have been installed;
- Agreed to install a new flag pole in the village green;
- Christmas fair held on the village green by Cliffe PTA;
- New policies developed for signage etc.;
- Bulb planting on the village green and verges;
- Maintenance of the parish street lighting network;
- Maintenance of the parish grass cutting;
- Supported the brownies camp fires on the village green;
- Cliffe Village Walks programme to be launched this year
- Yellow lines near the Primary school;
- Cliffe cross roads liaison meetings and resulting report and large signs recommended for installation;
- A new Parish web site.
- We have funded the following:
 - Contribution of over £4,000 for the new Sports wall built in the playing fields
 - Cliffe Village Institute Insurance,
 - Cliffe Playing Fields Association Insurance
 - Cliffe Brownies.
 - Local Charities
 - Cliffe WI
 - Cliffe School computers purchased last financial year continue to help the school programme.

So a significant amount was achieved last year.

On a less positive note we've seen an increase in crime in the Parish recently with Cliffe Pre-School broken into, poaching and break-ins, and its 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 for supporting members of the public who are experiencing local issues such as antisocial behaviour. Cliffe also holds the record for the fastest speed through a village in North Yorkshire clocking over 100 MPH through the village. This highlights the need to retain our focus on highways issues.

I wanted to mention both Matthew Wattham and Janet Allen who stepped down from the Parish Council this year, for the support and hard work they have given to the Parish Council over the years and to Matthew and the York City Minster men for their support of Parish projects and to Janet and Trevor for all their work over the years on the maintenance of Broad Lane Woods.

Big thank you to Cllr Cross for his ongoing commitments to the Mary Ward Trust and Cliffe Parish Charities.

Thank you to Cllrs Jon Wallinger and Amy Wilson for leading the village walks project and to Jon for creating the excellent new website 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 move this forward.

Thank you to Cllr Andrew Holman for his continued work on the Drax and Plasmor steering groups and for supporting me as chair and for chairing meetings in my absence;

To Cllr Chris Topping for his ongoing attendance and work with Cliffe Playing Field Association.

Thanks to Councillor Ralf Woodhall for his work with the village flag pole and WW1 memorial for the village green.

Thank you to former Cllrs Janet Allen for representing the council at Cliffe Village Institute Committee; and to Matthew Wattham for his work on the street lights maintenance.

I'd like to thank District Cllr Karl Arthur for his hard work and support for our Parish and a big thank you again to Cllr Jim Deans who retired this year. He's supported the parish Council on many planning decisions and on the village green project provided letters of support to aid funding. A fountain of planning knowledge he has helped us immeasurably and we wish him all the best in his retirement as a District Councillor.

Thank you to Cllr Mike Jordan for his support with the village bulb planting programme providing the Parish Council with a further £300 of funding towards bulb planting this year throughout the Parish and we encourage parishioners from Cliffe, Lund and South Duffield to help us to decide where to plant the bulbs and to help plant the bulbs in October this year.

Huge thank you to our clerk Julie Leighton Eshelby for all her hard work and dedication to this Parish Council, she's worked incredibly hard through a difficult year and from myself and on behalf of the Parish Council and Parish thank you Julie.

This next year promises to be equally busy and with the new list of Parish Projects on our web site we can focus on delivering existing and new projects and services, finalising details of our parish assets and encouraging more people to attend meetings and get involved in Parish Council projects; together with continuing to support groups, organisations and charities in the Parish and those representing the parish.

Apologies if I've missed anything or anyone, thank you all for your help last year and I look forward to this year and to working with you all again.