

Chairman's Address
Cherry Burton Annual Parish Meeting
Held 4th May 2021 virtually.

I would like to thank the all the supportive members of the PC who have conscientiously attended meetings throughout the last two years, and particularly over the last year with all the limitations of Zoom.

Since the last APM is 2019 a lot of water has passed under the Parish Council's bridge, and we seem to be coming out of the tunnel now.

Since April 2019, the PC has passed through many and various stages of the Pond legal dispute and have now reached a settlement. As a result, the Council has been able to make a 100% rebate of the Cherry Burton Precept for the year 2021-2022, and we were again able to support the Christmas Lights and Christmas Tree on the Pond for Christmas 2020. I am grateful to Cllrs Baker and Jeffrey for their support through the dispute.

The Trod has been further upgraded with some assistance from ERYC, for which we are very grateful, and it has been a much-appreciated asset for residents exercising during the lockdowns over the last year. I would also like to express gratitude to the PC members who have helped maintain the Trod.

I am also particularly proud of the work that Councillors, and particularly Cllrs Baker and Wardale, have put into the Nature Walk and arranging a lease on the dog walking field. These two additional have provided real benefits for people taking exercise and exercising their dogs and have again helped relieve the stresses of lockdown and made a positive contribution to life in the village. It is clear how much the community appreciates these assets and all the hard work that has gone into making them happen, and I am also pleased to see the Village getting some extra value from the Sports Field.

Yet again we must thank Councillors Tony Baker and Peter Wardale who have obtained and facilitated further grants for refurbishments and redecoration of the changing rooms and lounge of the pavilion.

The Parish Council has overseen the installation of a new bench near the Village Green, and fortunately this has not so far been the focus of any anti-social behaviour, and as a result we have supported the Beverley Westwood Lions initiative to install a commemorative bench outside Cedar Grange for the benefit of elderly residents.

The PC has continued to monitor surface water and sewage flooding and continued to lobby East Riding of Yorkshire Council and Yorkshire Water for improvements.

Over that last year or so the PC has embarked on the route to attainment of The Local Council Awards Scheme "Quality Standard" and through the dedication of a small sub committee and the Parish Clerk in drawing up a comprehensive set of policies and documentation, I think we are approaching the point of accreditation. This should help

improve the PC in terms of the way we represent the community, transparency, and administration.

The Parish Council campaigned long and hard against the development off Canada Drive behind Cedar Grange, based on both the wholly unacceptable and inadequate access off an existing cul-de-sac on Canada Drive, and the additional load that the development will add to an already inadequate sewage system in the Village. The PC does not object to development in the Village and appreciates the benefits to the Village School and other amenities from some development, but in this case the proposed access is simply inadequate and inappropriate. Unfortunately, we were unsuccessful in our opposition. This case highlighted the limited weight put on the views of local communities by the Government in formulating planning policies and in planning decisions.

Road safety and speeding are two topics which are regularly brought to the attention of the Parish Council with concerns about the Malton Road crossroads, the dips/bends at the back of Bishop Burton College and speeding and parking near the school. We do take these concerns very seriously and rarely a month passes that we do not have some correspondence with ERYC about these concerns. So often we are told that there is limited funding for any improvements and priorities are given to projects involving accident blackspots with a history of serious or fatal accidents.

The Parish Council has been proactive in the establishment of a Community Speed Watch scheme in the Village as a means of raising awareness of our speed limits and encouraging traffic to travel at safer speeds in collaboration with Humberside Police. It would be good to have some more volunteers for the group.

I would like to remind residents that the Parish Council really has very limited authority in traffic/road safety and planning matters. But, on the other hand, the PC, does support the Sportsfield Management Committee in maintaining and running the playing field and pavilion, and is also responsible for two sets of allotments, the Village Pond, the play area on the village green the Nature Area and the dog walking field. In these areas I think the PC does make a real difference to the quality of the life in the Village.

Finally, I would like to thank our Parish Clerk, Janet Wardale for all that she has done to support the Parish Council, over the last two years and not least because of the significant additional work that was generated by the legal case. I would also like to re-iterate my thanks, on behalf of the community to Tony Baker and Pete Wardale for all that they have done to make the Nature Trail and Dog Walking Field happen for the Village community.