

## NETTLEHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2018

### District Councillor's Report

Members will recall that the Annual Parish Meeting clashed with the West Lindsey District Council Community Awards. As Chairman of the **Community Awards Panel** I was obliged to attend the ceremony. I was enormously proud of all the finalists from across the district, but especially of **Buddies Dementia Care Café** who were runners-up in the **Community Group of the Year** category and more so, **Alissa Stevens** who was named **Young Citizen of the Year**, for her work on the **Nettleham Festive Market**.

The final tranche of £1,000.00 of my **Councillors' Initiative Fund** is now receiving bids. I have already had a number of expressions of interest; including those mentioned in previous dispatches together with the heritage walks group at Riseholme, more than eighty percent of the monies have been applied for. I expect to make a determination on the application that I have in had before the end of July.

Since the last meeting of Nettleham Parish Council I have attended a meeting of the **Planning Committee** on Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May and chaired an Association of Public Service Excellence's **Strategic Forum** on Commercialisation & Professional Public Finance in Grantham about the collapse on the post-Carillion landscape in local government in relation to the appetite for out-sourcing and in-sourcing. I attended **Annual Council** on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> May. The changes in appointments to committees were minimal and the Chairmanships of the various committees remain unchanged, except for the election of the former Vice Chairman of Council, Cllr. Pat Mewis (Scotter & Blyton), to the Chairmanship and the election of Cllr. Steve England (Dunholme & Welton) to the Vice-Chairmanship which left vacant one of the deputy chairmanships on the Prosperous Communities committee which has been filled by Cllr. John McNeill (Market Rasen). I was pleased to be re-elected unanimously as Chairman of the Governance and Audit committee and have been appointed as the Group Whip by the Leader of the Council, Cllr. Jeff Summers (Waddingham & Spital). I attended a meeting of the Leaders' Panel on Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> May. On the morning of Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May I attended a Board Meeting of the **Witham Internal Third Drainage Board**.

In the coming weeks I will attending meetings of the **Planning Committee** (Wednesday, 30<sup>th</sup> May) and the **Governance and Audit Committee** (Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> May).

There has been some press coverage in recent weeks about the closure of the **Gainsborough Bowls Club**, that has operated out of the West Lindsey Leisure Centre, Gainsborough. As part of the new Leisure Contract the bowls facility is being withdrawn by the company that run the leisure contract, to make way for a new health and wellbeing hub. This affects less than 70 residents of the district, but the changes will benefit many, many more more. Nevertheless, despite their vocal protest (which has been truly disgusting), we remain committed to a contract which will deliver a new sports facility at Market Rasen an out-reach service to the wider district – this will be trialling in the coming weeks in Scothern and Sudbrooke and is expected to be rolled out to other parts of district later this autumn. Obviously, given the considerable public realm assets that are under the control of Nettleham Parish Council, there will be opportunities for the parish.



**Giles McNeill**

*Working hard for the Nettleham Ward*