

Chairman's Report for Annual Parish Meeting

For period 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018

The past 12 months have seen some changes in our village and its administration, which we believe will set its future course to continue to be a highly desirable place to live. Unfortunately, we do not have responsibility for many things that impact our residents; for example, the state of the local highways and footpaths, but we have been putting pressure on those that do.

1. Improvements to Parish facilities

- a) Over the past 12 months we have seen a substantial improvement to the Village Hall car park and planting in the area. This is part of an ongoing refurbishment of the facility being undertaken, jointly, by representatives of the Parish Council and Village Hall Committee.
- b) The toilet and changing facilities in the Mulsanne Park Pavilion have had a major facelift including new facilities for visiting officials. A grant was received from the Football Association for 50% of the cost this work.
- c) We will have 2 new benches for the Bishops Meadow site, courtesy of local donors.

2. Improvements to the Parish Council Organisation

- a) We have now recruited a new village handyperson Kevin Pyrah, and added a Facilities Assistant Jane Ashby to our staff to help with managing the Parish Council's facilities and contractor monitoring.
- b) We have established an improved committee structure to ensure better monitoring, utilisation and development of all our village facilities.
- c) We have set-up a Personnel and Standards Panel to look at staffing matters, policies, and systems.
- d) We now have a Beck Working Group to identify improvements, which can be made to improve the amenity value and functionality of the Beck.
- e) Another working group is exploring the feasibility of providing new play equipment to enhance the play experience for a wider age range of children, at Bill Bailey's, and to explore funding possibilities.

3. New housing developments

- a) Work has now started on the new development off Deepdale lane, known as "Nettleham Chase". This was an allocated site in the Nettleham Neighbourhood Plan. Not only will this development contain 50 market value houses, but also a LACE Housing facility for over 55s which is one of the key aspirations of our Neighbourhood Plan; to provide affordable care to those in their later years so they don't have to leave the village.
- b) The Nettleham Neighbourhood Plan was also successfully employed to support the decision for rejection, by the Secretary of State, of a planning application for 200 new homes on land off Larch Avenue.

4. Other Activities around the village

- a) Christmas saw our first and very successful Festive Market. Some 40 stalls were erected throughout the centre of the village, in the Old School and All Saints Church, selling all manner of food, drink and gifts. There were also carol singers and the switching on of the Christmas Tree lights by our Carnival Queen. The Parish Council will once again be supporting, (but not organising), this activity, and it is expected to be even bigger and better than last year.
- b) In order to protect locally used assets of community value we have now registered our first two:- the Community Hub and the Pinfold at the top of Mill Hill. More sites will be registered in the coming 12 months. The “Assets of Community Value” designation ensures that if the owner of the asset decides they want to sell the building, or land, then the community is notified and we are given 6 months to make a bid for it, (at market price, of course).
- c) The Parish Council has commenced discussions with Lincolnshire County Council, and others, about the future of the Linelands site and is working on proposals which will accord with the Neighbourhood Plan.
- d) The Parish Council is working towards establishing a Facebook site where official announcements can be placed, together with useful information links to village-related online sites and activities.
- e) The highly regarded “Nettleham News’ magazine ceased publication, as a printed magazine, and has been replaced by a new magazine; “Nettleham Matters”. Whilst the new magazine is quite different in style to the previous one, it is proving to be very popular and a worthy replacement. Nettleham News is still available online providing more immediate access to local news.

5. Meetings of the Council

The Council met on 11 occasions during the past year; the Property Committee met on 8 occasions plus 2 Village Inspections. The Planning Liaison Committee, which meets as and when required, continues to monitor all planning applications on behalf of the Village. Attached at Appendix A is a schedule showing the attendance of Parish Councillors at all relevant Council and Committee meetings. Video recording of Parish Council meetings has now commenced so local people can see, and hear, what is happening at their council meetings - even if they are unable to attend in person - by visiting the Nettleham News online site.

Clearly there have been many exciting things happening over the past year, and many more to come. Why not get involved; join a working group focused on one project, or even stand for the Parish Council, (non party political), elections in May 2019 and get involved – help to make a difference and give something back to your community?

*Cllr John Evans
Chair, Nettleham Parish Council*

**ATTENDANCE OF COUNCILLORS AT
PARISH COUNCIL COMMITTEES FOR PERIOD
1 APRIL 2017 TO 31 MARCH 2018**

Councillor	Full Council	Property Committee	Personnel & Standards Panel	Total
J Evans ^{(1) (4)} Chairman	11/11	7/8	5/5	23/24
J Siddall ^{(1) (3) (4)} Vice Chair	10/11	8/8	5/5	23/24
T Williams ⁽⁴⁾	8/11	4/8	5/5	17/24
Mrs J Clayton ⁽³⁾	11/11	8/8	N/A	19/19
J Hill	11/11	8/8	N/A	19/19
J Downs ⁽²⁾	9/11	6/8	N/A	15/19
G McNeill ⁽⁴⁾	6/11	N/A	3/5	9/16
M Spencer ⁽²⁾	9/11	7/8	N/A	16/19
M Leaning ⁽²⁾	11/11	N/A	N/A	11/11
Mrs Susan Harland ^{(2) (3)}	10/11	N/A	N/A	10/11
Mrs A White ⁽²⁾	11/11	N/A	N/A	11/11
R Porter	11/11	8/8	N/A	19/19

- (1) Cllr J Evans as Chairman and Cllr J Siddall as Vice Chairman of the Council are *ex officio* to Committees
(2) Members of the Planning Liaison Committee which meets on an ad hoc basis
(3) Cllrs Mrs J Clayton, J Siddall & Mrs S Harland are Parish Council representatives on Village Hall Committee
(4) Members of Personnel & Standards Panel