



## Appendix A

### Parish of Ingleby Arncliffe Parish Council – Chair Report 2019

#### Parish Council

My report only covers the responsibilities and activities of the Parish Council.

Acknowledgement has to be given to the contribution that other organisations and indeed individuals make to the community. Amongst the many are the Village Hall Committee, the Women's Institute, the PCC, the Garden Club, Neighbourhood Watch, and the Oil Co-operative are all worth of mention and our thanks for what they bring to the community.

There were no changes in the composition of the Council during the year. The Councillors thorough the last twelve months remain, Hazel Warhurst, Ruth Eastham, Diane Shaw, George Hunter and myself. All Councils are unpaid volunteers.

The Council would like to express its thanks to Susan Stephenson for her role as Parish Clerk. She has been of great assistance in the smooth running of the Council's operations.

Additionally, Susan took on the role of Responsible Financial Officer from Hazel during 2018.

Worth pausing here to record the Parish's thanks to Hazel in term of her work as RFC and on the email lists, Parish newsletters etc.

**Council meetings are held in the Village Hall** starting at 7:00pm on a two-monthly cycle.

All Parish residents are welcome to attend Council meetings and participate in our discussions. Any resident who wishes to have a matter considered by the Council should contact any of the Councillors or the Parish Clerk. Our agendas, minutes and policies are published in the Parish Council's section of the Parish's website and Hazel also circulates Council items using the Parish's email listing.

**What does the Council do** - its activities range from meeting the Parish's legal and insurance obligations, deciding on the level of the Parish's precept, accounting for Council's expenditure, dealing with HMRC, considering planning applications, Neighbourhood Planning, maintenance of the recreation ground, grass cutting and taking part in various consultations.

We benefit at our meetings from updates at District and County levels from District Cllr David Hugill and County Cllr Bryn Griffiths and the Council appreciates their regular attendance.



The Police provide the Council with monthly reports on Parish crime incidents and our local Neighbourhood Watch representative keeps crime, anti-social behaviour and the No Cold Calling zone under review.

### **Turning to the accounts and the Parish's Finances for March 2019**

The budget was to spend £7,055 in the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019, actual expenditure amounted to £11,325, £4,270 higher. The main increases were spent on neighbourhood planning, £3,367, and £1,585 on the Time to Remember commemorations.

Both items of additional expenditures, the neighbourhood plan and Time to Remember were covered by additional income either in the form of grants or resident donations. The grants included £300 from North Yorkshire County Council Locality Budgets for the brass plaques on the war memorial

Council expenditure excluding these two items amounted to £6,763, £292 less than budget.

### **Precept for March 2020**

For the next financial year ending March 2020, the Parish has budgeted for £7,136 of expenditure. the largest single item of expenditure being grass cutting costs at £2,400. The next largest category of budgeted expenditure are the costs of running the Parish Council, which amounts to around £3,270. That latter figure includes the salary paid to the Parish Clerk, various membership fees, insurance and winter maintenance costs. The remaining costs of around £1,466 includes recreation costs of £680 and, £786 for donations, newsletters and sundry costs.

The Parish precept is the major source of the Parish's income and for the next financial year has been raised to £5,775 from £5,500 a 5% increase.

The precept income is again less than the Council's budgeted expenditure as the Council continues with its previous policy to reduce its cash reserves over a two to year period.

The Parish's cash balance was around £9,700 at the end of March 2019. The Council has estimated that it should retain around £6,700 to cover for contingencies of various kinds, contested Parish elections at £4,000 are one such case. Exceptional maintenance costs of Council's assets are another example, where it is prudent to include within an assessment of reserves.

More details of the Council's expenditure can be found on the Parish website and any resident can look at the original accounts documentation once the 2019 accounts have been finalised. The dates and the arrangements for the account's inspection will be published shortly.

Turning now to matters that the Council has been working on over the last twelve months.



### **Neighbourhood Planning**

George chairs the Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group. The Group have continued to work on the plan and a draft plan for consultation was published in early December 2018.

Following the Group's consideration of resident responses to the plan, an updated draft, referred to as the submission plan should be released for further consultation later in May. The draft plan contains several community action points which will help in guiding the council's activities over the next few years.

George deserves both our recognition and thanks the driving the plan towards its conclusions.

### **Parish website**

The website enables the Council to comply with its legal obligations required under the Government's Transparency Code legislation in making available to residents, or rather to those residents with an internet connection, Council Agendas, Annual Accounts, Minutes, Council's policies and details of your Council expenditure.

However, the website covers much more than Parish Council activities and residents are encouraged to make full use of the site. The website is for the Parish to use and we would welcome any suggestions to enhance the site.

### **Recreation Ground**

Several residents helped with the successful organisation and running of the Parish's 2018 sports day and once again residents took part in the "pruning days" so a thanks to all those that participated. Thanks to Ruth and Gerry for their work at the recreation ground and for the weekly insurance checks carried out by Ruth.

### **Dog Fouling**

It's pleasing to report that most Parish dog owners are responsible for the way they exercise their dogs.

However, it's unfortunate that two areas, the path down to the recreation area and the road south from the Village Hall, show repeated instances of dog fouling.

The Council is considering what action it can take to address this issue. This may include the use of cameras and work is ongoing on making sure the Council understands the legal implications of using cameras.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "GJ", is located in the bottom right corner of the page.



### **Grass Cutting**

Grass cutting was mentioned earlier, and we would record our appreciation for the work carried out by Keith Henderson.

### **Vehicle Speeds**

The Council arranged with North Yorkshire police to carry out a speed check on Cross Lane. The results failed to show based on the N.Y.P. criteria that any further action on their part was required. On closer examination the positioning of the data loggers used by the Police were considered to have played a major adverse part in the survey's findings. Despite our best efforts N.Y.P. will not redo the survey until 2020. In the meantime, we have invited volunteers to help if we have permission to implement a Community Speed Watch programme.

### **Time to Remember Commemoration November 2018**

The commemoration last November went very well with many attendees and many Parish residents contributed to the request for donations and work on preparing the Church and the Village Hall for the day.

The planning and efforts of Tim Roy in connection with the commemorations and the extensive work he arranged and frequently undertook at the war memorial and on the web site, deserve our special recognition.

### **May 2019 Elections**

The May elections went uncontested and four out of the five existing Councillors were "elected" back onto the Council for another four-year term. Diane decided not to serve again, and our thanks to Diane for her service to the Council.

The Council will be seeking another Councillor and we would encourage residents to apply.

Finally, in closing may I thank all the Councillors, Susan and the district and county Councillors for their support over the last twelve months.