



## **Parish of Ingleby Arncliffe**

### **Parish Council – Chairman’s Report 2022**

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

The contribution other organisations and individuals make to the community for example the Village Hall Committee, the Women’s Institute, the Church, the Garden Club, Neighbourhood Watch, Defibrators Guardians, Recreation Ground inspector, Hazel with her community messages and the Oil Co-operative are all worthy of mention and thanks go to each of them for what they contribute.

There was one change in the composition of the Parish Council during the year, Mr Walley resigning at the February 2022 meeting.

All the remaining Parish Councillors, Hazel Warhurst, Barbara Funnell, George Hunter and David Cook had to seek re-election following the end of their term of office.

Three of these Councillors; David Cook, Barbara Funnell and Hazel Warhurst, have been stood again and will take up their roles from the 5<sup>th</sup> of May 2022.

All Parish Councillors remain unpaid volunteers.

George Hunter has decided not to seek re-election and the Parish Council would wish to recognise his service both to the Council, the community, and the Village Hall. George was a driving force behind the Village Plan, then the Community Plan and lastly the Neighbourhood Plan. His contribution has been significant and he will be missed.

The Council would very much welcome any Parish residents who would like to put themselves forward for consideration as Parish Councillors. There is one Councillor vacancy at the moment and any residents that are interested in taking on the role should get in touch with the Parish Clerk.

The Council must express its thanks to Susan in her twin roles as Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer. Susan remains vital to the smooth running of the Parish Council.

All Parish residents are welcome to attend the regular monthly Parish 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.



What does the Council do - well its activities range from meeting its various legal obligations, deciding on the Parish precept, accounting for its expenditure, consideration of planning applications, maintenance of the recreation ground, grass cutting and taking part in various consultations, and meetings.

We continued to benefit at our meetings from updates at both District and County levels from District Cllr David Hugill and County Cllr Bryn Griffiths. The introduction of a unitary authority for North Yorkshire will inevitably change these relationships but the Parish council will do its utmost to make sure the communities views and aspirations will be represented to the new authority.

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 regime under regular review.

### **Financial**

#### **Year to March 2022**

The Parish budgeted to spend £8,387 in the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. Actual expenditure amounted to £6,009. The difference of £2,378 was all down to the timing of expenditure which fell right at the end of March and will therefore be accounted for in the Parish Council's new financial year.

#### **Year to March 2023**

For the next financial year, ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 the Parish has budgeted £8,801 of expenditure. The largest category of budgeted expenditure remains the costs of running the Parish Council, which amounts to £4,000. This latter cost includes Parish Clerk's salary, insurance and various fees and subscriptions. Every month the Parish Council is provided with a full income and expenditure breakdown by its Responsible Financial Officer.

The Parish precept is the major source of the Parish's income and for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023, the Council increased its precept to £6,695 a £320 or 5.0% increase.

The Parish's precept's tax base increased year on year. This has reduced the effective increase in the Parish's share of annual tax bills to around a 2.0% year on year increase.

You will again notice that budgeted expenditure is still more than the income raised by the precept, £8,801 versus £6,695, as the Parish's cash reserves are gradually



reduced. The Parish’s cash balances amounted to £14,000 at the start of this March 23 budget year.

This latter figure of £14,000 breaks down as follows:

Specific reserve amounts	£6,910
March 22 expenditure falling into the new budget year	£3,420
A reserve to offset the budgeted excess of expenditure in the year to March 23 over the precept	£2,106
Balance of “surplus” cash	£1,559
Total	£13,995

The specific reserve figure includes an amount for a contested parish Councillor election and unforeseen expenditure on the recreation ground.

The carryover of March 2022 expenditure consists of an unspent grant repayment, of £2,113, donation to the Village Hall, £200, recreation ground maintenance and the March quarter’s salary and tax for the Parish clerk’s services.

The budgeted expenditure for the next budget year exceeds the precept by £2,106. This shortfall is to come from the Council’s cash reserves. This leaves a figure of £1,559 of unallocated or surplus cash.

Residents can inspect the Parish’s accounts and records. Dates for inspection will be announced shortly. The Parish annual accounts are subject to an internal audit and published on the Parish’s website.

Turning to just a few Parish matters that your Council has been working on over the last twelve months.

**Parish website**

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



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

The Government has introduced accessibility legislation which means we must review the site's access to residents and visitors to the site who have difficulty viewing or accessing the material. Any residents who, in the meantime, have difficulty accessing the website, please contact the Parish clerk to see what we can do to assist.

### **Recreation Ground**

The work that Ruth and Gerry Eastham have done over the years cannot really be measured and whilst they will still take an active interest in the recreation area, they have decided its time to hand over the bulk of the work to the Parish Council.

The Parish Council is in any event responsible for the recreation ground and has now added a review to its monthly agenda. Councillor Cook has taken an active interest in the maintenance work, but volunteers are still required.

It's the intention, going forward, to hold an annual fund-raising event to cover the £2,000 to £3,000 annual costs of running and maintaining the facility.

### **Dog Fouling**

Our continued thanks to the majority of responsible dog owners who continue to exercise and walk their dogs round the Parish in a responsible manner.

However, it's unfortunate that in three areas, that is the path down to the recreation area, the field beyond the recreation area and the road south from the Village Hall, all still show instances of dog fouling.

### **Grass Cutting**

The Council would like to thank, Keith Henderson for his work together with residents who regularly mow certain areas within the Parish.

### **Vehicle Speeds**

A Community Speed Watch programme was started on Cross Lane but struggles to continue without the necessary volunteers.



### **Neighbourhood Planning**

The Neighbourhood Plan passed its examination and referendum stages in the last twelve months. The Council really appreciated the overwhelming support of the residents with over 50% taking part in the vote and 90% plus voting in favour.

### **Footpaths and National Trail**

The Parish Council raised with the Arncliffe Estate the question of footpaths in the Arncliffe Woods, as part of those discussion, NYMPA, with the co-operation of the Arncliffe Estate have reinstated certain public rights of way in the Arncliffe Woods, but more work is required.

The Coast-to-Coast walk is being actively considered for upgrading to a National Trail. The Council is taking an active role in assisting the community to ensure that the Walk continues to go via the Parish.

### **Parish Housing Development**

The Beyond Housing planning application has at last been passed. We will hear an update in a few minutes, from Ben Briggs, Beyond Housing's project manager.

Finally, thanks, once again to the members of the Parish Council and to all the many other Parish residents who continue to give their time and support to the Parish.

The meeting was then open to questions to the Chairman.