

Hayton & Burnby Parish Council

Chairman's Report 2018-2019

This will be a rather short report as the past year has been relatively quiet. Unfortunately, two of our long standing Parish Councillors will be stepping down following the 2019 Annual Parish Meeting. Mick Bettison and Darren Smith have both served the Parish for the past ten years and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Darren for his work and support during his tenure.

The 2018 Annual Meeting was held on Thursday 3rd May and confirmed that the positions of Chairman, Vice Chairman and Councillors would remain as last year. Auditors and cheque signatories were also unchanged. Delegates to the following Groups were approved:

Action Access A1079 Group – Cllr Wagstaff

Western Parishes Liaison Group = Cllr Bettison

Transport Champion – Cllr Bettison

The Parish Council Clerk is Mrs J Green

The Annual Governance Statement and the Accounting Statement for 2017/2018 were approved
Financial Standing Orders were approved with Steve Young continuing as Internal Auditor.

Flood Committee matters were ongoing and in May it was decided that the Parish Council would purchase 150 hessian sacks and two bulk bags of sand for use in emergencies. The sand and sacks were to be stored by Cllr Nicholson in Burnby and Cllr Smith in Hayton. It was stressed that individual residents were responsible for protecting their own property. The Council's sand bags were to be used in cases of emergency when a resident was unable to provide their own sandbags.

In June the new Highways Engineer, Dan Ashman, inspected the beck under the bridges in Burnby and Hayton and agreed that ERYC would remove the build up of silt under the bridges. The Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) was moving forward. Questionnaires had been hand delivered and were beginning to be returned. Contact had been made with the Allerthorpe NDP Group and some useful advice obtained. The last of the three open discussion days for the NDP was held on 3rd June.

At the July meeting a Planning Application was received for the erection of a dwelling in The Paddock, Town Street, Hayton. This caused concern as the Application fell outside the Planning Boundary outlined in the ERYC Local Plan. Two existing new build dwellings on the site had already been completed outside this boundary. The Clerk had been assured by a Planning Officer that the Application would not be allowed. In view of this the Application was opposed and Ward Cllr Mike Stathers was asked to call the Application to be discussed at Committee.

The Hayton Charity obtained funding for a defibrillator to be installed in Hayton but, as yet, no funding for a cabinet had been secured. The bus shelters in Hayton were vandalised with graffiti. Cllr Bettison agreed to contact the Community Payback Scheme to see if they could remove it.

A Flood Survey was completed by members of the Flood Committee in August. In spite of remedial work carried out in Hayton and Burnby and the clearance of Burnby bridge, some minor problems persisted. Cllr Sedcole would cover these in the Flood Plan which is in draft form. It was clear that the Environment Agency were not fulfilling their duties regarding the beck upkeep South of Hayton. A Village Walkabout was undertaken with the ERYC Taskforce. Virtually all the minor problems found on the day were cleared by the following day ! Cllr Bettison e-mailed thanks to all involved.

The Parish Council were shocked to learn that the Planning Application for the erection of a dwelling at The Paddock, Town Street, Hayton had been approved in September. This was in spite of the Application being the third on this site to be outside the Planning Boundary. This decision caused the Parish Council to have doubts regarding the upholding of Planning clauses in the ERYC Local Plan and, more importantly, the future usefulness of our own Neighbourhood Development Plan. It was agreed that before any further effort was put into the preparation of the NDP we should ensure that it could make a significant difference to Planning decisions. Ward Cllrs Andy Burton and Mike Stathers were invited to attend a Parish Council meeting along with Planning Officers to discuss this.

A Parish Cllr from Nunburnholme, Cllr Phillips, attended the October meeting with a view to sharing information and work on flood risk from the beck. It was agreed that Cllrs would be invited to each others Flood Committee meetings. All the gullies in Hayton and Burnby had been flushed and were running properly.

Work on the NDP was still suspended pending the attendance of Ward Cllrs and Planners. Almost 1000 daffodil bulbs were planted in Hayton by volunteers.

The November meeting was attended by Ward Cllrs Andy Burton and Mike Stathers with Stephen Cook, ERYC Development Control Officer and Chris Cole, ERYC Senior Planning Officer. A discussion took place regarding the Local Plan, NDPs and Planning decisions in villages. It became clear that Planning Boundaries were not being adhered to, leading to ad hoc development in villages. This was obviously having a detrimental effect on the character of the neighbourhoods. Members of the NDP Steering Group present at the meeting questioned the usefulness of a NDP when ERYC Planning Boundaries were being ignored by Planners. Mr Cook explained that the ERYC Local Plan was already under review with a view to relaxing Planning rules in Villages but that a NDP was a strong document which would give the community a say in where and what type of development took place. The meeting held the view that, as Planners were already pre-empting the review results, our local opinions would count for very little. The Ward Cllrs urged the Parish Council to make full use of their services to represent the opinions of the community. The discussion did not convince most Parish Councillors of the future effectiveness of a NDP and it was decided that a Community decision would be sought on continuing with the NDP in parallel with the Local Plan review or not.

Cllr Nicholson attended a meeting of the Nunburnholme Flood Group.

After seeking help and information from ERYC regarding the removal of graffiti in the two Hayton bus shelters, the Clerk received a (threatening?) letter from ERYC giving the PC 28 days to remove the graffiti. Cllr Bettison painted the interiors of the shelters

Funds had been procured by the Hayton Charity to purchase a defibrillator for Hayton.

Cllr Bettison attended a meeting with the Police Commissioner regarding policing in rural areas of the East Riding. The Commissioner expressed a commitment to put more personnel into the countryside and told the meeting that a further 350 Officers were to be recruited.

Coming to the end of 2018, Cllr Sedcole reported that the Flood Committee had met and carried out walks of the beck with Dan Ashman of ERYC. They also pointed out to him the problems caused by The Syke in the village of Burnby.

The PC agreed to cover the cost of providing a cabinet for the Hayton defibrillator

A meeting of the NDP Steering Group had taken place. It agreed to continue with a Character Assessment of the NDP Area and start to analyse the results of the Questionnaire.

The Draft Budget was agreed, the precept was to be kept at the same level as last year.

Cllrs Bettison and Sedcole attended a meeting regarding the Local Plan Review. The PCs views were that, until a clear picture of residents opinions was obtained we could only opt for the current method of calculating housing needs in East Yorkshire.

The New Year started very quietly. A cabinet was ordered for the Hayton defibrillator. Cllr Wagstaff volunteered to be the new Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator. The Parish Council submitted an objection to a Planning Application to build 380 new homes in Pocklington. This was on the grounds of the lack of any improvements to the road network. Development which had already been completed in Pocklington was having a negative effect on residents of Pocklington and the surrounding villages as more traffic was trying to access services and the A1079.

In February letters had been sent to riparian owners alongside the beck reminding them of their statutory responsibilities in keeping the beck clear. Following the beck walk in December, ERYC had issued letters to some of these riparian owners highlighting problems uncovered by the walk. Unfortunately, one had been sent to the wrong resident and as the tone of the letter was threatening this led to a residents dispute. The letter was meant for Cllr Smith who had spoken to the ERYC Engineer and had already removed the obstruction. Because of the upset caused by the issue of this letter, Cllr Smith stated that he would not be seeking re-election to the PC in May.. Cllr Bettison also announced his intention not to seek re-election.

Cllr Bettison had contacted the ERYC Officer responsible for the issue of letters to residents regarding the beck. It was obvious that any upset caused was unintentional and it was agreed that the wording of the standard letter was heavy handed in the circumstances. Cllr Sedcole introduced the completed Flood Plan for the Parish. The beck under the A1079 had not been cleared. Dan Ashman will inform the PC when resources are available to complete the work. The PC declared itself exempt from internal audit for the future. The NDP Steering Group had not met for some time and some members will not be available in future. A meeting will be arranged at the May meeting to discuss the way forward. The Defibrillator was installed at the Garage in Hayton and training had taken place in Hayton Village Hall.

This will be my last report to the Parish Council and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all my fellow Parish Councillors for their help and support over my years as Chairman. Special thanks to Jo our PC Clerk for her professionalism and guidance in keeping me on the right track. I have enjoyed all my time on the Parish Council. At times it has been frustrating, irritating, time consuming and worrying, but it has never been boring. I will miss the friendships and otherwise with ERYC people and the contact with the residents of Hayton and Burnby. Life will not be the same.

I wish every success to you in the future, especially to any new Parish Councillors who may be co-opted on to the PC. I would also like to thank our outgoing Ward Councillors for their support and wish the present incumbents every success in their work on our behalf. I am particularly thankful for the work done on our behalf by Cllr Mike Stathers. Thanks Mike.

All my good wishes,

Mick Bettison

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