



Skidby Parish Council Chairman's Report

May 2022

Parish Councillors for the 2021 – 2022 municipal year were

C. Browning
P. Browning
G. Foster
M. Hall
K Haslam (from August 2021)
T. Hasnip
S. Hooker
L Leppington (from July 2021)
P. Roustoby
L. Varey

There continues to be one vacancy

Parish Council Meetings

During the year the Parish Council has returned to meeting in person at the Village Hall and has continued to meet on the first Tuesday of every month. We have considered a range of local planning issues and our comments have been forwarded to ERYC. 31 planning applications have been considered and we have also debated the Hornsea 4 and Dogger Bank Wind Farm projects, considered proposals for two solar farms and the Compulsory Purchase Orders associated with A164 improvement project and assessed the impact of proposals to extend the oil well project at Wold Newton on HGV traffic through Skidby village.

A number of residents have attended our meetings to raise specific concerns, and we have received representations in relation to planning, the unauthorised felling of trees, flooding in Orchard Road, access to land, overgrown hedges, speeding, inconsiderate parking near the school and village hall, unpleasant odours and play equipment. The Parish Council has welcomed this resident involvement and has done its best to address the concerns raised, liaising with other agencies where necessary. Residents have also expressed interest in undertaking planting around the village, and although the establishment of a Skidby in Bloom group proved unsuccessful, it is hoped we can work with the residents on proposals for more planting in the coming year.

In addition to issues raised by residents, we have responded to consultations on a wide range of topics including:

Local Government Association

Civility in Public Life

National Association on Local Councils

Local Nature Recovery Strategy

OFCOM Postal Regulation

Consultation on Amendments to the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales)

Regulations 2016 as applied to Groundwater Activities and related Surface Water Discharge Activities September 2021

Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill
Review of Parliamentary Constituencies
Police and Crime Plan
Hull and East Yorkshire (HEY) Local Enterprise Partnership Strategy

East Riding of Yorkshire Council

Code of Conduct
Bus Strategy
Enhanced Bus Partnership
Rights of Way Improvement Plan
Review of Skidby Conservation Area
Parish Review
East Riding Design Guide
Review of Public Spaces Protection Orders

The Parish Council liaises with several departments within ERYC on issues including maintenance of roads, footpaths and verges, flooding, speeding vehicles and parking. We continue to pursue pupil safety issues and recently met with the Head of Cottingham High School to discuss options to improve the safety of pupils using the Keldgate crossing. During the year ERYC has introduced a Town and Parish Council Charter with the aim of improving communication and co-operation with local councils. Skidby Parish Council has adopted the Charter and the Chairman and Vice Chairman recently attended the first Town and Parish Council Network meeting with Councillors and officers from ERYC. The Parish Council has also adopted a new Code of Conduct following the model agreed by ERYC.

Members of the Council have welcomed ERYC Ward Councillors Gill, Meredith and Smith who have continued to offer their support and have provided valuable updates. The Ward Councillors also liaise with ERYC on our behalf and in particular this year we have worked with the ward councillors on parking issues on David's Close, proposals for a footpath along Eppleworth Road, and issues of traffic and speeding in the village. We have also submitted a proposal that ERYC's scrutiny committees consider the limited sanctions available to deter landowners from removing large numbers of trees without the necessary permits from the Forestry Commission. This has been included as part of a wider consideration of tree planting, nature partnerships and biodiversity.

The Parish Council has also been pleased that PCSO Dale from Humberside Police has attended our meetings this year to report on crime, anti-social behaviour or traffic offences and has been able to reassure the Council about the generally low levels of crime in the parish. We have submitted a number of suggestions for Community Payback projects and have arranged for dog fouling signage to be updated throughout the village.

Parish Priorities

The Parish Council agreed a number of priorities for 2021 – 2022, including improvements to the cemeteries, development of proposals for replacing the play equipment at the Playing Fields, commissioning and installation of a new Statue Trail progressing the Neighbourhood Plan and the Skidby in Bloom Group.

Cemeteries

A number of improvements have been made in the Cemeteries during the year including tree work, new paths at Little Weighton Road cemetery and a spruce up of the Garden of Rest. Cemetery Regulations have also been reviewed and updated.

Playing Fields

We have continued to work on obtaining a range of designs for new play equipment at the Playing Fields and investigating funding options. We have started to consult with local schoolchildren on what they would like to see and how they can be involved. We were very impressed with the maturity and enthusiasm of the pupils we met with and the fact that they have already started fundraising. Progressing this project will be our top priority for 2022 – 2023.

Repairs were completed to the Pavilion following the water leak and tiles were replaced following wind damage in the autumn. The pitches are being increasingly well used and we currently host both cricket and football teams as well as goalkeeper training.

Jubilee Statue Trail

During the year the Parish Council has progressed the manufacture and installation of 5 CorTen steel statues representing different aspects of Skidby life. I would like to thank ERYC for agreeing to locate two of the statues on their land which has enabled us to create a statue trail around the village. The trail is to be launched as the Jubilee Statue Trail as part of our activities to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June 2022. Particular thanks go to Councillor Paul Browning and Neil Cameron for their hard work in seeing this project through to fruition.

Neighbourhood Plan

The next stage of the Neighbourhood Planning process will involve consultation on the draft policy priorities. This has not been progressed this year due but it is hoped this work will recommence in 2022 – 2023.

Skidby in Bloom

Despite initial interest in establishing a Skidby in Bloom Group, residents were reluctant for it to be a formally constituted group and preferred to operate informally in consultation with the Parish Council. It is hoped that residents will help with proposed planting around the statues for the Jubilee and will continue to suggest area that could be improved.

Events

In November, Councillors T. Hasnip, K Haslam and L. Varey and the Clerk J. Price attended the Remembrance Service held at the War Memorial at St. Michael's Church in the presence of the Deputy Lord Lieutenant. I laid a wreath provided by The Orange Grove Florists.

We held our annual Christmas lights switch on event at the end of November to coincide with the Christmas Fair at the Village Hall. We were very grateful to Mrs Markham and pupils from Skidby Primary School as well as the Hull Musical Theatre Company who braved the cold to sing carols around the tree.

The VE75 display has been completed and installed in the noticeboard on School Green to complement the commemorative bench installed last year. Thanks to Richard Grice for providing photographs and information and to Natty Browning for putting the display together.

As part of the Jubilee celebrations two trees have been planted on Church Green to replace those lost earlier in the year. A further tree will be planted on School Green later in the year. These will form part of the Green Canopy and will have plaques commemorating the Platinum Jubilee.

Committees

Detailed work is carried out through a number of Committees and I would like to thank members for the work they have done this year driving the Council's work forward.

Finance Committee Cllr P. Browning (Chair) Cllr G. Foster Cllr T. Hasnip Cllr P. Roustoby Cllr L. Varey	Playing Fields Committee Cllr S. Hooker (Chair) Cllr C. Browning Cllr P. Browning Cllr T. Hasnip Cllr L. Leppington Cllr P. Roustoby Cllr L. Varey
Cemeteries Committee Cllr T. Hasnip (Chair) Cllr P. Browning Cllr G. Foster Cllr M. Hall Cllr P. Roustoby Cllr L. Varey	Personnel Committee Cllr P. Browning (Chair) Cllr C. Browning Cllr K. Haslam Cllr S. Hooker Cllr L. Varey
Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Cllr T. Hasnip Cllr S. Hooker Cllr L. Varey	Events Working Group Cllr C. Browning Cllr K Haslam Cllr T. Hasnip Cllr S. Hooker Cllr L Varey

Cllr T. Hasnip represents the Parish Council on the Skidby Village Hall Committee and he has also undertaken the role of defibrillator guardian, checking and resetting it after each use.

Cllr L Varey represents the Parish Council on the ERNLLCA District Committee.

Administration

Alan Johnson Accounting Services have remained the internal auditor for the financial year. On the recommendation of the Finance Committee the precept for the year was raised to £23,607. Due to the level of income and expenditure in 2020/21 the Council's accounts had to be submitted to the external auditor (PKF Littlejohn) who made only minor comments on presentation.

All councillors have been supplied with .gov email addresses to improve the security of communication and present a more professional image. A new website has also been launched at www.skidbyparishcouncil.gov.uk and updates are regularly posted including details of all Parish Council proceedings and the services we provide.

In conclusion I would like to give my profound thanks to my Vice Chairman, Councillor Paul Browning and all my fellow councillors and to our ward councillors from ERYC for their continued help and support during my year as Chairman. I would also like to thank the Clerk, Jane Price for her work during the last year and for helping up progress our priorities.

Councillor Lynda Varey, Chairman