



Skidby Parish Council Chairman's Report

May 2023

Parish Councillors for the 2022 – 2023 municipal year were

C. Browning
P. Browning
G. Foster
M. Hall (resigned 1 November 2022)
K Haslam
T. Hasnip
S. Hooker
L Leppington
P. Roustoby
L. Varey

There continue to be two vacancies

Parish Council Meetings

During the year the Parish Council 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. 35 planning applications have been considered and we have considered proposals for the location of the sub-stations associated with the Dogger Bank South Wind Farm projects and considered variations to the approved plans for a solar farm near Creyke Beck. Councillors Varey and P Browning attended the Annual Town and Parish Council Planning Liaison Meeting with the East Riding of Yorkshire Planning Department where updates were provided about progress with the Local Plan and councillors emphasised the value of local input into planning decisions.

A number of residents have attended our meetings to raise specific concerns, and we have received representations in relation to planning, utilities work on verges, and the impact on horses, inconsiderate parking near the school and village hall, anti-social behaviour, unpleasant odours and the need for improvements to play facilities in the village. The Parish Council has welcomed this resident involvement and has done its best to address the concerns raised, liaising with other agencies where necessary.

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

Boundary Commission of England

2023 Boundary Review

Local Government Association

Model member /Officer Protocol

National Association of Local Councils

Short Term Holiday Lets Policy Consultation

NALC - Consultation on revising the National Policy Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

East Riding of Yorkshire Council

Re-survey of the Skidby Conservation Area
Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment
National Highways and Transport (NHT) Public Satisfaction Survey
PSPO Review
Climate Strategy Survey
East Riding Community Governance Review
ERYC - Town and Parish Council Review Panel - Follow-up Survey
Street Trading and Collections Licensing policy review - public consultation

Humberside Fire and Rescue Service

Reforming our Fire and Rescue Service White Paper

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 have liaised with Humberside Police to carry out speeding checks along Main Street in Skidby and are investigating the establishment of a Community Speed Watch group to monitor speeding as well as pressing for regular parking enforcement activities in the village.

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 to pursue speed limits on Westfield and Eppleworth Roads, odour issues from Biowise, and issues of speeding and parking near the Church in Skidby as well as the return of the sails to Skidby Windmill. Following the recent election the Parish Council would like to thank Councillor Smith for her support and contributions over a number of years and welcome Councillor Coleen Gill who we look forward to working with over the next four years.

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. However, the village did experience some issues with anti-social behaviour during the summer. The Parish Council was grateful to Humberside Police and the East Riding's Anti-Social Behaviour Team who responded to the issues and kept the Parish council informed of progress.

Parish Priorities

The Parish Council agreed a number of priorities for 2022-2023 including progress on replacing the Play Area, improvement works in the cemeteries, the Jubilee beacon, Neighbourhood Plan and Skidby in Bloom Group. However, as residents did not wish to progress the Skidby in Bloom Group and the requirements for a Jubilee Beacon were particularly onerous, these priorities were not progressed.

Cemeteries

Improvements have continued to be made in the Cemeteries during the year including replacement of hedging at Riplingham Road cemetery and additional planting in the Garden of rest. Cemetery Regulations were also reviewed to allow the removal of dead/faded flowers.

Playing Fields

We have continued to progress plans for new play equipment at the Playing Fields and following a public exhibition and survey during the summer have draft designs for both a new Play Area and refurbishment of the existing play area to provide a natural play area. However, significant delays have been caused by the need to obtain permission from the East Riding of Yorkshire Council

which is still awaited. The Parish Council has, however, been working with a number of residents to create a Friends of Skidby Playing Fields Groups and has been actively pursuing grant opportunities which either the Parish Council or the Friends Group can apply for to help fund the proposals.

During the summer Councillors cleared out the Pavilion and the store at the Playing Fields removing a lot of unused equipment and improving facilities for hirers. In addition one of our councillors and a local resident have been installing a new kitchen which was donated to the Council and there are plans to repaint the interior of the Pavilion and undertake minor repairs to the fabric of the building.

Kingswood and Bransholme Cricket Club continue to be based at Skidby and in summer 2022 we welcomed two additional cricket teams who played a number of games on mid-week evenings. Discussions are underway with a youth football team who are hoping to start using the facilities in the autumn.

Jubilee Statue Trail

In June 2022 the Parish Council launched the Jubilee Statue Trail as part of our activities to celebrate the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee and work continues to enhance the Trail with information posts and a leaflet providing historical information about the village. In addition, to celebrate the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee, the Council ran competitions encouraging children to design a Telegram to send to the Queen and also for the best decorated house as well as putting up Union Jack bunting around Church Green and planting up flower beds around the statues with red, white and blue flowering plants. Three new trees have been planted on School Green to replace those lost earlier in the year and plaques have been installed on one of these and two of the trees planted on Church Green last year to recognise that the form part of the Queen’s Green Canopy project.

Events

In November, Councillors P Browning, 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 on behalf of the Parish Council.

We held our annual Christmas lights switch on event at the end of November to coincide with the Christmas Craft Fair at the Village Hall. We had invested in new lights which made a much improved display and we had excellent entertainment from Skidby School Choir and members of the East Riding of Yorkshire Band and raised funds for the Playing Fields by providing mulled wine and cake for attendees.

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	Playing Fields Committee
Cllr P. Browning (Chair) Cllr G. Foster Cllr T. Hasnip Cllr P. Roustoby Cllr L. Varey	Cllr S. Hooker (Chair) Cllr C. Browning Cllr P. Browning Cllr T. Hasnip Cllr L. Leppington Cllr P. Roustoby Cllr L. Varey
Cemeteries Committee	Personnel Committee
Cllr T. Hasnip (Chair)	Cllr P. Browning (Chair)

Cllr P. Browning Cllr G. Foster Cllr M. Hall (to 1/11/22) Cllr P. Roustoby Cllr L. Varey	Cllr C. Browning Cllr K. Haslam Cllr S. Hooker Cllr L. Leppington Cllr L. Varey
Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	Events Working Group
Cllr T. Hasnip Cllr S. Hooker Cllr L. Varey	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 and Cllr P. Browning represent the Parish Council on the ERNLLCA District Committee.

Administration

During 2022 – 2023 we have reviewed a number of policies and updated the Community Emergency Plan. We support the work of the joint NALC, SLCC and ONV project on promoting civility and respect in the local council sector and as a Council have signed the Civility and Respect Pledge. We also encourage and support members to undertake training, and in 2022 – 2023 members have participated in training on Chairmanship and play equipment inspections.

During 2022 -23 we have benefitted from a new grounds maintenance contract which has improved the appearance of the cemeteries and playing fields and generated a number of compliments from residents. In July councillors participated in the three yearly Village Walkabout with officers from the East Riding of Yorkshire Council where highways and Streetscene issues were identified for action.

Audit reports were submitted during the year for the 2021-22 financial year from both Internal and External auditors with the accounts found to be well maintained and free from material error.

In conclusion I would like to give my profound thanks to my Vice Chairman, Councillor Paul Browning and all my fellow councillors, particularly acknowledging the contributions of those who retired in the last year, namely Marcus Hall and Christine Browning, and also 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