



Skidby Parish Council Chairman's Report

May 2024

Parish Councillors for the 2023 – 2024 municipal year were

P. Browning
G. Foster
K Haslam
T. Hasnip
S. Hooker
L Kendall
P. Roustoby
L. Varey

There continue to be three vacancies.

Parish Council Meetings

During the year the Parish Council has continued to meet on the first Tuesday of every month (apart from January when the meeting moves to the second Tuesday). We have considered a range of local planning issues and our comments have been forwarded to ERYC. 24 planning applications have been considered including infrastructure associated with various renewable energy proposals.

A number of residents have attended our meetings to raise specific concerns, and we have received representations in relation to planning, damage to verges on Orchard Road, parking issues on Mill Road and Main Street, a request for double yellow lines on Mill Rise, inconsiderate parking near the school, suggestions for actions to mitigate climate change, overgrown hedges, and issues relating to the access track off Little Weighton Road. The Parish Council has welcomed this resident involvement and has done its best to address the concerns raised, liaising with other agencies where necessary.

Since November 2023, we have had a significant number of residents attend meetings to raise concerns about actual and potential flooding and what action the Parish Council can take to reduce the risk in the future. We have met with representatives of the ERYC Flood Management Team and Yorkshire Water and walked around the village looking at particular problem areas and trying to identify appropriate actions, whilst recognising the responsibilities of riparian owners. ERYC is working closely with us to look at potential options on Riplingham Road, and the Parish Council has cleared ditches in front of the cemetery to hold some water back. Yorkshire Waters have checked the flow into the quarry and have not identified any issues, but the Parish Council will keep this under review.

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

Constantine Wind Energy

York Grounds Wind Turbine Repowering

Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities

Consultation on Local Plans

East Riding of Yorkshire Council

Community Governance Review Draft Recommendations

Climate Action Plan for East Yorkshire

Community Transport Survey

Council Tax Support Review

Design Code

Draft Sustainable Transport SPD Update Consultation

Enhanced Bus Partnership

Rural Housing Needs Survey

Local Nature Recovery Strategy

JBM Solar

Peartree Hill Solar Farm Consultation

National Grid

North Humber to High Marnham Electricity Transmission Upgrade

North Humber to High Marnham – Environmental Impact Assessment

Creyke Beck Substation Works

The Planning Inspectorate

The Hornsea Four Offshore Wind Farm Order 2023

Woodland Trust

Woodland Creation Consultation, Cottingham Pump House

The Parish Council has also pursued concerns about proposals by Telecommunication companies to install additional telegraph poles, promoted the installation of a new bus shelter at the top of Main Street and submitted a number of proposals to the ERYC Scrutiny Committees for further investigations.

The Parish Council liaises with various departments at ERYC on issues including maintenance of roads, footpaths and verges, flooding, speeding vehicles and parking. We have actively pursued the return of the sails to Skidby Mill and pressed for improvements to flood mitigation works across the parish. We also continue to pursue pupil safety issues and have liaised with Humberside Police to carry out speeding and parking monitoring outside the Primary School.

Members of the Council have welcomed ERYC Ward Councillors Gill and Meredith to our Parish Council meetings. The Ward Councillors have continued to offer their support and have provided valuable updates on a range of issues, including devolution, rural policing, power issues across the area, and ERYC priorities. They also liaise with ERYC on our behalf and in particular this year we have worked with them to pursue speed limits on Westfield and Eppleworth Roads, odour issues from Biowise, the return of the sails to Skidby Windmill and issues related to the redevelopment of the A164.

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. Police officers have monitored parking issues near the school to provide advice to parents and carers who were parking inconsiderately.

Parish Priorities

The Parish Council agreed a number of priorities for 2023-2024 including progress with the proposed natural play area, continued improvements in the cemeteries and further development of the Jubilee Statue Trail.

Cemeteries

Improvements have continued to be made in the Cemeteries during the year including replacement of hedging and the refurbishment of seats at Riplingham Road cemetery. Further work has been identified and will be prioritised in 2024-25.

Playing Fields

We have continued to progress plans for new play equipment at the Playing Fields and orders have now been issued to provide a natural play area with a slide, swings and natural features such as humps and willow tunnels. The Parish Council has also been working with a number of residents to create a Friends of Skidby Playing Fields Group who will be able to apply for funding that isn't accessible to the Parish Council.

Kingswood and Bransholme Cricket Club continue to be based at Skidby and in summer 2023 an additional cricket team played a number of games on mid-week evenings. Beverley Town Football Club have based their female youth team at the Playing Fields and play regular games at weekends. A group of young people from the football team participated in Humberside Police's Operation Lifestyle during the summer, raising an amazing £1470 which supported the purchase and installation of a defibrillator at the Pavilion. We are very grateful to them.

In addition, during 2023-24 the Parish Council arranged for the Pavilion at the Playing Fields to be painted, and the cricket team have created a small tearoom as this is a requirement for them to move up the league. We have also ordered repairs to the roller shutter at the Playing Field store.

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. During 2023-24 we were successful in obtaining a grant of £1500 from the ERYC Do It For East Yorkshire Fund (DIFEY) to install information posts at each statue and produce a trail leaflet. To launch the project, I led two extremely well-behaved and interested groups of pupils from Skidby Primary School around the trail to help them learn more about the village's history.

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. Councillor Varey 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. We raised funds for the Playing Fields by providing mulled wine and mince pies for attendees with the help of volunteers at St Michael's Church.

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 P. Browning Cllr T. Hasnip Cllr L. Kendall Cllr P. Roustoby Cllr L. Varey
Cemeteries Committee	Personnel Committee
Cllr T. Hasnip (Chair) Cllr P. Browning Cllr G. Foster Cllr K. Haslam Cllr P. Roustoby Cllr L. Varey	Cllr P. Browning (Chair) Cllr K. Haslam Cllr S. Hooker Cllr L. Kendall Cllr P. Roustoby Cllr L. Varey
Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	Events Working Group
Cllr T. Hasnip Cllr S. Hooker Cllr L. Varey	Cllr P. Browning Cllr K. Haslam Cllr T. Hasnip Cllr S. Hooker Cllr L. Kendall 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 2023 - 2024 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. We also encourage and support members to undertake training.

We have made one grant from the Small Grants Scheme to support Skidby Primary School pupils to install a new 'Welcome to Skidby' sign with a planter at the top of the village.

Audit reports were submitted during the year for the 2022 - 23 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 Lynda Varey and all my fellow councillors, and also to our ward councillors from ERYC for their continued help and support during my year as Chairman.

Councillor Paul Browning, Chairman