

## **DETHICK, LEA and HOLLOWAY PARISH COUNCIL**

### **CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT 2008-09**

This is my first annual report as Chairman. In order to understand the role of Chairman, I attended a training day for Chairs, along with our clerk, organized by DALC.

Reflecting on the past year I believe the business of the Parish Council has been efficiently transacted due, in no small measure, to the skill and knowledge of its clerk, Linda McCormick. Additionally individual Councillors have been diligent and committed in the discharge of their responsibilities. As Chairman I am grateful to all Councillors for the support and encouragement I have received. Regretfully, two Councillors felt obliged to resign during the year and I would like to thank both for their much valued contribution to the work of the Council. Thanks too to our two Tree Wardens, Councillor Jan Scott and Peter Robinson.

During the year the Council has consistently dealt with planning and tree applications, problems relating to traffic calming in the Parish and issues relating to public footpaths.

For the sake of brevity I list below the key issues dealt with and a number of key projects which the Council has initiated.

- Footpath No 38: Right of Way. The blocking of this path has caused public outrage and at the May 2008 meeting, 61 parishioners attended to voice their collective anger. As a consequence the Council has submitted a formal application, along with 119 individual forms, to DCC in order to have the path formally designated as a Right of way. The frustration is that this is likely to take several years in spite of further letters requesting that our application be prioritised.
- A new bus shelter has been installed at the junction between Lea Road and Nightingale Close. The Council is also investigating the feasibility of replacing the bus shelter on Church Street.
- The Council has resolved to initiate a Parish Plan, subject to there being sufficient public support.
- A website is also under construction.
- The Tourist Information boards are about to be replaced with a new design.
- Work and planting has been undertaken in the Memorial Gardens, together with two picnic bench replacements for the one stolen.
- Improvements and on-going maintenance to the Lea Play area have been undertaken.
- The Council now has a representative on the Derwent Valley Consultative Group.
- Detailed planning has been undertaken in preparation for the next Cemetery Risk assessment scheduled for June 2009.
- The drain at the Cemetery Receiving House has been repaired.
- The Council's Standing Orders have been reviewed and updated.
- The Council received a visit from the Chairman of Amber valley Planning Board.

In conclusion, I should like to thank Councillor C. Jackson and the Police representatives for their support which is much appreciated, together with those parishioners who have attended meetings to raise matters of common concern.

Mike Wiser Chairman  
31 March 2009