

CHAIRMANS REPORT FOR 2013/214

Since the last annual report The Council have completed many projects during the last year and there are some ongoing projects still to be completed.

I set out below the main topics discussed during the last year.

MAY - A dedicated BT telephone and broadband installation was completed for the Clerk. The Council also agreed a risk assessment on all owned items, and accepted a quotation to clean the War Memorial.

JUNE – The Council welcomed a new member. Mr Steve Chambers. At a special meeting held on 12th June, it was decided to accept the highest bidder for the Woodland Site.

JULY - The Council discussed the possibility of re opening the Holloway Public Toilets. Also agreed was a reappraisal of the Cemetery policy's / procedures and to report back in November 2013 meeting.

SEPTEMBER – Saw the resignation of Councillor Thorpe as Chair and Councillor Taaffe-Finn was elected Chair for the remaining period. It was decided that the Clerk would obtain hourly rates for general maintenance Jobs costing under £500.00.

OCTOBER – Council set dates for the tree survey and cemetery working parties to meet and prepare a report for the Council. Concern was expressed over lack of movement of the Village Plan. It was decided to invite Mr O'Conner to give a full report at the November meeting.

NOVEMBER – The recommendations from the cemetery working party were adopted. With the sale of the woodland site, Council discussed what projects should be earmarked, and several projects were put forward including The Receiving House, and New Play equipment. A decision was taken to invite residents to send in their suggestions.

DECEMBER- Police cover has now changed to Belper. The new police team was introduced. Council discussed replacement play equipment for Lea Play Area.

JANUARY – The Holloway toilets reopened and Council continued discussions on earmarked projects and also recommendations regarding new play equipment. Removal of the swings was agreed.

FEBRUARY – Council decided to have a structural survey carried out on the receiving house and to get a quotation for clearing part of the cemetery

MARCH – The Clerk gave her retirement notice in, and an advert was placed in the Matlock Mercury for her replacement. Council discussed the receiving house surveyors report and agreed quotations for the work should be obtained.

APRIL – Council received a report on the demise of the Village Plan and it was decided to close the project. The new standing orders were discussed and Council decided to wait for comments from DALC. On 17 April DALC was invited an extraordinary meeting to talk to The Parish Council on how to manage unacceptable and disruptive behaviour.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Linda McCormick for the diligent, hard work and time she has given Our Parish Council over the years she has been our clerk and I am sure we would all like to wish her the very best for the future. I would also like to thank Borough Councillor David Taylor for his regular support at our meetings. Finally I would like to thank you all for your support in my short tendency of the chair. Thank you.

Mike Taaffe-Finn

(Chairman 2013/14)