

# **Dethick, Lea and Holloway Parish Council**

## **Annual Report –Chairman’s report for 2015/16**

This year has been largely a year of renewal. At the Annual meeting in May 2015 4 long serving members of the council did not stand for re-election and there were no new candidates for election. The 4 vacancies arising on the council were filled by appointment during the course of the summer.

As well our clerk, who had been appointed in January of that year resigned in order to take full-time employment elsewhere. During this year we have therefore been served by our new clerk, the third new clerk in 18 months. Inevitably this has meant a lot of learning for all of us.

The council has promoted the availability of courses and training for its all of its members and its employees through membership of the Derbyshire Association of Local Councils.

In September the appeal against the Footpath Order made in 2013 by DCC was determined in favour of the council. This means that the application made by the Parish Council in 2008 to restore public access between Lea Bridge and the Cromford Canal has been successful.

Members of the council have been active in pursuing grants for electronic devices to be used by members and for funding for work associated with the Memorial Garden and cemetery owned by the council. Unfortunately we found that we did not qualify for assistance with the devices and we await the outcome of other applications.

The council have also consulted and responded vigorously to the proposed removal of bus services in the villages.

A public meeting to consider the adoption of a Parish Plan has been organised for June, 7<sup>th</sup>2016.

The usual work of the council has continued in reviewing applications for planning and development in the parish and in relation to the management of those facilities that are owned or operated by the parish council. This includes the playground in Lea, the cemetery and memorial gardens, and the public toilets adjacent to them.

I conclude by thanking all members of the council for their work and support through the year (especially during my absence for the past 3 months) and our clerk and the parish warden for their services this year.

Ian Hooker

Chairman.