

WILLOUGHBY PARISH COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT 2018/2019

<u>Chairperson</u>	Mr M Thomas
<u>Parish Clerk</u>	Mr D E Neville

<u>Parish Councillors</u>	Mr B Hallam
	Mr A Belgrove
	Mrs R Settle

This report is for presentation at the Annual Parish Meeting on 23 April 2019 at 7.30 pm in the Committee Room of the Village Hall.

The Council held 10 meetings during the year and it is from these meetings that a summary of relevant issues are included. The Council meetings were well attended by the Parish Councillors with RBC Councillor E Crane attending 1 meeting.

ROADS/VERGES/FOOTPATHS & STREET LIGHTING

- The Council has replaced the broken fencing on the A45 perimeter of Haywards Lodge with the A45.
- Repairs to Street light in Main Street carried out. Council advised of increased charges for lighting, but again unable to find more competitive Supplier.
- The Council still await repairs to the cracks in the surface along Brickhill Lane despite continual requests to WCC.
- The Council continue to press WCC for the outstanding issues on the three footpaths in the Village, however, remedial work has been carried out on the Shrubbery footpath.
- Shrubs around the tree on the "Triangle" Brooks Close were cleared as they were a restriction to view.
- The foliage in the brook between Barberry Cottage and the Box Bridge was raised with WCC Highways but they stated that it was fine and no further action was required. The Council, however, called in the Flood Prevention Officer from WCC and he confirmed that the foliage should remain untouched. The residents of Barberry Cottage have, however, cleared the brook outside their property.
- Whilst the parking in Lower Street remains a concern the Council has decided not to proceed with Double Yellow Lines.
- An adapted Highway Map of Willoughby Parish has been obtained from WCC.
- The blocked drain opposite to Fish Outlet (A45) has been cleaned out and the WCC has been advised of problems with flooding from the drain under the old Railway Bridge (A45).
- The Council is to replace the cobble stones stolen from the edge of the Village pond.
- The NDP survey indicated requests for the speed limit in the Village and the A45 needed to be reduced but WCC has again refused to act on this request.

- WCC has informed the land owner who had erected a gate on the corner of their land opposite the Sewage Works in Woolscott Lane to keep the gate locked and unused.
- Council contributed to SALV to enable a submission to RBC to designate the Leam Valley as a Green Corridor.
- Council is aware of increased Dog Fouling around the Village and has requested Villagers to report offenders to the Dog Warden.
- WCC has written to land owners of properties where their hedges are overhanging the pavement and requested that they be cut back.
- The Council brought to the attention of Severn Trent the broken fencing at the Pumping Station in Moor Lane.
- The shrubs at the corner of Brickhill Lane/A45 and Main Street/A45 were cut back after Council made owners aware of the restriction to view oncoming traffic.
- Repairs to the surface of the road at Fox Covert were carried out by WCC following a cyclist needing medical attention when coming off his cycle at this location.

PLANNING

- Council followed up with RBC that Planning permission had been obtained for the construction of a bridge over the ditch into farm land (Gate Farm) in Brickhill Lane.
- The Council felt unable to support a development proposed (a Dorma type detached Bungalow) on 0.5 acre of land outside the Village boundary (Moor Lane)
- R18/1426 – The Council has raised objections to the proposed development of a 4 bedroom detached house at the rear of the Backhouse.
- R18/1512 – No objections raised by the Council for the removal of lead roof and replacement with a steel roof at St Nicholas Church.
- No objections raised on planning application at Navigation Farm
- No objections raised on planning application at the old Vicarage
- RBC has stated that the linkage between properties at Cottage Farm was acceptable.
- R19/0423 – Council has objected to a planning application for two Affordable Houses at Tattle Bank on the grounds of the dangers of traffic leaving and entering the development at its junction with Main Street/A45.
- Council has objected to the planning application for a new Kitchen/Additional Bedroom at Spring Cottage Lower Street on the grounds that the development is out of keeping with adjacent properties and the perceived extra parking required in Lower Street.

PLAYING FIELD & OTHER OPEN SPACES

- A set of Goal Posts and nets for permanent siting in the extension to the Playing Field have been purchased and await erection on site.
- Grants have been received from RBC and Willoughby Educational Foundation for the purchase and installation of new Swings in the Playing Field to replace the existing wooden ones.

- Timbers have been purchased for the repairs required to the Wooden Climbing Frame as highlighted by the ROSPA report. The Climbing Frame has been “tapped off “ until repairs are complete.
- The litter bins in the Playing Field continue to be emptied by Councillors.

OTHER MATTERS

- The Playscheme run by Rugby Playrangers received excellent reports from children and parents who attended. The scheme was funded by a generous grant from Willoughby Educational Foundation who will again fund the scheme when run in 2019.
- Councillor Thomas continues to keep the outlet of the pond free from debris.
- The Council has been advised that a Data Protection Officer is not required by the WPC.
- Quotations are being sought on several designs shown to the Council for “Best Feeding” of ducks at the Village pond.
- Damage caused to a vehicle in Brooks Close on Saturday 3 November 2018 from fireworks let off in the White Barn Close area.
- Council received no response to a request that anyone wishing to form a Mother & Toddler Group in the Village to contact them.
- Repairs to the Church Clock were carried out as the Clock was not chiming correctly on the hour.
- Councillor Settle continues to run the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme in the Village. The new Police Community Support Officer is PCSO Joanne Jackson and our Police Constable is PC978 Andrew Crouch. Property marking is still available through Councillor Settle.
- Council agreed to a request from Willoughby WI for the planting of a tree to celebrate 100 years of Warwickshire WI. The tree to be planted in the Playing Field extension.
- Council has installed a new Dog Bin in Brickhill Lane.
- Western Power have tidied up and made good the entrance to the Sub Station in Magdalen Road.
- Council changed Insurers for its Local Council Insurance after receiving a very competitive quotation.
- Councillor Thomas has completed the cleaning up of the area around the Village pond.
- Following a survey by Arbolution Tree Services, tree works in Woolscott Road/Lower Street/Park area and Pond are to be carried out.
- The telephone box has now been “levelled up” and sits on a new base. The refurbishment of the box is underway.
- The formal consultation on the Draft NDP ended on 10 March 2019 and the Council would wish to thank the “Steering Group” in the preparation of the document and the consultations they have had with residents on the Parish Council’s behalf. Response tables for different groups of responders will be produced and contain all the representations received. Proposed amendments to the Draft NDP will be put forward. The revised NDP – the Submission Neighbourhood Development Plan will be submitted to RBC in due course for the next and final consultation.