Annual Parish Meeting 14th of May 2024

Wistow Parish Council Chairman’s Report

Firstly, I would like to introduce myself, I am Dominic Tyler I have lived in Wistow since 2019 and the Selby area for the past 19 years. I am effectively Acting Chairman of the Parish Council, I am pleased to present this year’s report 2023-2024.

Following events of last year, I was thrust into the Chairman position, and I have completed this function to the best of my ability with the help of all the wonderful Councillors you see before you today and Samantha who has been our temp clerk for much of the year and has done a wonderful job supporting us all.

As a team we have focussed on bringing stability to the council and encouraging involvement of our residents whom we serve.

Sadly, we lost Morris Golton this year who has served this village for many years not only on the council but in many areas of the village. Morris was the longest serving member on the council we were all very sad to lose him.

We also had the resignations of two councillors with Charles Richardson leaving us and has taken up the role as Conservative candidate for the Selby District and Emily Pownall who also resigned.

Which leads me nicely onto giving my thanks to all the councillors you see today they are Amie Kendal, Richard Harrison (unfortunately cannot be with us today), Michael Hewan, Our new Councillors following a recruitment campaign are - Robyn Poskitt, Kevin Moore and Andy Copley.

The Parish Council is not only made up of the Councillors here, but also the people of Wistow. This year we decided to form working groups to encourage the participation of all our residents. Its early stages yet but we hope these groups will grow and play an important role in the community.

The council this year have made great progress with the cemetery, and the playground. Richard and Amie managed to secure significant funding to allow us to make repairs and improve the playground which is excellent. Under the guidance of Robyn the cemetery continues to improve and get closer to the finished article. Many councillors giving up their free time at weekends to work on the area.

The council obviously still focussing on the responsibilities of grass cutting, maintenance of the outside areas, planning etc. The fencing around the pond was repaired as was the areas around the green where the hedges needed work or removing.

Richard arranged for the 20’s plenty signs to be done and placed in areas approaching the village, hopefully you’ve seen them.

Planning has had many challenges namely plantation house, where the council have provided support and aided where possible to get the best possible outcome for this development. Plantation house took a massive effort from everyone in our community and many objections lodged. The development has been passed now so there is no longer any of us can do but hopefully it is acceptable to all now.

Sadly, I must also announce that following a long-term absence our clerk Margaret Horton has decided to step down from the role. Margaret has been unable to work for most of the year, so the council accepted her resignation for obvious reasons. We thank her for her service and wish her full and speedy recovery. This meant we had to bring in a temporary clerk, (as I said earlier) Samantha Edwards who is here today, we are advertising Margaret’s role and hope to have someone in place soon.

Our closing balance for year 2023/24 is £8.8k approximately (£14,500 but £5,700 of this is assigned to the works we’ve done at the community playground). This is similar to last year’s balance of £8K.

To bring my report to an end I think the council is in such a better position than where we were last year, we have created stability, one team pulling together, creating working groups were I must reiterate we need active participation, we want to encourage members of the public to attend meetings and have their say, agendas and minutes are published in the website and put in the notice board, our meetings take place on the 2nd Tuesday of every month published on the website.

Thank you for listening.

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