

Chairman's Annual Report

2021/22

The restructuring of Local Government has meant the current Parish Councillors are required to stand for re-election, we have served three years to date, the next Parish Council will serve for five years thereafter the term in office will revert to four years.

The main event of the year was our objection to the Solar planning application from Lightrock. We canvassed the villagers and received 68% against the scheme, following our initial letter of objection we have submitted a further three addendum's in objection to the planning application. At present we are unaware of the status of the planning application; we have asked but have not been told what the hold-up is, as far as we know the application is still pending.

We provided a new salt bin for the Pittfields area and topped up all the other salt bins, fortunately it has been a mild winter so far and very little salt was used.

The snicketts were top dressed with sharp sand to make them more user friendly, we are currently liaising with NYCC footpaths to establish who has responsibility for maintaining them. Councillor Howe and Gordon McQuillian have planted some bulbs and flowers along the edge and tidied them up. We have also requested NYCC footpaths to address issues on the other village footpaths.

The large willow tree had to be cut down due to disease and two smaller hawthorn trees which died were felled, the remaining trees owned by SPC appear to be healthy. We can apply for a new tree to be planted as part of the national tree planting scheme to celebrate Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee, we asked if the village wanted to take part but to date have received no support for this.

We were asked to explore the possibility of creating a footpath from Scruton Station to the A684, we undertook a feasibility study and sought support from the village but only eight residents responded supporting the initiative. Given the projected cost involved the idea has been put on hold, if we get given a lot of money it can be revisited.

The flooding issue in Ham Hall Lane has been resolved by a new drainage pipeline being laid from the Cricket Ground around the Tennis Court into the drainage beck.

We have implemented a Business Continuity Plan to our structure and are currently copying all our paper files for electric storage on the website.

We are looking to support a number of village functions to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty, the Queen, which will include a Jubilee mug for each child under 16 in the village.

I'd like to thank the Parish Clerk and my fellow Councillors for all the help and support during my time in the Chair. Hopefully the coming year will be better than last year and we can get back to a degree of normality following the Covid epidemic.

Syd Nye

14 April 2022