

Report of the Parish Council for the year ended 31 March 2009 to the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 13 May 2009.

Meetings

Parish Council meetings are held on the second Wednesday of odd-numbered months. Extra Parish meetings are called if there is a planning application to consider. Last year the Parish Council met ten times to discuss various issues including ten planning applications.

The Parish Council met on the following dates:

2008 - 8 May, 3 July, 23 July, 10 September, 12 November and 17 December.

2009 - 14 January, 6 February 11 March and 27 March.

Parish Councillors

During the year Councillors Amanda Carlyle and Scott Jefferson resigned. The vacancies created were duly advertised but no by-elections were requested. The Councillors co-opted Penny Taylor in place of Scott Jefferson. The vacancy caused by Councillor Carlyle's resignation has still to be filled.

Councillor Booth was elected Chairman at the Parish Council meeting in May 2008.

Accounts

The Unaudited Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2009 are attached to this report. They show that the Parish Council received £2,586.15 more than it spent. £1,966 of the surplus is money received against the purchase of the new swing. The City Council will be charging us £2,000 for the swing in due course. The year end balance is £6,472.13. Council funds are held in the HSBC. Most of the funds are kept in a Business Money Manager Account. Until recently the account paid about 3% interest but now it's just 0.01%.

PARISH COUNCIL BUSINESS

Traffic Issues

30mph limit on Shirbutt Lane

There is now a 30mph limit down Shirbutt Lane.

Vehicle Activated Sign

The City Council carried out a traffic survey near the Chapel in Main Street to see at what speed vehicles were entering the village. The results showed that most car drivers slow down to the 30mph limit and that installing a VAS would not improve the situation.

Cycling

Work is still going on behind the scenes to see if a cycle lane can be built between Hessay and York. A number of agencies are working on the project. The Parish Council is advised of progress and residents will be kept informed.

Communications

Newsletters

A number of Newsletters have been circulated to all households in the village. Councillors have also delivered the City Council's Ward Newsletters for which the Parish Council has received the princely sum of £35.64.

Website

Parish Council agendas and agreed minutes are put on the Hessay Parish Council pages on the Local Channel website which can be found at <http://www.thelocalchannel.co.uk/hessay/home.aspx>

Daffodils

The Parish Council agreed to purchase some daffodil bulbs which, together with 50kg of bulbs supplied by the City Council, were planted along New Lane and Main Street. Three teams comprising some 54 residents were involved in the planting.

Phone Box

BT announced that it intended to remove the phone box in Main Street as it is little used. The Parish Councillors agreed that they would not wish to see the phone box removed and that they would acquire it from BT for the sum of £1 but that it would be a non-functioning phone box. The City Council has appointed an Officer to co-ordinate the subject of public phone boxes throughout the area. The City Council has advised us that they are seeking to have our phone box Listed. It turns out that BT has not followed the correct legal procedures so the phone box remains a functioning phone box. We are waiting for further information from BT and the City Council before deciding on the course of action we should take.

Swing

With a grant of £1,916 from the City Council and a donation of £50.00 from Julia Coatesworth the Parish Council arranged for the City Council to install a swing for older children in the play area. The swing has been erected by the City Council which will maintain and insure the swing. The City Council has not yet asked for payment!

Allotments

The City Council has given the Parish Council a grant of £300 to cover the cost of transporting top soil to the allotments. At the moment there is one allotment vacant.

The Pond

We are investigating the possibility of registering the pond area as a village green.

James Mackman
Clerk to the Parish Council
13 May 2009