

NAFFERTON PARISH COUNCIL

REPORT TO ANNUAL PARISH MEETING MAY 2ND 2007

Over the past year the Parish Council has held 12 meetings, with average attendance by councillors of 67%, and members of the public in attendance on 6 occasions and press representation at 8 meetings.

Attendance is down from last years 74% possibly a reflection on increasingly busy lives. Two Parish councillors were kept away for several months by major family health worries, now with their situations thankfully much improved, they have returned to help with parish business. At the November meeting Councillor Simon Fraser handed in his resignation. As chairman of the parish council I would like to take this opportunity to thank Simon for his many years dedication to the council and parish. The vacant post was advertised but no applications were received and therefore this post remained unfilled.

The past year has seen the council considering 50 planning applications, which is a 35% increase on last year. However, most of these have been house extensions and not the major property developments that were proposed in the previous year.

The Parish Council Precept for the past year was calculated at £11.05 on a band D property, bringing in £8888. The main expenditure continues to been grass cutting, accounting for 62% of the budget, however overall we have a slight under spend. For the forth-coming year the precept has been calculated to be £11.80 per band D property, an increase of 7.6%. The majority of this will go towards increased grass cutting costs, rent of the village hall for the youth club and a £1400 grant to the church to aid grass cutting in the cemetery and church yard. The church grass cutting has been part funded this year by adjustment of the Mere contingency fund.

There have been many issues raised by residents and put before the parish council, on a wide variety of topics.

To name but a few:

1. State of the church yard grass.
2. Loss of field track near the old mill, due to development
3. Traffic congestion down Station Road.
4. Parking problems on Middle Street.
5. Youth disturbance on Middle Street.
6. Horses using cycle/pedestrian route to Driffield.
7. Viewing of mere from southern boundary.
8. Damage to grass verges.
9. Dog fouling
10. Fly tipping.

I hope the majority were resolved with a reasonable amount of success.

In addition there is an increasing amount of paper work to read, evaluate, and process. The knowledge gained should add to the effectiveness of the Parish Council.

Of the projects outlined in the 2003 parish plan, most of these are now up and running or have reached completion. These include:

The Action	Progress to date (May 07)
1. Youth Facilities	Now meeting weekly at the village hall on Tuesdays.
2. Childs Play Area	Land offered by Recreation Club, now trying to overcome planning and highways restraints.
3. Cycle route to Driffield	Construction complete
4. Design Statement	Complete 2005
5. Web site	Up and running, with increasing hit rate.
6. Library service	New bus now stationed on Westgate every Monday
7. Litter/Dog foul bins	All sponsored bins are now in place. Additional bins hopefully in pipeline from ERYC.
8. Benches	All sponsored benches are now in place. More benches and appropriate sites required.
9. Extended bus route to bottom of village	No positive outcome. The development of a new route may detract from the services at the top of the village.

Tomorrow is local Election Day, however only ten nominations were received, therefore a poll will not be held and the candidates will be elected as parish councillors without contest. Your vote is still sought for the election of your local county councillors.

Ross Holmes
Chair, Nafferton Parish Council
2nd May 2007