

Chairman's Report 2017

1. It has been a relatively quiet year for the Parish Council but with some major successes.
2. Our speed bumps are still doing their job, so much so, that the Highways Department at NYCC have declined a request from the Parish Council to replace them with the average speed check cameras recommended by NICE. However we now have a sufficient number of volunteers to put forward a team for training in the use of speed guns to deter people from going too fast.
3. Attempts by the Parish Council to get some local legislation enacted to curb dog fouling on our paths and bridleways have been met with abject disinterest by the two relevant Government Departments so this will not be pursued further. Fortunately complaints from residents has declined of late.
4. We still wait to hear if the RDC decision to refuse permission for change of use of the Pub is to be overturned on appeal. I am sure that we all look forward to a time when the building is restored in whatever form.
5. One major success over the last year has been the complete renovation of the two Community Parks. This should make the village a more attractive place to live with a beneficial effect on property prices in the village.
6. Work has been on-going behind the scenes to bring the activities of the Council into line with the new transparency rules governing all local authorities. The Parish Council is now also fully compliant with our obligations regarding workplace pensions.
7. I cannot complete this report without mention of the passing of Michael Heseltine. He was a great friend and servant to this and many other Councils and he will be sorely missed. But life must go on and we look forward to working with his successor.
8. Finally I would like to place on record my thanks to my fellow Councillors for their contributions throughout the year, with special thanks to Bernard for the tremendous amount of work that he put in to the Community Parks project. I would also like to thank Councillor Angus Thompson for his help and support during the year and last but not least I would like to thank Frances without who's dedication this Council would struggle to function.

15 March 2017

