

OLD SOMERBY PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman's Report to the Annual Parish Meeting, 14 May, 2019

+contribution during their time as Parish Councillors.

Thank you to Veronica Stephens for her continued contribution into this term and I'm delighted to offer a warm welcome to Betty North, Peter Burrows and Nigel Percy as new councillors.

Thank you to David Holmes, our Parish Clerk for his continued contribution to the Parish Council. He is undoubtedly a great asset to the council and is highly appreciated for his advice as well as his unpaid work.

Thank you to the General Manager here at the Fox and Hounds; Joe Walker for allowing us to use the conservatory for our meetings.

Defibrillator:-

Thank you to Simon Lowndes for continuing to look after and maintain the defibrillator. The pads and battery have been replaced over the last few months and all is in working order.

Litter & Dog Mess:-

Thank you to Gordon and Anita Thompson, Peter and Veronica Stephens, Jeff Troke, Beverly Shepard, Bill Grocock and Simon Lowndes who help to keep the village clean of litter.

Dog Mess has been reduced somewhat over the last couple of months and we thank and remind all dog owners for their continued responsible actions and considerations of others.

The Parish Council has not had the budget to buy and maintain any Litter bins but hope we could find some solution in the near future.

Speeding:-

Thank you to Nigel Ord and Gordon Thompson for their continued efforts to keep the Interactive sign charged and updating us with data.

We still have issues with speeding through the village but hope we can work on other initiatives to help improve this.

Grass Cutting and Flower Troughs:-

Thank you to Chris Skelton for his continued contribution to keeping the grass down along the footpaths and on the roundabout. Thank you to Sally Skelton and David Holmes for keeping the flower troughs looking lovely.

Thank you to those villagers that also cut the grass outside of their homes and do their bit to keep the village looking its best.

We still have the small piece of land around the Wellhead to clear and landscape and hope this will be achieved over the coming months.

The Parish Council will be requesting quotes to a couple of contractors to take on the amenity cut throughout the village. We have budgeted for cuts to happen up to five times a year but this will be dependent upon the cost per cut. We will update you in due course.

The Steering Group:

Thank you to Nigel Ord, Gordon Thompson, Peter Burrows, Betty North and David Holmes for their continued contribution to deliver the Neighbourhood plan. It is now ready for the Parish council to submit to local planning.

Our specific requirements on developments as a Parish will not be considered unless the plan is adopted. Unless adopted, the decisions will be made solely by South Kesteven's Planning Department using the Local Plan and other National planning documents.

We still have some key stages to complete before the plan is adopted including the referendum. The Parish Council will keep you updated with developments as they arise.

In General:

As a result of the election for Old Somerby Parish being uncontested, we have a small budget available that we didn't expect. These funds could be used to increase village engagement since not everyone is on Social Media or has regular access to the website. We will be exploring this and other ideas in the coming months.

Vicky Lowndes
Chairman.

May 2019.