

Queniborough Parish Council
Chairman's Report 2019 - 2020

I have never had to write a Chairman's report in more difficult times for us all. I am sure after such a prolonged period of isolation we all look forward to seeing family and friends again. I would like to say a very big thank you to all the key workers both locally and nationally for keeping the vital services going for us without thought for themselves.

The Parish Council has had to come up with a different way of working in the period of lockdown in order to carry on with day to day issues and problems. Our assistant clerk Caroline left us at the beginning of April and I would like to thank her for all her efforts while working for us. Our clerk Phillip has been working from home since the 23rd of March and has done a great job in keeping up with the extra work load without an assistant. The council itself has held it's first virtual meeting in April with the aid of Zoom, and even though it was strange and a new way of going through our agenda I have to say it went pretty well.

Coppice Lane Playground

As I said this time last year we were considering installing some play equipment for the older children of the village and have been looking at a number of options and quotations, we went out to various groups within the village like the scouts and the school to ask the children what sort of equipment they preferred and we came up with list of different activities. This process has taken longer than we would have liked for various reasons including grants and consideration of the costs involved but I can now say that a number of pieces of equipment will be installed week commencing the 1st. June. Although the park is currently closed off at least when we can reopen it will be ready to go. Along with government guidelines we have now reopened the tennis court so that should enable you to start to play again.

The Millstone lane development is now finished, and work is still progressing on the Syston Cemetery at the top of Millstone Lane. The Children's play area on this development is to be adopted by Queniborough Parish Council but have ask for several items to be added & rectified before we will accept it and take ownership.

We have a new councillor who joined us in September last year and I would like to welcome Mrs Gail Scothern who I am sure will make a valuable contribution to the Parish.

Village Neighbourhood Plan

The village neighbourhood plan for Queniborough is now finished after a number of amendments and rewrites and will now be submitted to Charnwood Council for ratification and authorisation. It will then carry weight in any planning matters that are submitted for the village. It has taken about three years of very hard work to get to this stage and I would like to thank Mrs Pam Jones & the team for all their efforts going through so much data and questionnaires over this long period. It is hoped that the plan will be ratified by around the end of the year and will document important features and parts of the village to hopefully protect them for future generations.

Village Hall

CCTV has now been installed in order to protect the property and is working well. The hall has available some section 106 funds and is considering developing an area at the side of the hall as a relaxation type garden, The discussions on this project are ongoing.

Cemetery

I am pleased to say that the Cemetery is looking really good. Thank you to our Cemetery Clerk, Cilla Lane and our Gardener/Handyman, Sue & Andy. We been working trying to establish a wild flower meadow at the bottom of cemetery but this has proved very difficult to say the least but we will continue to try and are hoping this will become a lovely area in the future.

Planning

If you would like to be kept informed of planning matters & villages issues & you have not already registered with us please pass your contact details on to our team at the office and we will keep you informed,

Alex Neale

I would like to mention yet again that I also chair a charitable trust called the "Alex Neal Trust" which was set up many years ago to give help to Queenborough villages who need some financial support for something they desperately need and cannot currently afford. If this is yourself or know of someone who needs this help please ask them to write to, Moira Bunn, 149, The Ringway Queniborough giving details of what is needed and why with details of all income, expenditure and savings. I must stress that all correspondence received will be kept strictly private and confidential within the trust.

Parish Website

Most village information can also be found on the news page of the Parish Council web site at <http://queniborough.leicestershireparishcouncils.org/> this is a good place to keep up to date with all the parish matters.

Parish Office

The Parish Council Offices are normally open every Wednesday & Thursday between 10:00 & 4:00 but since the 23rd March the office has been closed until further notice, although we do visit each week to collect mail and check the answer phone where you can leave a message. As I have said I would like to thank our Parish Clerk Phillip Laughton & his assistant Caroline for their excellent efforts in the last 12 months.

Councillors

My thanks go to Councillor Daniel Grimley & James Poland for attending our meetings & for keeping us informed of Borough & County information & plans.

I would like to give a mention to my fellow councillors who without them giving up their valuable time to attend both full council and committees the council would not exist to deal with the many issues that come before us. They all do an excellent job for the village, well done.

Stephen Wright

Chairman

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