

# *Sinnington Parish Council*

## Chairman's Annual Report 2019

**The Annual Open Meeting is to be held on Monday, 8 April  
at 7.30 pm in the Main Village Hall.**

**Everyone welcome.**

### **1. Introduction**

We are now approaching election time in May when new councillors can be elected to serve the village. The deadline for nominations is 3 April and it is hoped that some potential new candidates have registered an interest to replace some of the present councillors who are to step down. I acknowledge their time and commitment by attending meetings to enable a consensus approach to the resolution of the agenda items. This is also to be my last year as Chairman and indeed as a councillor as, after ten years, I believe it is time for new members to represent the village.

Your council has endeavoured to maintain the village and its listed assets in good condition for all to enjoy, especially the frequent cutting of the village green by Councillor Bill Baldwin. The contribution by other village residents to keep the many other green spaces trimmed is very much appreciated. There will be more to do and new initiatives and ideas are encouraged.

### **2. Flood alleviation**

The management and control of surface water and river flooding remains a priority concern. The Flood Alleviation Group, now in its second year, has been effective in identifying where new measures are needed and by maintaining links with relevant organisations to bring about improvements with the cooperation of land owners. Now that the 'Slowing the Flow' project has come to an end, we are maintaining links with the Derwent Catchment Partnership scheme to continue to seek funding for any new initiatives to prevent flooding. The village has benefited from the installation of natural measures upstream and surface water management now needs to be addressed. To this end a site visit from NYCC was arranged in September last year to understand what is needed. The recent presentation from the Forestry Commission about a new five-year beaver trial project at Sutherland Beck was well received as another natural measure to control flooding. We are fortunate that such initiatives are being put in place with no cost to the village. However, we should expect that we may need to contribute to future maintenance of existing and any new schemes that may be put forward. Residents are reminded that we now have an updated Resilience Plan for the village.

### **3. Communications**

The council publishes news of meetings, planning applications and updates on its web site at <http://sinnington.ryedaleconnect.org.uk>, where site visitors can also contact the Clerk to raise any issues or concerns. We also thank the village newsletter for publishing council news and notices.

### **4. Village upkeep**

Occasional tidy-up sessions by volunteers from the village are well attended and help to deal with litter, path clearances and tree management. Many volunteers are listed with the Community Action Group (CAG) which coordinates effort for such tasks identified by the Sinnington Parish Council. The village can be proud of the contribution of everyone involved.

Damage to the village green and grassed verges by vehicles continues to be a problem. Drivers are urged to be more considerate when parking; particularly wide vehicles passing on our narrow streets can damage the verges. The deterioration of the parking area on the village green is noted and plans are in hand to make improvements this spring. Other parking areas are also being looked at to address parking difficulties.

### **5. Roads and footpaths**

Last year Highways marked many pot holes on the through road in the village. These have been filled for the surface dressing planned to take place this year. The rippled entrance at the western end of A170 turn-off is still noted and the action expected from Highways has yet to materialise. Again we ask dog walkers to clear up fouling and dispose of it in the bins provided around the village.

### **6. Finance**

We have progressively increased the Precept to build a reserve to meet planned expenditure to improve parts of the village and in anticipation of any contribution which may be sought for flood alleviation measures. The income from the visitor discretionary parking box continues to be significant. To encourage contributions, the box has had the post painted white and a parking notice attached to make it more visible.

### **7. General**

Finally, I very much thank my fellow councillors for their support during my time as Chairman and I wish the new council continued success. I also am most appreciative of the help and support from our Clerk, Faye Snowden, who has diligently dealt with all aspects of running a smooth operation and dealing with some of the less attractive administrative matters including the imposition of Data Protection compliance. The Open Meeting is your opportunity to raise questions and to discuss any concerns, queries or issues that you may have.

*Roger Hudson, Chairman, Sinnington Parish Council*