

# **SINNINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

## **Chairman's Annual Report 2021**

**The Annual Open Meeting is to be held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm in the Main Village Hall**

**Everyone welcome**

### **1. Introduction**

Your current Parish Council took office in May 2019 and as we all know we have had a very difficult time. Since the beginning of 2020 we have had to endure a major lockdown so we have been limited in what we could achieve and we have been unable to have an open meeting in the village, indeed the Parish Council could only meet via zoom for the past 18 months.

We soon realised how serious this pandemic was but many villagers rallied round and a working group was formed of volunteers to do shopping, collect prescriptions etc and making sure all the elderly and vulnerable were supplied with everything they needed. This was a big undertaking and they did a wonderful job so on behalf of the Parish Council a big thank you to everyone who helped. Too many to name but I would especially like to give my sincere thanks to Laura Moxon and Norma Rees for all their hard work in organizing the teams of volunteers and Dr Jim Coppack for all his valuable advice. We are so fortunate to live in Sinnington and thankfully we had only a very small number of cases.

The Parish Council has been able to have our regular 2 monthly meetings via Zoom over the past eighteen months and planning applications are often on the agenda. Village maintenance is a constant issue. Being a small village with many trees, leaf fall in Autumn can be a problem blocking gutters etc. Many thanks to the Community Action Group and all the volunteers who readily give their time to help with keeping drains free by clearing away leaves, grass cutting, strimming and all the other jobs that keep the village looking its best. Winter weather brings the inevitable pot-holes so we are constantly chasing Highways.

## **2 Changes to Local Government.**

National Government have been considering making changes to local councils with major changes in North Yorkshire including County and District Authorities.

Two options have been put forward for National Government to consider for the North Yorkshire area.

**Option 1.** One Unitary Authority based in Northallerton to Govern all North Yorkshire with all District Councils abolished.

**Option 2.** Two new Unitary Authorities made up by splitting the eight existing Councils into two fours, NY East and NY West.

National Government has just confirmed that The Secretary of State, Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP has now chosen option 1 which is the North Yorkshire County Council proposal for the future delivery of local government services for North Yorkshire.

Elections to the new Authority will be held in May 2022 and elected Councillors will take over services from April 2023. Ryedale District Council will be abolished, however local Town and Parish Councils will remain as before.

## **3 Community Action Group**

The village community action group is back following the Pandemic, two village clean-ups have taken place and a third has been arranged for Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> Sept, please come along if you are able to help. My thanks to Mr John Buller for the organization of these tidy ups around the village and to all the volunteers who helped.

There have been a number of residents who have moved from the village over the past 18 months, but we extend a warm welcome to all new residents who have moved into the village. I would like to welcome you all to the Council open meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> Sept and introduce you to the members of the Parish Council and other members of the public.

Finally, my thanks to my 4 fellow Councillors for their continued support and to Faye our Parish Clerk for all her hard work and advice, I would be lost without her.

Geoff Richardson  
Chairman Sinnington Parish Council