

## Chairman's Report to Annual Parish Meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2016

It has been an interesting year. The new Council is coming together & we have secured £45,169.00 funding from WREN for the refurbishment of the childrens' play park. Tesco has awarded us £8000 towards the installation of outdoor gym apparatus. We hope to start the work in these areas in the autumn. My thanks to our clerk, Tracey Davidson & Philippa Hope for their work on the funding applications. More detailed plans will be available at the Open morning in the Village Hall on Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup> between 10am & midday. Councillors will also be on hand to answer any questions about this or other matters. If we do not know the answer we will tell you who can & how to contact them. This applies at any time of year as our contact details are in the newsletters, on the website and on display on the village notice boards.

Unfortunately we have still not been able to provide affordable housing in the village. Earith & Colne have been successful in having sites approved so the need may not be as great at the moment.

We are still hopeful that we shall do so at some time in the future.

Attendances at the monthly Council meetings have increased which is good. The minutes of these meetings are only a record of decisions made, reports on actions taken since the last meeting & actions to be taken before the next meeting. In future we intend to publish accounts of matters raised & complaints made in the Open Forum in full if the clerk is given a written summary after the meeting.

Parking continues to generate complaints but the Council is unable to enforce sensible parking. If a resident thinks that a vehicle is dangerously or inconsiderately parked please contact the police on 101 with the vehicle registration number & location so someone can come to see it.

We are a, fortunately, low crime village but if anyone sees a vehicle, person or action they think is suspicious please report it on 999 if a crime is suspected to be in progress or 101 with a description.

I would like to thank fellow councillors & residents who are clearing up dog's mess & then leaving an arrow showing where it was left. Since we started the initiative it has got better but there are still irresponsible owners who do not pick up.

My thanks to my fellow councillors & clerk for their work during the past year.

Our village is looking very nice now thanks to regular litter picks & residents keeping their frontages tidy & making Bluntisham a pleasant place in which to live.

May I wish you a good summer & I hope it proves to be a winner weatherwise. Look out for posters concerning social events planned.