

Cantley with Branton Parish - 2019 Annual Parish Meeting Chairperson's Report

What another exciting year for the Parish.

After the successful completion of both Phase one and two of our proposal last year at Kilham Hall Recreational Ground, the park has benefitted from an unprecedented number of users ranging from young families, runners of all ages and abilities, fitness groups, friendship groups in their teen years socialising, older members of our community walking and lots of grandparent carers enjoying time with their grandchildren. The improvement is immense and the park is appreciated by all who use it. However, we have encountered some issues regarding increased litter, broken glass and on one occasion, vandalism. We were always aware that these problems were a possibility and have agreed an action plan for this year to try to eliminate some of these issues by installing a new CCTV system which surrounds the hall and meeting room and gives extensive coverage of the grounds, new lighting to both the car park and the park area, new litter bins and at busier times, a rota for present members to ensure the grounds are left safe at the weekend.

The Parish council has also invested in a new metal fence in keeping with the current gates to replace the wooden fence that was in a state of disrepair. This work started today and will include parking posts to stop cars driving into the fence as well as reflectors for the gates to help authorised vehicles accessing the car park at night. We also paid for a drop kerb to allow for easier access to the field.

In addition to the work on the grounds, the Parish council worked alongside resident, Sarah White to develop a butterfly trail in memory of her daughter Sianne, for everyone to use as an area of reflection and remembrance. The butterfly trail project has received funding from CWBPC, APC, YWP, Butterfly conservation trust, DSA and local residents. In the far corner of the park, we have planted shrubs, plants, bulbs etc and the trail is marked with a 6ft wooden butterfly sculpture, donated by DMBC, an information board illustrating a range of butterflies and a Memorial seat commemorating the fallen and those we miss.

In July 2018, we held an official open event in celebration of the park and Butterfly trail which was attended by the Civic Mayor, MP Caroline Flint and many local residents as well as those involved in donating to the Butterfly trail. This event was a huge success and we hope to hold an annual event where the community can come together for a picnic in the future.

As part of the above project was phase 3, a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA). We submitted plans last year, however, Sport England objected and at the time, we were still waiting for the funding from a new development on Chapel Lane, so, the Parish Council decided to withdraw the application. Sport England needed more evidence that a MUGA was needed and wanted by residents. They also had concerns that the existing playing field would be used to provide the space for the MUGA leaving little grass playing area. The Parish council believed residents were in favour due to a local consultation carried out last year, however, we felt that we needed further evidence that the MUGA was still wanted, so we carried out another survey to see how much demand there was and what the alternatives may be. The survey was delivered to homes along with the Arrow, advertised on our PC website and promoted on the village facebook page. Thank you to Mark Turner for helping to distribute the survey through our local primary school. The survey produced 60 valid returns of which 46 were in favour of a MUGA.

We are now looking at designs of other MUGA's in Doncaster so we can decide on a final project and take it to consultation before planning. Of course, the PC still awaits funding which will not be available until later this year.

The Parish Council are at present looking at the possibility of providing Christmas decorations for the Parish. No decisions have been made yet as we are currently in the early stages of reviewing prices, options and considering our budget.

In June last year, we organised a litter pick which was well attended by local residents. 20 volunteers collected around 25 bags of litter. Another litter pick has been organised for Saturday 16th March at 9.30am till 12.30pm and weather permitting, we should have a good turnout.

Speeding traffic continues to be a problem in the parish and we have requested the use of a speed camera which we invested in a many years ago on a number of occasions throughout this year.

Our Handyman has continued to work in the parish looking after our gardens and carrying out general maintenance. I would like to thank him for his work over the year and in particular for his excellent work with the Rose Garden, it looks beautiful.

The Parish council has made a number of donations this year; £100 to the Royal British Legion towards a poppy wreath and £100 for Thorne Rural Lions as a thank you for their annual Santa Sleigh trailer in December which visits all the local villages in Doncaster.

The Kilham Hall Management Committee continue to do a great job looking after the running of the Hall, however, we have had a challenging year as four members resigned including the Chair and the Treasurer. They have all played a big part in the success of Kilham Hall and although they have all been thanked personally and recognised by the Parish Council, I would like again to comment on the commitment and enthusiasm each has shown over the years, I appreciate them as a resident of the parish and as a PC member. We have welcomed three new members to the committee, a user group member from Buzy Bees Baby group, a local resident and a member of CWB WI.

The KH Caretaker resigned last month and we are currently recruiting a new caretaker for the hall. We are managing the care of the hall between the present members of the committee and the help of a local resident who may be interested in the caretaker role. We are hoping to hold interviews on 20th March 2019.

Due to the resignation of the Chair, I took on the role at our most recent meeting this week. I would hope this is a temporary arrangement until one of our newer members feels ready to take on this position. I would like to thank our PC members who are also on the committee, KHMC Secretary, David Chorlton and member Mark Turner. David takes an active part as Secretary and both David and Mark are involved in events and support the Hall wherever possible.

I would like to thank Jennifer Worthington for her involvement in the following committees and groups; DSA Noise Monitoring & Environmental Sub Committee and for promoting CWBPC for funding opportunities which were successful and for attending IGAS meetings to keep us informed about the 'fracking development' in North Nottinghamshire.

Thank you to Yvonne Butterworth for her work with Cantley Poors Land Trust and I would appreciate it if Yvonne could extend my thanks, on behalf of CWBPC to the other members of the Trust for the work they do. Thank you to David Chorlton for his involvement in the new YWP community committee and Marjorie Caygill for representing CWB PC at PCJCC and updating us all on agenda items discussed. Also to Mark Turner and Nev Williams for their help with the CCTV installation, Nev

for his help and guidance with anything agricultural and most things mechanical. Also for the donation of the seat for the park and the replacement wood for our picnic tables.

Thank you to David Chorlton who has been a great support to the PC and myself in his capacity of Vice Chair and to the PC Clerk, Julia Staniforth, who is committed to her role and continues to be a great help and support to both myself and the parish council in what has been an extremely busy year.

I would like to add that I have really enjoyed my year as Chair and, like everyone else here, take great pleasure in helping to improve our village for the benefit of all who live here. I would like to thank you all for your enthusiasm, commitment, support and interest in Cantley with Branton Parish and for the time you all give up as volunteers. I would imagine, like last year, 2019/2020 will not be a quiet one.

Regards

Michelle Sidebottom
Chairman
Cantley with Branton Parish Council.