

Cantley with Branton Parish Meeting

Chairman's Report 2022/23

Like a lot of the country we are now gradually getting back to a 'normality' we can recognise, however reminders of the 2020-22 covid period still come back periodically.

Within the Parish Council we have seen a number of changes with two new councillors joining as a result of vacancies and a change in the Chair enabling the work to be carried on within the Parish. Thank you to every member of the Parish Council who have attended our meetings and external meetings in support and on behalf of the council over the last year. We have all chosen to offer our time to be a Parish Councillor and we all have the best interests of the parish and residents in any decision we make.

My thanks go out to the Clerk and the Handyman for their excellent work throughout this period in maintaining the high standards set in the previous years.

The parish council has continued to maintain to the best of their ability, the high standards expected to keep our parish looking presentable with grass cutting, bin collections, hedge cutting, gardening, general maintenance as well as safety inspections of the parish, Kilham Hall Park and Parish Council property. I have listed below some of the work we have been involved with over the last 12 months.

Kilham Hall Extension

The extension to the Kilham Hall was finally completed this year and already the benefit to those who regularly use the village hall are being felt. This extension is also an important part of the planned facility of the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) which started life in its planning stages in 2019. Unfortunately, due to COVID this was put back and has meant a number of revisions due to rapidly increasing material costs and an administration delay due to a requirement to revalidate the original parish questionnaire on the need of this area. I am pleased to say that all the boxes have now been ticked and planning permission is expected to be approved shortly with work due to commence this Autumn and completion in the Winter 2023/Spring 2024.

Solar panels for the village hall are progressing well and it is hoped that these will be installed in June 2023.

Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

The Parish Council, in conjunction with Kilham Hall Management Committee held an open day at Kilham Hall to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The day was a huge success with lots of residents attending joining in the fun with gorgeous refreshments provided by Beth's at Branton, arts and crafts for the children, a jubilee quiz and entertainment by pipers and a choir. Local children entered the Jubilee Art Competition and we had some wonderful entries. A member of the Art Club (who regularly use Kilham Hall) had the hard task of picking the winners for the 3 age categories. Winners were provided with a commemorative jubilee coin.

Christmas Festivities

Having abandoned the light decoration of the street lamps due to spiralling costs, we did however, have a new Christmas tree and lights installed on Bawtry Road. Residents attended a brief carol service around the Glen Road Christmas tree, accompanied by Armthorpe Elmfield Brass Band to much acclaim. The Parish Council also sponsored Kilham Hall Management's Committee's Christmas Pantomime which saw 3 performances of Puss in Boots. The performances were a sell out and adults and children alike enjoyed the shows.

Poppy Display

The displays around the village to commemorate armistice day were both picturesque and very emotive. Numerous positive comments were received and our thanks go out to all those that contributed to it. In 2023 we are looking to purchase some of the 'Unknown Tommy Soldier Silhouettes' to complement these displays. Residents are busy knitting and crocheting more poppies to enable the Parish Council to provide a 2nd display this year.

Branton Litter Pick Group

This group are still regularly meeting and making a significant contribution to the villages look and cleanliness. The additional storage space for their equipment at Kilham Hall was well received. New dates for this year will be advised in due course – the next litter pick being held on Saturday 27th May 2023 at 9.30am at Kilham Hall. Our thanks are expressed to the volunteers who attend the litter picks on a regular basis.

Road Safety

Despite pressure from the Parish Council, we were unable to convince Highways (DMBC) to install any further safety measures to reduce speed. However, we have persuaded the Police to carry out training with volunteers from the village of Branton on an initiative on speed awareness which we hope will go some way to reducing the impact of speeding vehicle with the parish. Training was due to take place in April 2023 however this had to be cancelled due to Covid so the Clerk is currently trying to coordinate a date for the near future.

Police Drop in Sessions

We still hold monthly drop in sessions, however attendance of these has been very poor despite advertising, if we want to maintain our dialogue with the local police, improved engagement in these sort of events is important.

New Defibrillator

An additional defibrillator has been installed in the area, this one being located at the Premier Shop on Doncaster Road. This defibrillator was able to be purchased thanks to grant funding from DSA.

Manor Farm

Many people do not appreciate the boundary of the parish and the new estate being built at Manor Farm comes within our boundary. As such a new notice board will be installed on the 19th May for the new residents. We plan to look at engaging with them more over the coming year.

CWBPC – Facebook Page

Just a reminder about our Facebook page which is an excellent communication and informative area for the villages. My thanks go out to the Clerk for keeping this media updated.

King's Coronation Event

The Parish Council are hosting an open day on Monday 8th May 2023 at Kilham Hall to celebrate the King's Coronation. The doors will open at 1pm and close at 8pm. There will be free refreshments, while they last, arts and crafts for the children, a face painter, a Coronation Quiz, entertainment from Steve Love Entertainer, a food stand and much more to enjoy on the day. Please come along and join us for a fun packed afternoon. Families are welcome to bring their own picnics along or purchase food from the van on site.

King regards

Neville Williams

Chairman

Cantley with Branton Parish Council