

# Nether Poppleton Parish Council Chairman's Annual Report 2018

It's an honour and a privilege to be a Councillor and your Chairman.

I believe the Nether Poppleton Parish Council to be well run and prudent when it comes to its finances.

## **Just a note of a few of the significant activities completed this year:**

- The number one stand out item for this year was the successful introduction of the Neighbourhood Plan for Poppleton. This was officially in place from 19th October 2017 following a positive referendum result on 23rd August 2017. This was an incredible amount of effort from the working group. It helps protect the village and the "village setting". This was the first Neighbourhood Plan in the City of York and is now in regular use to determine applications. Thanks, in particular, to Cllrs Jones, Powell and Simpson. Excellent job!
- The Parish Council also responded appropriately on the proposed "York Local Plan" though sterling work from the Neighbourhood Plan working group.
- The Lord Nelson Public House continues to be under threat. We provided funds this year to help the action team prepare a bid, associated with the Asset of Community Value.
- This year we contributed funds towards the very significant project to renew the children's playground. This is now in the hands of the City of York Council. The Playground Group have worked very hard: well done to them.
- Reviewed key documentation including Standing Orders and complaints procedures, to take into account the changes in how we approach planning applications.
- I am pleased to report that the separate planning meeting is working very well under the Chairmanship of Cllr Jones. The presentation slides certainly continue to speed up the process. The Council have considered some very significant planning applications this year.

## **Finance**

- We have invested and provided appropriate support for many community projects. This vital support helps contribute to the health of our residents, enhances village life and village culture. As per the plan, we have reduced our level of reserves to a more appropriate level and frozen the parish precept.

## Looking forward to 2018/19

- **Local Plan** - The new “York Local Plan” will hopefully be in place by next year, this, in conjunction with the Neighbourhood Plan will be important to continue to protect the greenbelt, prevent overdevelopment and coalescence with York.
- **Tree Survey** - I look forward to the results of the 2018 Tree Survey and hope that we are not engaged in too much expense.
- **Budget** – The 2019/20 budget will be a challenge. Reserves have been reduced and the council must review the grant levels (significant reduction), as well as making an appropriate increase in the precept.
- **Planning** – More of the same, it’s working well.
- I expect that we will still be talking about:
  - The state of Allerton Drive and Ebor Way carriageway surfaces.
  - Parking issues on York Business Park

## Thanks

All of this great work could not happen if it was not for great people. A huge thank you to all the Councillors for their hard work and to James. Thanks to our City Councillors for their support. My thanks go to the:

- Moatfields Management Group
- Wildlife Group
- Many other individuals and groups who give their time to work hard for the villages.