**Chairman’s Report 2022/23**

It’s been a funny old year, hasn’t it?  Well, that’s the understatement of the year!

Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee - Debbie Robson’s Wedding – The Death of Queen Elizabeth II – The Coronation of King Charles III. (Potential for a Movie script there Richard Curtis).

What next? – Well Planning Applications for Peggy’s Field, Porch House, Parvin’s Field, The Avenue, Harland’s Field, and Parlor’s Yard not to mention the ongoing Saga at Newby Wiske Hall with PGL If all get full planning it could be increasing the population of our Villages by 300%!

This time last year we were slowly edging out of Covid, and starting to prepare for the Queens Platinum Jubilee,

With resignations from our Chair Iain Glover, Vice Chair Keith Bowe, Vanessa Gillson, and Andrew Shore.  All who contributed a great deal of time and effort for the benefit of our council are no longer with us we had to rebuild.

We were fortunate enough to still have 3 elected Councilors and a very capable Clerk in Debbie Robson, thereby creating a Quorum capable of still operating as a  Parish Council.  The support from our District Councilor Brian Phillips, and County Councilor Annabel Wilkinson was also a welcome boost.

The Co-option procedure allowed us to build up again bringing in Jo Cook, Sarah Bennett, and David Gillson as new councillors. They were followed by Chris Cook (Later to be elected Vice Chair) and Mark Stokes our first representative for Maunby for some time, giving us a healthy number of Councilors again.

Sadly, due to work and family commitments, Martin Harland our Vice Chair chose to resign.

Notable moments this year:

Our New Village Noticeboards have been erected in place of the old wooden ones.  Eventually with the addition of Plaques commemorating the Jubilee and Coronation.  Thank you, Keith and Iain.

Throughout this year we have had the defibrillator machines in Maunby and Newby Wiske re-sited to suitable and convenient locations.  Thanks to our Councilor Annabel Wilkinson for sourcing the funding for the Newby Wiske one.

Sadly, despite valiant attempts to keep the living wall ‘Living’ we could not get the support required to keep up its appearance and it was removed.

Due to the devolution of North Yorkshire, we became in effect a second-tier council, the ramifications of this are still under construction with the development of the Charter so watch this space for developments there.

We were fortunate enough to be able to assist in funding the Village Hall to organise various events to celebrate the Kings Coronation, which despite the inclement weather was well attended.

Continued behind-the-scenes support from Iain and Keith has been a godsend.  Thank you on behalf of the whole Parish Gentlemen.

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I personally would like to thank.

Debbie Robson-Booth our Clerk for everything you do to ensure things run as smoothly as possible.

Martin Harland for your service to the Parish, happy retirement.

Brian Phillips for your service to the district, happy retirement, and congratulations on being honoured as an Alderman.  Though I understand you’ve been nabbed elsewhere as a parish Councilor.

Annabel Wilkinson our go-to Councillor for your continued support.

Keith Bowe and Iain Glover for your behind-the-scenes involvement.

To my fellow Councilors, Celia Newton, Chris and Jo Cook, David Gillson, Sarah Bennett, and Mark Stokes for your full and unequivocal support throughout the year.  We have managed to ensure there was a meeting every one of the 12 months sadly one of which I missed due to the wretched ‘Covid’ thankfully Chris stepped up to the plate to chair the meeting.

Let's see what comes next, whatever it is I am pleased you’re all still here.

Eric Branson-Burke