

## **GATEFORTH ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20**

### **Councillors and Staff**

1. Councillors during 2019-20 were:

Cllr Diane Osborne (Chair)

Cllr Caroline Shaw (Vice Chair)

Cllr Jim Cawthorne (to May 2019)

Cllr Lynn Sheratt

Cllr Richard Longbottom

Cllr Tony Parkin

Cllr Martin Hillary (to May 2019)

Cllr Gordon McGlone (from October 2019)

Cllr Andrew Collier (from January 2020)

2. A Parish Council election was held in May 2019. Cllrs Cawthorne and Hillary chose not to stand for re-election. The Council thanked them for their service. 5 Councillors were elected unopposed, with Cllrs McGlone and Collier co-opted later in the year to bring the Council up to its full complement.
3. The Parish Clerk is Jeremy Sherlock.

### **Activities in 2019-20**

4. The protection of the Village Green remains a priority for the Council. A long-standing issue relating to parking on the Green was resolved in partnership with a property owner following the creation of in curtilage parking, and an access improvement which minimises the impact of the appearance of the Green. Consent was given to a new drain across the Green on the basis that the land was restored on completion of the work. A strip of land on the south side of the Green acquired in the past by the Council was formally registered.
5. The Council has responsibility for the maintenance of the Green, including grass cutting. It has responsibility for the bus shelter, seats, and phone box. During the year a new litter bin was acquired, a loose slab next to the bus shelter repaired, and 2 trees pruned.
6. The Council has monitored the condition of footpaths in the Parish, and advised North Yorkshire County Council of problems. This has resulted in the footbridge on the path towards Birkin being replaced.
7. A detailed map of the village has been installed in the bus shelter to help visitors and delivery services find individual properties.
8. There has been a further litter pick. Thanks are given to local villagers who participated. Selby DC have donated equipment to the Council. Another litter pick was arranged but due to Covid this was postponed to be rescheduled in the Autumn.
9. The Council has sought to keep the community informed of local activities. It has issued 2 Newsletters and constantly updates and maintains the website. The Council received a good response from villagers from the Newsletters.

10. The Council continued to monitor local planning and development issues. The Council has continued to object to the biomass scheme at Viner Station. This has now gone to Appeal. Updates have been received regarding the development at Gateforth Park.
11. A village party was proposed for the villagers, but postponed due to Covid. This will be re-arranged as soon as social gatherings are permitted.
12. Dog Fouling is still an on-going issue. We are working closely with Selby Council and the Dog Warden to stop this public nuisance, but due to Covid, we have postponed until later in the year.

#### **Priorities for 2020-2021**

13. The protection of the Village Green will be an ongoing priority.
14. The phone box will be upgraded, and the planters will be improved.
15. Ensure that the Council can continue to operate during the Coronavirus pandemic.
16. Continued consideration of the use of the capital reserve.

#### **Finance**

17. The Councils income for 2018-19 was £7,431, and expenditure £9,807 (£6,925 revenue, £2,855 capital).

18. The Council holds the following reserves:

Revenue reserve - £1,500

Capital reserve – £33,661

19. Expenditure for 2019-20 was as follows:

Staffing	£2,074
Maintenance	£2,831
Administration	£1,129
Projects	£3,774
<b>Total</b>	<b>£9,807</b>

20. The budget for 2020-21 is:

<b>Income</b>		<b>Expenditure</b>	
Precept	£5,800	Staffing	£2,150
Wayleave	£44	Maintenance	£3,630
VAT recovery	£750	Administration	£1,110
Interest	£300	Projects	£2,922
	<b>£6,894</b>		
			<b>£9,812</b>

**Diane Osborne – Chair, Gateforth Parish Council**