

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting for Whatton in the Vale held on Tuesday May 23, 2017,  
at the Jubilee Hall, Whatton, at 7.00pm**

The chairman of the parish council, Coun Chris Grocock, chaired the meeting and welcomed seven parishioners.

**Minutes:** Minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting held on May 24, 2016, were presented, accepted and signed by the chairman.

**Chairman's report:** Coun. Grocock resented the Annual Report on the work of the parish council over the previous 12 months. "This is my first annual report as chairman for the council, having taken over the post in November last year following the retirement of Gregg Redford who held the post so well for ten years.

"The council has carried out its work on behalf of the parish to its best ability and members commit their time freely and on behalf of the Parish, I take this opportunity to thank all the Councillors for their commitment and efforts during the year. This council recognises the importance of communication, public involvement and transparency in the work of the council: An open session included at every meeting where residents are able voice their concerns or suggestions on issues affecting the Parish.

**Planning:** The Parish Council is a statutory consultee and has a 'Right' to be consulted in respect of planning application in the Parish (and in some circumstances in adjacent parishes) local planning authority is required to 'take note' of our comments or objections. The Parish Council take planning applications very seriously and encourage residents to attend our meetings when planning applications are discussed and obviously at the moment have the major application in for 90 houses that is causing so much concern. I do have to remind residents that where we object to planning applications we have do so purely on material planning issues.

Over the year the council has dealt with varying matters involving the village, and in the period we lost our representative at Notts County Council by the death if Martin Suthers. He had been a very faithful supporter of the parish council and we gave our condolences to his widow and family.

**Playing fields and proposed new pavilion.** The parish council carried out a whole-village survey and over 200 responses were received.

**Queen's Wood** where we planted 100 trees to mark the 90<sup>th</sup> birthday of HM Queen Elizabeth II.

**Centenary of ending of 1<sup>st</sup> World War November 11, 2018 (next year).** The council have agreed to in on national events being organised that day.

**Web site:** Former chairman Gregg Redford has agreed to look after it on behalf of the council.

### **Neighbourhood Plan**

Whilst we have not had any development proposals we do believe it is only a matter of time. Central Government has made it clear that every community is expected to contribute to the national (and local) housing shortfall. The likelihood is that the pressure on Planning Authorities to achieve and even exceed their target number of developments is going to increase.

The Localism Act of 2011 provided Parish Councils with the opportunity to develop a Neighbourhood Plan. The Neighbourhood Plan is not a method of stopping development, but rather shaping its location, style, type etc. Neighbourhood Plans must conform to National and Local Planning Policies and in essence will be approved by the Planning Authority.

The production of a Neighbourhood Plan involves cost (part of which may be met by a Central Government grant) and a substantial amount of time and effort by Parish Councillors and others involved in the process.

The Parish Council believes that the production of a Neighbourhood Plan is essential for the future development of our Parish. But the Council cannot proceed with the plan in a vacuum, Community support is necessary. In order for us to gauge the appetite for the proposal we will be writing to every household, explaining the aims, objective and process as soon as it is appropriate.

Queens Wood

### **Financial Report:**

A number of matters were raised including problems of parking causing congestion in various parts of the village, with Burton Lane and Church Street being particular concerns. The chairman pointed out it was not unlawful to park on a road in the village but if that parking caused an obstruction that could be a matter to be dealt with by the police. He said the general matter of parking would be raised at the next meeting of the parish council.

The question of parking on verges and obstructions placed there was also raised, as was the question of the condition of the River Smite, particularly in the region of Beverleys Avenue. The parish council would be asked to contact the Trent Valley Internal Drainage Board for information on its cleansing program Indifferent ception conditions for mobile phones in the village was raised as was the road dangers felt to exist on the A52 road, particularly for motorists leaving the village and turning towards Bingham . There was a suggestion for the speed cameras that existing there to be moved. The chairman reminded residents that 2015 was election year for the parish council and said they were aware there was a need for additional nominations to be put forward.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 7.25pm.

Ideas for  
Whatton in the Vale Parish Council

Chairman's Annual Report 2016-17

Introduction

This is my first annual report as chairman for the council, having taken over the post in November last year following the retirement of Gregg Redford who held the post so well for ten years.

The council has carried out its work on behalf of the parish to its best ability and members commit their time freely and on behalf of the Parish, I take this opportunity to thank all the Councillors for their commitment and efforts during the year. This council recognises the importance of communication, public involvement and transparency in the work of the council:

An open session included at every meeting where residents are able voice their concerns or suggestions on issues affecting the Parish.

Planning

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I do have to remind residents that where we object to planning applications we have do so purely on material planning issues.

Over the year the council has dealt with varying matters involving the village, and in the period we lost our representative at Notts County Council by the death if Martin Suthers. He had been a very faithful supporter of the parish council and we gave our condolences to his widow and family.

## Playing fields and proposed new pavilion. The parish council carried out a whole-village survey and over 200 responses were received.

## Queen's Wood where we planted 100 trees to mark the 90<sup>th</sup> birthday of HM Queen Elizabeth II.

## Speeding traffic Old Grantham Road

## Neighbourhood Plan

## Footpaths

## Centenary of ending of 1<sup>st</sup> World War November 11, 2018 (next year). The council have agreed to in on national events being organised that day.

## Web site: Former chairman Gregg Redford has agreed to look after it on behalf of the council.

## Pot Holes

## Dog Fouling

### Neighbourhood Plan

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### Queens Wood

Parish Councillors were joined by students from the Archbishop Cranmer Church of England Primary Academy to plant 200 shrubs and 30 trees on the former playground on Azimghur Road, Whatton-in-the-Vale.

The project which was funded by Whatton-in-the-Vale Parish Council was organized by Councillor Gwyn Owen and Councillor Chris Grocock liaised with the school. The project was part of the 'Clean for the Queen' initiative to celebrate the year of her Majesty's 90th Birthday.

**Councillors Owen, Grocock, Evans, Morris and Redford joined the children in the days 'planting'.**

**A 'naming' competition was organized by the school and the name 'Queens Wood' was chosen as the best name for the area.**

### Playing Field

**The Parish Council continues to fund the Playing Field and the budget amount for 2015-2016 is £900.**

### Affordable Housing

**As we reported last year the Council had undertaken a 'Housing Needs Survey' but had not advanced the results any further pending the outcome of the Aslockton Planning application. As the application has now been approved and there is more than sufficient 'Affordable' housing included in the outline application there is no need for additional affordable housing in the Parish.**

### Verge Maintenance

**Verge maintenance continued this year on the same basis as previous year.**

### Public Rights of Way

**Whilst the Parish Council has the power to maintain Public Rights of Way, for all other matters we need to work through the Local Highways Authority (Nottinghamshire County Council), during the past year we have continued to address the issue of Orston Lane – Overgrown with self-seeded hedge, repair of the culvert at the junction of Whatton and Elton footpaths and the surface along the first segment. We have been partly successful in that the self-seeded hedge has now be cut back. We will continue to press the outstanding issues.**

**GR  
Chairman  
May 2016**

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**Whatton-in-the-Vale**

**Parish**

**Redford  
Council.**

