

**Eskdaleside cum Ugglebarnby Parish Council**  
**Chairman's Report 2017/18**  
**For the Annual Parish Meeting 9 4 18**

**Councillors**

During the last year we have had the resignation of Eric Preston, to whom we give grateful thanks for his contributions over the year in his roles as a Councillor, Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the parish council. In recognition of his contributions we presented him with the title of Honorary Freeman of the Parish and in celebration we have planted a tree on the Daffodil Green.

In addition, we have sadly lost Judith Powditch, who had great input to the council in her roles as newsletter coordinator, parish plan monitor and mentor of our first Youth Advisor. She will be greatly missed.

We are still advertising for the co-option of 3 councillors.

I am grateful for the ongoing contribution of all Members.

**Finance**

The Parish Council has decided to retain the precept at £15,750 for the 2018/19 financial year, this will give a 0.56% reduction to residents in their council tax bill.

The Model Agreement monies of £2420 were received from Scarborough Borough Council during the 2017/18 financial year, this is against the SBC approved estimate of £3939 due to an underspend in 2016/17 – SBC deduct the underspend from the second instalment the following year. The new Model Agreement for 2018/19 has been signed and sent to Scarborough Borough Council for the approved expenditure estimate of £4049; however, due to an underspend in 2017/18 financial year the actual amount received in the 2018/19 year will be reduced significantly. The Model Agreement monies from SBC help towards maintenance costs, for example such items as grass verge cutting, bench repairs/replacement and so on, and is aimed to assist SBC in reducing its administrative burden of managing such tasks.

**Planning Applications**

The parish council has considered planning applications and consultations throughout the year from Scarborough Borough Council (SBC), North York Moors National Park Authority (NYMNP), NYCC and Central Government. The Council is grateful to Cllrs Dave Tate and Alf Watson for considering and advising on planning matters again this year.

The parish council continues to receive updates on the York Potash project via presentations by their team.

**Public Conveniences**

The parish council has undertaken an extensive refurbishment programme of the public conveniences on Eskdaleside. This has been funded through a designated planned budget fund together with grants from SBC, NYMNP and NYCC. Whilst the project has taken longer than expected, it is hoped that residents and visitors will be delighted by the revised layout, which is now disabled access enabled with parking available in front for users of the facilities. Two seats will be placed at the front of the toilets, which have been funded by a grant from NYCC's Locality Budget via our County Councillor Clive Pearson.

**Highways**

Working with SBC, NYCC and the police the Parish Council has been able to tackle ongoing street lighting, road maintenance, speeding, parking, street sign, pavement, damaged verges and overgrown hedge issues.

The parish council continues to provide temporary VAS on Coach Road in conjunction with NYCC as part of its 4 year programme, which it is hoped is making some impact on reducing speeding of traffic.

The parish council is thankful to the Community Speed Watch at Briggswath for their efforts in tackling speeding traffic on the B1410, they recently celebrated their 100<sup>th</sup> speedwatch.

### **Environment**

Working with SBC and NYCC the Parish Council has been able to tackle ongoing issues relating to:

- Linden Close Wildlife Area - the Parish Council is grateful to the efforts of SBC parks department, SBC Cllrs G Coulson as well as the residents in the vicinity
- Flooding and overloading of gutters/gulleys
- Dog fouling
- Overflowing waste bins
- Fly tipping
- Abandoned vehicles

### **Footpaths**

The Parish Council has continued to monitor the footpaths throughout the parish, reporting issues to NYMNPA and NYCC where appropriate.

### **Other Activities**

There has been a continuation of the parish council's maintenance programme of assets with work being completed on the Beacon in readiness for lighting to honour a 100 years of Remembrance following the end of WW1 on the 11<sup>th</sup> November. The parish council will be undertaking further asset maintenance work in 2018/19 financial year following a recent review that has highlighted repairs are required to the noticeboard at the railway station, seats, sundial and bus shelter; in addition it will be looking at potential grant opportunities to replace the railings on the War Memorial.

The Parish Newsletter continued to be produced on a regular quarterly basis and distributed to virtually all residents in the parish. We are grateful to Cllr Pat Perry for taking over this role from Judy Powditch by assisting in compiling the content for each edition.

Noticeboards are continually updated with information regarding the Parish Council, relevant organisations and events in the parish and the surrounding area. The website continues to be a central location for information about the parish council and the area and hopefully it has been of use to residents. The parish council continues to regularly tweet important information via Twitter, and can be followed @EskUggPC.

Youth Advisor: Alfie Edwards has continued to attend the parish council meetings and has contributed ideas and thoughts on what the youth of our parish need – as well as meeting objectives and aims of the Parish Council's Parish Plan. Alfie has met with older pupils of the parish at Sleights Primary School and has gained an insight into the issues they feel are important. He is expecting to meet with NYCC Stronger Communities to have input on their youth orientated project.

Police liaison: The Council has received regular updates from the police representative regarding incidents within the area.

Borough/County Councillors: Regular updates have been received on matters that appertain to the Borough and County from our representatives. The Parish Council has welcomed County Cllr Clive Pearson to its meetings, and is grateful to the hard work undertaken by SBC Cllr G Coulson.

Cllr B Truman