

PARISH COUNCIL

Weather conditions are not usually a concern of the Parish Council! However, pouring rain has recently contributed to difficult times for the staging of the Village Fete event and conditions have not exactly been ideal for the easy maintenance of grass verges and garden areas.

Notwithstanding the bad weather, staff and volunteers at the Civic Centre worked hard to ensure that those who attended the fete managed to enjoy the wet day. In the circumstances, community attendance was good and next year's event is already being planned!

The Council is going ahead with improvements to the burial ground alongside the Church and paths and better access conditions will be established in November so that adverse weather conditions do not continue to make underfoot conditions quite so difficult.

The Parish Council continues to support and assist with excellent community work being undertaken by staff and volunteers at the Youth Centre and at the Civic Centre. Attendances at both these venues are on the increase and new initiatives and events are being organised regularly.

One of the more important activities currently being addressed by the Parish Council is the ongoing preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan.

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group is well on the way to formulating the Plan and a first draft is now available. There has been an excellent community response to consultations from residents, landowners and commercial organisations and their diverse views are being incorporated into the process. It will be a few months yet before a final version is presented to the Parish Council and the Bassetlaw District Council but residents need to be aware that the preparations is going in accordance with the programme and is within the budgetary provision. Residents also need to be reminded that all of the costs are being met from external grants and are not being paid for from the local Council Tax.

Focusing on finance for a moment, residents also should be made aware that the Council continues to operate within its declared budget and a Council Tax contribution which is frozen until at least 2018. The Council's accounts have recently been submitted to Government appointed external auditors for examination and it is hoped that this annual requirement will continue to receive a reassuring approval which we have managed to achieve now for many years.

You are reminded that Council meetings are held at 7pm on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Civic Centre except for August when the Council does not have a scheduled meeting. The next meeting will therefore be held on Tuesday 13th September 2016 and members of the public are very welcome to attend.

PC Goulding

Clerk

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