

Chairman's report Autumn 2015

Autumn is upon us and parish business continues as normal.

A small number of planning applications required review and no objections were raised.

Overgrown hedges and untidy bushes pushed speeding off as the main issue raised by residents. The clerk reported the offending foliage to the Street Doctor and then had to chase to ensure action was taken.

On the speeding front there have been discussions over traffic calming throughout the village, but surveys at the time indicated to the highway authority that there was no need. The Parish Council has asked the highways authority if they could carry out an up to date survey.

There were no police incidents in August and ten incidents in September as the village, like other surrounding areas, again suffered from a spate of thefts of equipment from garages. Until the culprits are caught I recommend that you take extra care when locking your equipment, especially lawn mowers, away.

Crematorium

Work has commenced and should be completed by summer 2016.

Prison

No change with regards to it remaining "mothballed".

Potential Development Earls Barton Road

No planning application has been received with regards to the potential housing development on Earls Barton Road. This is one item where no news is definitely good news. As I have stated previously the Parish Council will strongly object to any proposed development.

Street Lamps

We are gearing up to start the replacement of street lamps within the village a number of the lamps are beyond repair and will need replacing. We have asked for costings and the phased roll out will be discussed and agreed over the next few meetings

Housing Needs Survey

It has been over five years since Wellingborough Council carried out its last survey. The Parish Council received a presentation from the housing officer and was given the opportunity to ask questions. Your views and needs count so please take the time to complete the survey.

Play Equipment

The play equipment in the recreational park though well-loved is looking tired. Competitive costings have been obtained and we are now looking for funding to replacement it.

On the social side:

Scarecrow Festival & Village Fete

I would like to say a big thank you to all those people involved in organising such a fabulous event and the host of volunteers on the day. I know this was a culmination of many

hours of hard work and countless beginning with the Duck Race and followed by the Stars and Stripes evening leading up to this event.

The scarecrow trail was superb and the village fete was just brilliant. It was wonderful to see so many people of the village coming together. At one stage there was over 300 people in the park and I saw one family that spanned four generations. The fact that the bar ran out of drink twice certainly shows we all entered into the party spirit.

Also thank you to the Heritage Society who put on a very interesting exhibition packed with information and photos on the history of farming in the village.

As always I extend a welcome to all in the village to attend the monthly Parish Council meetings, dates are listed on the website

Thank you

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C.S.D.' followed by a horizontal flourish.

Chris Davies
Chair of Parish Council