

---

## CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT - PARISH COUNCIL - 2021

*Cllr Jon Chitty OBE MA CEng BSc FRAeS*

---

In my report last year I commented on the new accommodation, new roads and new infrastructure improvements that we faced; and it is pleasing to note that most of these large programmes are now complete and functioning well. One other project that has come to fruition is the building of a brand new skate park at the Memorial Centre. And a welcome addition to the graveyard space at the Church is now also being planned for, the details of which are now with solicitors to take forward. So more on this once the legal actions have been completed.

A new website has been developed and brought into use. The figures relating to the number of 13,838 page views since 1 Jan 21 is good to see; and is a reflection of its current utilisation by members of the public. Various pages have been added covering the history of the village and a mapping of the walks around the area. Ongoing agendas and minutes of the various Parish Council meetings are also available. However, it does take a lot of time and effort to keep the pages up to date. We may have to consider nominating a web master to carry this work on in the future.

Just a few of the other aspects in train at the moment are:

- the Lady Olivia Centre (LOC) in Brampton Park is being outfitted with furniture and theatre equipment - but because of the Covid19 pandemic this work has been significantly delayed. We are still awaiting formal handover, hopefully by June;
- in parallel we will then take on the planting of grass for the LOC playing fields;
- together with developing the programme of user group and Theatre Group activities within the LOC;
- continuing discussions with the County Council about various local highway and cycle-way initiatives that we seek to take forward;
- parking improvement in the High Street by the shops;
- Provision of a Mens' Shed (a generic name and one we may change) on the Memorial Centre car park area - for which planning permission has recently been granted by HDC.

The Parish Council continues to work with the Village Hub in its programme of support into the community; albeit with the current Covid restrictions still to be fully lifted, this social support programme has been sadly and significantly reduced. However, this work has been recognised by the County Council as they are impressed with the facilities available to residents via the Village Hub; and they will be looking to replicate some of these in other villages in the County. These facilities include the Library, Civic Group, Good Neighbours Scheme, Volunteer Car Scheme, IT mentoring, Dementia Group, Health Walks, Christmas Lights, Quiz evenings. On this final point a Summer Fete is planned for 24 Jul 21; with a Christmas event in the planning stages.

Unfortunately, on the other side of the proverbial coin, we receive reports from residents about a number of anti-social behaviour issues where we lack the powers to effect change. We have contacted the Chief Constable with a view to employing our own Brampton Bobby to assist in tackling these problems. He is not keen but we have received lots of

support and co-operation from the neighbourhood sergeant in attempting to tackle issues such as speeding, inconsiderate parking (especially on the High Street), and anti-social behaviour. Monthly meetings take place with Police HQ and their patrols do seek to pass through the village as a practice when responding to, or returning from, an incident. That said if incidents are seen of flouting the law, then ring 101 to report it. This is very important, as without background data of a particular problem or anti-social behaviour, they have little information to go on, in providing a response for longer term resolution.

The important issues relating to the recent flooding, and the odours from the Landfill site, have taken up quite a bit of time in ensuring the agencies, who hold the relevant responsibilities to tackle the problems, have been properly and active engaged. The results of their follow-up work will only become clear when the next heavy rain falls; and when the weather conditions perhaps adversely affect the Landfill site and its operations. So far the situations do seem to have improved.

My final point is to say that the Parish Council relies on keen volunteers to make all these activities and work happen. We are short of a few councillors at the moment due to movements away and retirement. So if you would like to help determine the future developments within our village, then please think about becoming a Parish Councillor, and make contact with the Clerk who will help advise you on the process.

This will be my last Annual Report as Chairman.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'AG', is centered within a light blue rectangular box.