

Annual Parish Meeting 2016

Chairman`s Report

As we approach the end of my first year as Chairman, I can reflect and say that Beyton Parish Council has been quite successful in its achievements without attaining anything earth shattering. Evolution in my opinion is always preferred to revolution.

This time last year we were pretty much a fledgling group that need to learn on the job. I`m sure that we made some errors along the way but with the help and guidance from previous chairmen and our senior councillors there has not been any major catastrophe- at least as far as I know ! But, as some say “ if you can keep your head whilst all around you are losing theirs, then you don`t understand the severity of the problem “ who knows ?

I would like to express my sincere thanks to those who have served so admirably on the Parish Council over the past twelve months, Mark Bloomfield, Sue Harris, Ellen Kirkby, Grant Lockhart-White, Peggy Orsler, Adele Pope and our clerk, Pat Lamb.

We set ourselves a number of objectives for the year and somewhat surprisingly many were achieved, notably improving safety on our village roads, preventing flooding at the north end of The Green, addressing the risk assessment comments on the play equipment, adding new larger goal posts and increasing the number of dog poo boxes. Additionally, we supplied funds to support the refurbishment of the village hall, continued to build closer alliances with the 6th Form College, engaged with Suffolk Wild Life for the environmentally friendly cutting of the stream banks and of course arranging two well attended clean-up days. I think that we did a pretty sensible job regarding planning applications, especially the rejection of the concrete breaking plant application in Tostock, on this one we received tremendous support from our fellow parishioners.

Enough about the past; we still have a lot more to do such as securing the Lease for the Village Green, writing an Emergency Plan for Beyton, locating an emergency defibrillator, encouraging Suffolk Highways to establish a firm preventative maintenance plan to stop flooding in Drinkstone Road and Quaker Lane, address the issue of affordable housing and of course maintain our focus on road safety. Some of these plans may result in the Parish Council requesting an increase in Council Tax next year.

Let us continue to work together to augment life in Beyton

Graham Jones

