

## *Chairman's Annual Report Welton-by-Lincoln Parish Council 2019-2020*

**I would** normally be giving this report at the annual parish meeting, usually held in May, but as large gatherings are currently not allowed, we most likely will have to wait unto 2021 for the next one.

The Council meets on the second Monday of each month, except in August, and most committees meet bi-monthly. We have 13 councillor seats and in May of each year, the chairman and vice-chairman are elected at the annual meeting of the parish council which differs from the annual parish meeting which is for the electors of the parish. We have not been able to hold this meeting either and legislation was passed to enable the current chairman to continue until next year.

We said a very sad goodbye to Cllr Eddie Reall, a serving member of the council and chairman of the Highways and Utilities committee and to Malcolm Parish, a past member and chairman, who both passed away in February.

This year, up until lockdown, the council held 34 council and committee meetings and, in addition, councillors attended training courses and local events and represented the council on committees of other organisations and groups in the village and with the county and district councils.

As usual all the committees have been very busy throughout the year and a restructuring of these took effect from the 1st April 2020; the Publications and Heritage and Twinning committees became the Heritage and Events committee. The Environment and Highways and Utilities committees were incorporated in the newly created Amenities and Services committee. The Planning committee was re-named the Planning and Development committee and the Management and Audit committee is now the Governance and Finance committee.



The parish council entered East Midlands In Bloom for the first time in 2019 and received a Silver Award, a real achievement. The In Bloom competition has been cancelled for this year, but you can still enjoy the floral displays which have a red, white, and blue theme to commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE Day.

Unfortunately due to the coronavirus pandemic the May Fair had to be cancelled. This was such a shame as we were co-ordinating events with the VE Day celebrations and had planned a tea dance with 1940s-themed entertainment and an afternoon tea in the village hall.

West Lindsey Benefits Surgeries have been held in the parish office on Tuesday mornings and were well attended; hopefully, they will soon be able to resume.

To commemorate the 125th anniversary of the formation of the parish council, honorary titles were bestowed on Marlene Chapman and Malcolm Parish (prior to his passing) for their work in the community and it is hoped a celebration can be held as soon as we are able.

I laid a wreath at the War Memorial on behalf of the village at the Remembrance Day service in November.

The lighting of the Christmas tree took place on the first Sunday of Advent with the Revd Carol Jones, the recipient of the 2019 Community Award, turning the lights on. Councillors assisted in serving mulled wine and mince pies to residents.

The Council is served by the Parish Clerk, Julie Murray, our newly appointed Administrative Assistant Caroline Barnett, Internal Auditor and Data Protection Officer Sandra Waller, and our Facilities Team Rob Lewis, Ken Moate, Sue Denton, Russ Howe, and Maurice Swinburn. Linda Blankley, our Deputy Clerk left us at the end of June as she and her family are moving near to the coast. We would like to thank her for the commitment she has given to the council and Welton during the two and a half years she has been with us and wish her well for the future.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the parish council staff, parish councillors, our county and district councillors and the many organisations and individual parishioners and volunteers who have supported us throughout the past year and in particular through these uncertain and unprecedented times. Let us hope that we can be as back to normal as possible very soon.

***Cllr Alan Greenway***  
***Chairman, Welton-by-Lincoln Parish Council***