

Cantley with Branton Parish Meeting

Chairman's Report 2023/24

Within the Parish Council we have seen a number of changes with two long standing Councillors leaving due to time changes in their personal circumstances. A huge thank you to Michelle Sidebottom and David Chorlton who between them served approximately 26 years on the Parish Council. One new councillor joined as a result of vacancies and a change in the Chair enabling the work to be carried on within the Parish. A second vacancy is currently awaiting to be filled. Thank you to every member of the Parish Council who have attended our meetings and external meetings in support and on behalf of the Council over the last year. We have all chosen to offer our time to be a Parish Councillor and we all have the best interests of the parish and residents in any decision we make.

My thanks go out to the Clerk and the Handyman for their excellent work throughout this period in maintaining the high standards set in the previous years.

The Parish Council has continued to maintain to the best of their ability, the high standards expected to keep our parish looking presentable with grass cutting, bin collections, hedge cutting, gardening, general maintenance as well as safety inspections of the parish, Kilham Hall Park and Parish Council property. I have listed below some of the work we have been involved with over the last 12 months.

Manor Farm/Warren Park Estate

Many people do not appreciate the boundary of the parish and the new estate being built at Manor Farm comes within our boundary. As such a new notice board was installed in May 2023 for the new residents. The Parish Council have tried a number of ways to engage further with residents of Warren Park estate (tried joining the estate Facebook group, tried requesting space to hold drop in sessions or the Clerk/Members to work from once a month, attended CDC engagement events on the estate) and will continue to do so.

Kilham Hall

Solar panels for the village hall were installed in June 2023 in line with the Parish Council's attempt at beginning more eco friendly.

MUGA

Planning permission was approved for the MUGA with a condition that the Parish Council carried out a percolation test prior to going out to tender for the build. A percolation test was carried out in early February 2024. The results were satisfactory to meet the condition and therefore City of Doncaster Council (CDC), who are project managing the build on behalf of the Parish Council, have requested the condition be removed and will be going out to tender shortly.

King's Coronation Celebrations

The Parish Council, in conjunction with Kilham Hall Management Committee, held an open day at Kilham Hall to celebrate the King's Coronation. The day was a huge success with lots of residents attending joining in the fun with gorgeous refreshments provided by Beth's at Branton and the amazing Pizza Van, arts and crafts for the children, a face painter, a quiz and entertainment by Steve Love.

Defibrillator Training

The Parish Council coordinated some training for residents on how to use a defibrillator should the need arise. South Yorkshire Ambulance Service (SYAS) provided the training to approximately 20 residents who felt the session was very usual. The Parish Council made a donation to SYAS in return for the informative session.

New Defibrillator in Old Cantley

Match funding was granted from the Government for a new defibrillator. This meant that the Parish Council could obtain another defibrillator for half the usual cost. Businesses in Old Cantley were contacted and two businesses kindly offered to host a defibrillator. One was slightly off a central location so GBM Accounts

were contacted and agreed to have one installed on their building on The Row. This was installed in April and registered on the national database "The Circuit" so that it is visible for emergency services or resident should they need it.

Branton Litter Pick Group

This group are still regularly meeting and making a significant contribution to the villages look and cleanliness. The additional storage space for their equipment at Kilham Hall was well received. New dates for this year will be advised in due course – the next litter pick being held on Saturday 11th May 2024 at 9.30am at Kilham Hall. Our thanks are expressed to the volunteers who attend the litter picks on a regular basis.

Road Safety

Despite pressure from the Parish Council, we were unable to convince Highways (CDC) to install any further safety measures to reduce speed. However, the Police were happy to carry out training with volunteers from the village of Branton on an initiative on speed awareness. We did hope this would go some way to reducing the impact of speeding vehicle with the parish however a number of volunteers were unavailable for the training and a few changed their mind after the training so therefore the initiative was cancelled due to insufficient volunteers.

Police Drop in Sessions

We still hold drop in sessions every 6 weeks, however attendance of these has been very poor despite advertising, if we want to maintain our dialogue with the local police, improved engagement in these sort of events is important.

Poppy Display

The displays around the village to commemorate Armistice Day were both picturesque and very emotive. Numerous positive comments were received and our thanks go out to all those that contributed to it. In 2024 we are looking to purchase another of the 'Unknown Tommy Soldier Silhouettes' to complement these displays. Residents were busy knitting and crocheting more poppies which enabled us to provide displays on the additional two trees in the Parish, on each notice board and around the railings at Kilham Hall. Residents are already busy knitting and crocheting more poppies to enable the Parish Council to provide more displays. Appreciation goes out to all the volunteers who donated knitted/crocheted poppies to those who helped form the displays and to the Clerk and Handyman who installed the displays and lamp post poppies in all weather.

Christmas Festivities

All 3 trees around the Parish were illuminated along with the two trees at Old Cantley Roundabout. Residents attended a brief carol service around the Glen Road Christmas tree, accompanied by Armthorpe Elmfield Brass Band to much acclaim. The Parish Council also sponsored Kilham Hall Management's Committee's Christmas Pantomime which saw 2 performances of Little Red Riding Hood. The performances were a sell out and adults and children alike enjoyed the shows. As always, the Parish Council made a donation to Thorne Lions towards the Santa Sleigh visit to Branton.

CWBPC – Facebook Page

Just a reminder about our Facebook page which is an excellent communication and informative area for the villages. My thanks go out to the Clerk for keeping this media updated.

King regards

Neville Williams
Chairman
Cantley with Branton Parish Council