

Holymoorside & Walton Parish Council

Parish Chairman's Report 2007-2008

To all residents of the parish

Since my appointment as chairman last May the parish council has experienced an extremely busy and eventful year. Without the hard work, help and co-operation of all councillors we would not have been able to achieve many of our goals. Following the elections in May, the council welcomed four new members and said goodbye to the same number who did not stand for election. I would therefore like to thank all the parish councillors, past and present for their support.

I would like to thank both caretakers, Brian Brough and Alistair McLellan for their hard work in maintaining the very high standard of the village hall. I offer my thanks to Marion Dale, the administration assistant, who joined us last September and has made a positive impact on the efficient booking of the hall. Finally I would especially like to thank Kate Brailsford our clerk for the unstinting help, time and advice that she has given to me since I took office. Without her constant help the past year would have been a much more difficult journey.

I would like to conclude by noting that this past year has been a very steep learning curve but I have enjoyed it very much.

I now present to you a summary of the events of the past year.

Diana Hinchliffe
Chairman

Affordable Housing

Following the recent housing needs survey, carried out in Holymoorside a need was highlighted for some new dwellings for local people. Your council is now working with both Midlands Rural Housing and NEDDC to identify possible locations for these.

Allotments

The allotments are showing great signs of improvement now the council carries out regular inspections to ensure they are maintained to a high standard. A decision has recently been made to ban all vehicles from the site for the safety of tenants. There is currently a long waiting list for the plots from both residents and non-residents alike, with residents of the parish being given priority.

Footpaths

The parish council, on behalf of DCC, carries out much of the work to the footpaths within the parish and is allowed an annual grant of £495 for this. Work has been sanctioned for the upgrade of footpath 45, Cliff Bottoms, which should commence in the near future. The footpath committee has volunteers who attend and report on the problems they encounter and their contributions are gratefully received.

Fun day

A successful fun day was held in August 2007 in both the hall and recreation ground, raising a total amount after expenses of £205.74 for The Bluebell Wood Children's Hospice Appeal. Thanks are offered to Mrs C Walters for all her help in organising this event.

Grit bins

The council made a decision to refill their own grit bins at a considerable saving to the council. We are now able to fill the bins as soon as required.

Health and safety

The parish council takes its health & safety duties very seriously. Annual inspections are commissioned via an independent person. The checks include; the village hall, changing rooms, recreation ground, play area, allotments, tennis and bowling area and the memorial gardens. Any potential problems highlighted are dealt with as a matter of urgency.

Memorial Garden

The path in the memorial garden has been upgrade from gravel to a pleasing and safe concrete embossed walkway.

All overgrown shrubs and trees have been substantially cut back, the rose-beds replaced, bulbs planted and many new flowers provided. This area is now a real amenity to the parish. The gates to the garden are unlocked during British Summertime.

Each November a Memorial Service is held by the council and supported by the Guides, Brownies, Scouts, Beavers, local churches and Holymoorside Band.

Neighbourhood Partnerships

Your council is regularly represented at various meetings with NEDDC, organisations and other groups. This parish meets with other 'rural' parishes to discuss issues of mutual concern.

Planning

The parish council is a statutory consultee on all planning matters, which are considered at the monthly meetings.

Police

Under the new police initiative, 'Safer Neighbourhood Team' this parish has been allocated PC Hartshorn. We share him with four other 'rural' areas and to date he has had a positive influence on the parish. Your parish council had the pleasure of hosting the first ever meeting for the various parishes, which was well attended. Unfortunately the council feels that this initiative has not been followed up but is making every effort to further this cause. Generally the parish suffers little crime but the recent events in Holymoorside village, which caused concern, were quickly sorted with the help from PC Hartshorn and a neighbouring police force.

Various members of the council also attend the Clay Cross Police Consultative group and also the annual parish council evening at Police Headquarters and full representation at future Safer Neighbourhood Team meetings are guaranteed.

Quality status

The parish council has resolved to seek 'quality status'. This will benefit the community in many ways, providing more communication, consultation and a raised profile for the council with both Derbyshire County Council and North East Derbyshire District Council.

To achieve quality status the council has had to change some long-standing systems;

- The newsletter is published and circulated to all residents 4 times a year.
- Staff and councillors have attended training courses
- A regular report is published in The Derbyshire Times
- A web site is currently under construction and is due to be completed in the very near future.

The parish council has now raised its profile within the community and will continue to do so.

Thanks are offered to all Neighbourhood Watch volunteers who distributed the newsletter for the council in the past.

Recreation ground and riverside

The riverside has seen a massive improvement this past year. The trees have been pruned and 'lifted' from ground level. The whole area has been well strimmed back and hundreds of bulbs, snowdrops, bluebells, fritillia & daffodils have been planted with help from the local Brownies, Guides, Beavers & Scout groups.

Two picnic benches have been placed and two further benches are awaiting placement. It was possible to provide these as a very generous donation was received from a resident in memory of his late wife. Heartfelt thanks are offered for this charitable gesture, which will benefit the whole community for many years to come.

The recreation ground is still well used and one local football team has regular fixtures. The council maintains the ground to a high standard for its residents and had to recently take the unfortunate decision to have the current mole infestation professionally removed. This was necessary as the moles were encroaching on to the football pitch and posed a safety risk.

The hedge running alongside the recreation ground has now been 'laid', providing both a natural boundary plus vital habitat for the local wildlife. Many of the specialist saplings used for this project were provided free from NEDDC and thanks are offered to them.

Recycling

The village hall car park currently benefits from a paper bank and three glass banks. However, a resolution has now been made to remove the glass facilities and replace it with a plastics re-cycling bank. This decision has been made because every resident of the parish receives the

'blue box' collection and your council is committed to providing as many recycling opportunities as possible.

Sports & Leisure

The sports and leisure committee of the council has had a very busy year with the planned withdrawal of subsidised rates for ground maintenance, which will eventually see a rise of approximately £4000 in charges. Prolonged negotiation with both the tennis and bowling clubs have produced new contracts which reflect the necessity of increased charges together with the sustained viability of both clubs. The parish council to keep costs at a minimum will now carry out other duties, currently provided by NEDDC.

The council was also in the fortunate position to be able to afford to have the tennis courts re-surfaced and the corner posts and gates replaced.

Staff

The council employs four members of staff.

- Mrs Kate Brailsford -Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer. She has worked for the council for nearly nine years and obtained the Certificate in Local Policy Studies from the University of Gloucester in 2005. She works 17 hours a week, based at her home, although she is often found at the village hall or around the parish! The clerk is the 'proper officer' of the council and carries out the collective instructions from the council and deals with all the administrative work.
- Mrs Marion Dale-Administration Assistant. Marion has worked for the council since September 07 taking bookings for the village hall and is currently constructing the parish council website.
- Mr Brian Brough-Caretaker/Cleaner. He has been in the council's employment for six years. He has the main responsibility for looking after the hall, locking and un-locking as required, cleaning and carrying out various odd jobs.
- Mr Alistair McLellan-Relief Caretaker. Alistair has worked for the council since September 2006 covering for Brian on his off days or holidays. He maintains the hall's cleanliness, unlock and locks the village hall and checks for litter around the hall and recreation ground.

Village hall

The village hall has had a very good year. Bookings and consequently takings have increased, especially for social events. The revised pricing structure is proving beneficial to many of the regular users and members of the parish whilst still attracting many out of parish bookings, including Chesterfield College who hold many adult education classes. The hall has also seen the installation of film equipment and the upgrade of the curtains and thanks are offered to Holymoorside & Walton Arts Festival for this contribution to the community.

A new UPVC window and office door has been provided, together with the upgrade of the toilets to low flushing cisterns. Tenders are currently being sought for the replacement of the main front doors and work should be completed before the summer. A new cooker and glass-washer (which can be used for cups, saucers and small plates) have been fitted in the kitchen and a microwave has been donated.

The village hall booking office is open on a Monday, Wednesday & Friday between 9.15-11.15 am.

Youth

The parish council has worked extremely hard to provide activities for the young people and their families of the parish. Two family discos have been held the Halloween one was well supported with the Valentine one less so. In view of this, the council intend to provide an annual disco at the end of October.

Working in conjunction with Derbyshire County Council Youth Service, your parish council has been fortunate to secure both the mobile climbing wall and mobile skate park for residents to enjoy. Both events were successful and will become a regular activity in the parish.

Last April a further Gamezone event was organised and funded by the council, which was an event well enjoyed and attended. An 'Ozbox' event was booked and paid for in December but only attended by one person! This activity will not be repeated.

Report from District Councillor - Martin Thacker M.B.E.

Since being elected in May 2007, along with Peter Elliott, to represent Brampton and Walton Ward our first priority has been to engage with the electorate as widely as possible. An 'In Touch' leaflet was delivered to publicise contact details. At Christmas, calendars were delivered to raise our profiles as District Councillors. Street surgeries have been conducted in some parts of the Ward and these have been extremely successful. A 'drop-in' surgery was held at Holymoorside Village Hall in March, 2008 and others are planned for July and October of this year.

I have participated in the consultation exercise on speed limits on the A619 at Holymoorside. The proposal is to extend the 40 m.p.h. zone to cover the junction of Holymoorside Road. I have ascertained residents' views where possible and fed them back to Derbyshire County Council.

I have also worked closely with the County Council's Rights of Way Inspector on issues concerning various footpaths in Holymoorside and Walton. My case load has included supporting residents on planning matters; refuse collection; and assorted problems on an individual basis.

I have represented the Ward by attending District Council meetings (my attendance at Full Council meetings for the civic year 2007-08 is 100%) contributing to debate and raising specific points of local concern including affordable housing, council tax rises and anti-social behaviour. I enjoyed participating in two of North East Derbyshire's initiatives: 'Local Democracy Week' with school pupils to promote interest in politics and 'Plant a Tree Week', again with children, to enhance our environment.

Should you have any concerns or queries on District matters please get in touch, I'll be happy to help in the best way I can.

HOLYMOORSIDE & WALTON PARISH COUNCIL

Annual Parish Meeting 22 April 2008

<u>Income 2007/2008</u>	£
Precept	42000.00
Interest	1619.31
Allotment rents	556.00
Village hall	17372.52
Football	552.00
Tennis/bowling rent	3143.50
Footpath grant	500.00
Other receipts	572.74
Newsletter	780.00
VAT	5630.96
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>72727.03</u>

<u>Expenditure 2007/2008</u>	£
Sports/outside maintenance	14553.73
Tennis courts resurfacing & posts	17606.25
Administration & administration salaries	19892.99
VH & VH salaries	22995.81
S137	1718.02
Allotments	129.64
Footpaths	500.00
VAT	6372.72
Total	<u>83469.16</u>

Precept for 2007-2008 is £43680 (4% increase)

**HOLYMOORSIDE & WALTON PARISH COUNCIL
ATTENDANCE OF COUNCILLORS 2007-2008**

<u>Main meetings</u> 2007 to 2008	May 07	June 07	July 07	Sept 07	Oct 07	Nov 07	Dec 07	Jan 08	Feb 08	March 08	April 08
DIANA HINCHLIFFE	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
MARTIN THACKER	A	A	O	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
NORMAN WRAGG	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
PAT MASKREY	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
ROGER SCOTHERN	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	O	A
PHILIP STANSFIELD	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
JEFF SWALLOW	A	A	A	O	O	O	O	A	A	A	-
NIGEL STERLAND	N/A	N/A	N/A	A	A	A	O	A	A	A	A
DEAN CORBRIDGE	A	O	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
ANN GRINBERGS	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	O	A	O	A

A indicates attendance

- indicates no apology or not accepted

O indicates absent and apology accepted

N/A indicates not on the committee

HOLYMOORSIDE & WALTON PARISH COUNCIL
ATTENDANCE OF COUNCILLORS AT FINANCE/OTHER MEETINGS 2007-2008

<u>FINANCE/S&L/QS/ FOOTPATHS</u> 2007 to 2008	MAY 07 FI	JUNE 07 FP	JULY 07 FI	SEPT 07 S&L	SEPT 07 QS	OCT 07 S&L	OCT 07 FP	NOV 07 S&L	NOV 07 FI	NOV 07 S&L	FEB 08 FP	FEB 08 FI	MAR 08 S&L
DIANA HINCHLIFFE	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
MARTIN THACKER	A	N/A	A	A	A	A	N/A	O	A	A	N/A	O	A
NORMAN WRAGG	A	—	A	A	N/A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
PAT MASKREY	A	N/A	A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	A	N/A	N/A	A	N/A
ROGER SCOTHERN	A	O	A	A	N/A	A	A	A	O	A	A	A	O
PHILIP STANSFIELD	A	N/A	A	A	A	A	N/A	A	A	A	N/A	A	A
JEFF SWALLOW	A	A	A	A	N/A	—	—	O	O	O	A	A	O
NIGEL STERLAND	N/A	N/A	A	A	A	A	N/A	A	A	A	N/A	A	—
DEAN CORBRIDGE	A	A	O	N/A	N/A	N/A	O	N/A	A	N/A	A	A	N/A
ANN GRINBERGS	A	O	A	N/A	N/A	N/A	—	N/A	A	N/A	O	A	N/A

A indicates attendance

— indicates no apology or not accepted

O indicates absent and apology accepted

N/A indicates not on the committee

USEFUL CONTACTS

PARISH COUNCILLORS Holymoorside Ward

Mrs D Hinchliffe (chairman) - Tel (01245) 566894
57 Loads Road, Holymoorside, Chesterfield

Mr D Corbridge - Tel (01246) 567803
3 Heather Way, Holymoorside, Chesterfield

Mrs P Maskrey - Tel (01246) 568561
9 Heather Way, Holymoorside, Chesterfield

Mr R Scothern - Tel (01246) 567338
52 Gallery Lane, Holymoorside, Chesterfield

Mr P Stansfield - Tel (01246) 569181
59 Loads Road, Holymoorside, Chesterfield

Mr M Thacker - Tel (01246) 275981
198 Walton Road, Walton, Chesterfield

Mr N Wragg - Tel (01246) 568415
26 Holymoore Road, Holymoorside, Chesterfield

PARISH COUNCILLORS Walton Ward

Mrs A Grinbergs - Tel (01246) 567118
6 Beeley View, Walton, Chesterfield

Mr N Sterland - Tel (01246) 859999
Millbrook House, Ryehill Avenue, Brookside, Chesterfield

Mr J Swallow - Tel (01246) 567277
7 Lodge Farm Close, Walton, Chesterfield

Clerk

Mrs Kate Brailsford - (01246) 271495
15 Deerlands Road, Wingerworth, Chesterfield
e-mail; handwpc@tiscali.co.uk

Village hall bookings

Mrs Marion Dale - Tel (01246) 569882
The Village Hall, Holymoore Road, Holymoorside, Chesterfield
Office hours; Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9.15-11.15 am
e-mail; holymoorside@tiscali.co.uk

District Councillors

Mr M Thacker - Tel (01246) 275981
Mr P Elliott - Tel 07802 193200

County Councillor

Mr W Pickford - Tel (01246) 274804

Non-urgent Police

0845 123 3333

Non-urgent Fire & Rescue

01332 771221

NHS Direct

0845 4647

Local Government Services

DCC

Derbyshire County Council Tel 08456 058 058
County Hall, Matlock, Derbyshire, DE4 3AG

NEDDC

North East Derbyshire County Council
Tel (01246) 231111
Council House, Saltergate, Chesterfield, S40 1LF

Responsibilities For above Councils

<u>Derbyshire County Council</u>	<u>North East Derbyshire District Council</u>
Adult community education	Anti-social behaviour
Disability services	Blue box collection
Flooding	Bulk waste/refuse collection
Gold travel cards	Council tax
Highways	Dangerous animals
Libraries	Dog wardens
Potholes	Elections
Schools	Environmental health
Social services	Fly tipping
Street lighting	Housing
Street repairs	Pest control
Trading standards	Planning permission
Traffic & transport	Rykneld Homes services
Waste disposal sites	Street cleaning
Youth service	Street cleansing

Responsibilities of Holymoorside & Walton Parish Council

Allotments
Bus shelter
Tennis court maintenance
Bowling club maintenance
Dog bins - provision & maintenance
Footpaths - minor repairs
Outside seats
Village hall
Recreation ground
Play area
War Memorial & garden
Car park at village hall
Grit bins