

HOLYMOORSIDE & WALTON PARISH COUNCIL
PARISH CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2008-2009

To all residents of the parish

I was pleased to be re-elected as chairman as the parish council at the Annual Meeting last May. It has been a very busy and fruitful year for the council and the tasks have been as enjoyable and rewarding as ever. We have achieved many goals and initiated many new projects. Thanks are offered to all members of the council for their diligence, continued support and hard work in achieving these targets.

This year we have welcomed a new caretaker, Ken Collis, who replaced Alistair McLellan following his resignation in the summer. The parish council also continues to be well served by existing staff, Brian Brough caretaker, Marion Dale, administration assistant and Kate Brailsford, clerk.

Both Ken and Brian maintain the hall to a high standard and thanks are offered to them for their hard work and commitment. Marion has worked hard at promoting bookings in the hall and has also set up the new web-site and leaflet. Kate has been instrumental in our success in gaining Quality Status by submitting a very high standard portfolio, which took many hours of extra work.

As the council has continued to re-evaluate its role in the community, we have drawn up a mission statement, which we undertake to abide by and states;

delivering best value and quality service through preparation of careful budgets, cost controls and appropriate use of assets

conducting council business in an open manner and keeping residents informed of issues and events through newsletters, meetings and the website

working in partnership with local organisations, agencies and other government authorities

protecting the rural character of the parish and promoting the enjoyment of the local environment.

Finally, all councillors and staff look forward to serving the parish for the next year and hopes are high for future success.

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

Diana Hinchcliffe
Chairman

ALLOTMENTS

The allotment site is very well maintained and at this moment the council has a waiting list for plots. A review of the sizing of the plots, and charges levied, was undertaken and the council has now made a commitment to reduce in size, some of the larger plots as they become available. It is important to note that residents of the parish take priority on the waiting list over those outside the parish but it can still take many years to actually obtain an allotment. The council provides 30 allotments, a good number for a relatively small parish.

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 completed on upgrading footpath 45, Cliff Bottoms, which took two years budget allowance, but the result was well worth it. 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 2008 in both the hall and recreation ground, raising a total amount after expenses of £203.80 for The Bluebell Wood Children's Hospice Appeal. This fun day was special as it was the first year that the riverside work was completed and admired, picnic tables and benches had been placed and well used and the weather was kind to us! Thanks are offered to Mrs C Walters for all her help in organising this event.

GRIT BINS

Following the exceptionally bad weather this winter the parish council were not able, along with many other local authorities, to obtain any grit. This left many of the bins emptied at a time when most needed. Some residents taking rock salt from the bins for their own personal use exacerbated the problem. Some of the bins within the parish belong to Derbyshire County Council and some to the parish council. The parish council has now entered in to an informal partnering agreement with DCC so that they provide free grit for all bins and in exchange the council will fill all the bins within the parish.

HEALTH & 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 parish council continues their dedication in maintaining this valuable parish location to a high standard. Each November a Memorial Service is held by the council and supported by the Guides, Brownies, Scouts, Beavers, local churches and Holymoorside Band. It is anticipated that the service will be reviewed and improved following consultation with all parties involved in time for November 2009.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP

The council continues to attend many meetings with the Police and North East Derbyshire District Council. This is in addition to working with Derbyshire County Council on partnership agreements. However, the council has become concerned that some of the meetings attended at NEDDC do not actually benefit either those attending or the council in general. A decision has therefore been made to study the invite and agenda closely before a commitment is made to attend.

PARISH COUNCIL ORGANISED EVENTS

The parish council has organised and funded various events the past year. The Halloween family disco was very well attended and the hall was full of witches, ghosts and ghouls. Luckily no bad spells were cast so another event is already scheduled for this year. The river dipping event was scheduled for a Saturday morning in June and sunny skies were anticipated. Unfortunately, it was a very cold, very wet day meaning attendance was low. However those that did attend enjoyed the experience very much and an abundance of creepy-crawlies were discovered. Derbyshire County Council youth service bought their equipment to the village hall car park for both climbing wall and skateboarding events. Both activities were well attended and, under the careful supervision of DCC representatives, no one suffered any injuries from these events! Members were particularly pleased with the Christmas Carol Concert held in December in the village hall. Holymoorside Band provided the music and the hall was overflowing with residents who not only enjoyed the music but also the refreshments including mince pies and mulled wine. As this proved to be such a success, another concert is already being planned for this December.

PLANNING

The parish council is a statutory consultee on all planning matters, which are considered at the monthly meetings. As NEDDC has changed their consultation process and become totally electronic, it means that more work is passed to the parish council to print up the documents, source information on-line and read through a lot of documentation not relevant to our parish.

POLICE

Last year the parish was assigned PC Joe Hartshorn under the 'Safer Neighbourhood Team'. We share him with other 'rural' areas. Obviously his time was stretched to the limit and we did not see him as much as was hoped. However, the parish has now been allocated PCSO Michael Coates to aid Joe in his duties. Michael is very keen and committed to helping all residents and he should be evident in the parish soon.

The 'Safer Neighbourhood Team' meetings have been re-organised and will now be held as part of a wider ranging meeting at NEDDC. This follows a rather unsavoury meeting held in Holymoorside at the URC, when items not relevant to our parish were discussed to the detriment of others present. The atmosphere of the meeting was both embarrassing and intimidating to those present, leading the parish council to decide not to attend any further ones. The parish council continues to liaise closely with both the PC and PCSO to ensure the parish is a safe place to reside. The grounds around the village hall continue to attract a high level of unwanted antisocial activity. Damage to the hall, changing rooms and surrounding amenities is a regular occurrence, which incurs unnecessary expense to the parish.

QUALITY STATUS

The parish council was very proud to be awarded Quality Status last July. The scheme was launched in 2003 with the aim of providing a benchmark minimum standard for town and parish councils.

Holymoorside & Walton parish council is the fifth parish/town council in North East Derbyshire to achieve Quality Status and one of the top 25% in the country.

This accreditation demonstrates our ability to deliver efficient services to local residents and speak with greater authority to principal councils.

Much work by both Marion and Kate was required in this endeavour but it is hoped that the parish will reap rewards from their efforts.

In achieving this award the council upgraded and re-assessed their promotion of the parish. A mission statement was written and a 'logo' was designed with the help of the children from Walton, Holymoorside Primary School. This 'logo' formed the new letterhead for our stationary. It has also been used on the new commemorative plates, which will be presented to the recipients of the new 'Pride of Parish Award'.

Newsletters are now published four times a year, some delivered by council staff, some posted out and the majority of the Walton ones kindly delivered by Mr Presswood and Mr Armstrong. The parish council offers their thanks to these volunteers.

RECREATION GROUND AND RIVERSIDE

These facilities continue to be well used. The recently provided picnic tables and benches, paid for by donations from residents are appreciated and enjoyed. The parish council is committed to ensuring that this facility is kept in a good condition for the benefit of the parish.

RECYCLING

The village hall car park now benefits from a paper bank and plastics re-cycling bank. The parish council were very fortunate to be the recipient of these plastics re-cycling facilities and it is hoped that it will be well used. Every resident of the parish receives the 'blue box' collection via NEDDC for paper, cans, glass etc. The parish therefore benefits from the maximum facilities possible and your council remains committed to providing as many recycling opportunities as possible.

SPORTS & LEISURE

The sports & leisure committee, as usual, has been very busy in matters relating to the use of the recreation ground for football use. Tenders have been sought for the maintenance and provision of making the ground suitable for playing matches whilst retaining its use for the community. This matter is on-going.

STAFF

The council employs four members of staff.

- Mrs Kate Brailsford –Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer. She has worked for the council for nearly ten years and obtained the Certificate in Local Policy Studies from the University of Gloucester in 2005.
- Mrs Marion Dale-Administration Assistant. Marion has worked for the council since September 07 taking bookings for the village hall and updating the parish council website.
- Mr Brian Brough-Caretaker/Cleaner. He has been in the council's employment for seven years.
- Mr Ken Collis - Caretaker/Cleaner has worked for the council since November 2008.

When the relief caretaker/cleaner resigned the council felt it was an ideal opportunity to reassess both the job description and hours worked by the caretakers. It was therefore changed so that both caretakers share equal responsibility for looking after the hall, locking and un-locking as required, cleaning and carrying out various odd jobs. Each caretaker works four days on followed by four days off. This ensures total coverage for the village hall and a high level of cleanliness.

VILLAGE HALL

The village hall has had another very good year. Bookings and consequently takings have increased, especially for social events. Although Chesterfield College ceased to provide adult education in the community, all the tutors re-booked the hall under their own name and continued to provide the classes previously enjoyed. The hall has also seen the installation of, at considerable expense;

- New folding partitions. These provide added sound proofing and means that the lounge and hall can be let as separate units
- New main door. This was a necessity due to the condition of the old ones. The new doors incorporate added security and heat retaining qualities. Unfortunately, only a few weeks after the doors were fitted, a casual booking caused considerable damage to the doors. Following lengthy correspondence the damage was paid for in full by the hirer despite them originally disputing the cost of repair. Fortunately, the booking conditions are written in such a way as the dispute for payment could not have been disputed in the courts.
- New upholstered chairs, which were needed to compliment our social bookings using the premises. Aluminium chairs were chosen over steel because they were considerably lighter and more stackable.
- New cups were needed and were specially ordered to match the existing high quality crockery already in use.
- Three new folding tables were purchased to replace broken and stolen ones. These tables are very expensive and to have them taken is yet again more unnecessary expense for the parish.

Regular users of the hall continue to benefit from paying in arrears for their hire but a new decision has been made and implemented that all casual users of the hall must pay for their booking within seven days to guarantee it. This follows many provisional bookings being taken and then cancelled at late notice and great expense.

YOUTH

The parish council continues to consider 'youth' requirements in the parish. A survey has been printed in the March 09 newsletter and the sports and leisure committee will review the responses to try and ascertain what provision would be of benefit to the community.

All parish council members will always listen to and seriously consider requests and comments from the young people of our parish. Please do not hesitate to get in touch

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

Following the success of our District Councillors' 'drop in' surgeries, Peter Elliott and I have added more dates for the forthcoming year to provide further opportunities for residents to meet with us and raise issues. Dates of the surgeries for 2009 have been publicised in advance on our calendars distributed last December. All surgeries start at 10.30 a.m. and no appointment is necessary.

In an effort to engage with all sections of the community, I organised a speaking competition for local Primary Schools in this Ward. The competition was held in the Council Chamber of North East Derbyshire and involved children aged between 9 years and 11 years of age sharing ideas of how we could improve the community in which we live. Everyone present was impressed by the quality of presentations. Especial congratulations go to Walton Holymoorside Primary School who took first prize in both competition categories.

I facilitated a meeting of the Council's Equal Opportunities Officer with members of Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire Deaf Society. I was asked to use my knowledge of British Sign Language to act as an interpreter throughout the meeting. This enabled the Officer to gain views of deaf people on a range of Council services. The meeting was most productive and was a 'first' since members of the Deaf Society said they had never been involved in consultation before.

I continue to represent the Ward by attending District Council meetings. My attendance at Full Council meetings for the civic year 2008 – 09 is 100%. This attendance rate is for the second year running. At meetings I have contributed to debate on a number of issues. I continue to feel proud and privileged to represent Brampton and Walton Ward.

As District Councillors, Peter Elliott and I have continued to keep 'in touch' with residents by delivering newsletters and have only been a 'telephone call' away! Residents have contacted us about a range of issues, leading to case loads that have been very varied and interesting. Should you have any queries or concerns on District matters please get in touch. As always, I'll be happy to help in the best way I can.

HOLYMOORSIDE & WALTON PARISH COUNCIL

Annual Parish Meeting 21 April 2009

<u>Income 2008/2009</u>	£
Precept	43680.00
Interest	841.75
Allotment rents	363.00
Village hall	17350.95
Football	660.00
Tennis/bowling rent	4900.00
Footpath grant	495.00
Other receipts	1107.42
Newsletter	740.00
VAT	4942.98
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>75081.10</u>

<u>Expenditure 2008/2009</u>	£
Sports/outside maintenance	11522.39
Administration & administration salaries	22252.36
VH & VH salaries	34536.45
S137	1129.63
Allotments	214.26
Footpaths	500.00
VAT	4500.58
Total	<u>74655.66</u>

Precept for 2009-20010 is £45428 (4% increase)

**HOLYMOORSIDE & WALTON PARISH COUNCIL
ATTENDANCE OF COUNCILLORS 2008-2009**

<u>Main meetings</u> 2008 to 2009	May 08	June 08	July 08	Sept 08	Oct 08	Nov 08	Dec 08	Jan 09	Feb 09	March 09	April 09
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	O	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
ROGER SCOTHERN	A	A	A	A	O	A	A	A	A	A	A
PHILIP STANSFIELD	A	O	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
JEFF SWALLOW	A	O	A	A	O	A	A	A	A	A	A
NIGEL STERLAND	A	O	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	O	A
DEAN CORBRIDGE	A	O	-	A	A	O	A	A	A	A	A
ANN GRINBERGS	A	A	O	A	A	O	A	A	O	O	A

A indicates attendance **O** indicates absent and apology accepted
- indicates no apology or not accepted **N/A** indicates not on the committee

HOLYMOORSIDE & WALTON PARISH COUNCIL
ATTENDANCE OF COUNCILLORS AT FINANCE/OTHER MEETINGS 2008-2009

<u>FINANCE/S&L/QS/ FOOTPATHS</u> 2007 to 2008	MAY 08 S&L	MAY 08 FI	JUNE 08 FP	JULY 08 FI	SEPT 08 S&L	SEPT 08 PER	OCT 08 S&L	OCT 08 PER	NOV 08 FI	JAN 09 FP	FEB 09 S&L	FEB 09 FI	APRIL 09 S&L
DIANA HINCHLIFFE	A	A	A	A	A	A	O	A	A	O	A	A	A
MARTIN THACKER	A	A	A	A	O	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
NORMAN WRAGG	A	A	A	A	A	A	O	A	A	A	A	A	A
PAT MASKREY	N/A	A	A	O	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	A	O	N/A	A	N/A
ROGER SCOTHERN	A	A	A	A	O	N/A	A	N/A	A	A	A	A	A
PHILIP STANSFIELD	A	A	N/A	A	A	N/A	A	N/A	A	N/A	A	A	A
JEFF SWALLOW	N/A	A	-	A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	A	A	N/A	A	N/A
NIGEL STERLAND	A	A	N/A	A	A	O	A	O	A	N/A	A	A	A
DEAN CORBRIDGE	N/A	O	A	A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	A	A	N/A	A	N/A
ANN GRINBERGS	N/A	A	N/A	A	N/A	A	N/A	A	A	N/A	N/A	O	N/A

A indicates attendance

O indicates absent and apology accepted

- indicates no apology or not 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 M Thacker (vice-chairman)- Tel (01246) 275981; 198 Walton Road, Walton, 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 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, C/field

Office hours; Monday; 2-4 pm & Wednesday & Friday 9.15-11.15 am

e-mail; holymoorside@tiscali.co.uk

Website; holymoorsideandwaltonparishcouncil.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

0345 123 3333

Non-urgent Fire & Rescue

01332 771221

NHS Direct

0845 4647

Local Government Services

DCC

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

NEDDC

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

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	

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

