

**Patrick Brompton Parish Council
Chair's Report to the Parish Annual Meeting.**

The easing of restrictions caused by the Covid 19 pandemic has allowed the Council to operate on a fairly normal footing. Face to face meetings, albeit attended by very few parishioners, have taken place in the Old Schoolroom. With the support of the Community Events Committee, the Council has been available to help those more vulnerable members of the community where needed. This has included helping with shopping, accessing prescriptions, and transporting to medical appointments.

One important activity this year was an appeal to the village to support the Red Cross' work in Ukraine. Using St. Patrick's Church as a collection point, local people were very generous in donating a whole range of items including medication, baby care, sleeping bags, and blankets. These were then taken to a central collection point in Leyburn for transportation to the Ukrainian border. A financial collection raised over £850 with one very generous villager donating £500.

The Village Plan dictated a number of useful actions and nearly all of them have been completed. The issues with broadband still remain and work continues to find a solution.

We were delighted to lead the work on organising for the War Memorial to be renovated. With grateful thanks to Pickards of Leyburn, the work was carried out very promptly, and the memorial was returned to its original position in St Patrick's Churchyard. Thanks to Richmondshire District Council Lower Wensleydale Area Partnership funding for a grant which paid for the bulk of the cost. Thanks also to contributions from a villager, St. Patrick's Church and Newton Le Willows Parish Council.

I am grateful once again for the support of Patrick Brompton Community Events Committee. The joint work to improve the environment near to the village bridge has been well received and once again thank you to the RDC Lower Wensleydale Area Partnership for providing a grant to fund the work. Other costs have been covered by the Parish Council and the Community Events Committee. The life of the village is enhanced by the activities organised by the Events Committee. This has included bulb planting, litter picking, additional Christmas lights in the village, carol singing and a very striking poppy display by the churchyard wall in November. The village sign planters and hanging baskets around the village certainly add to the attractiveness of our village.

It was agreed, this year, to buy a Christmas Tree for the village. New sets of lights were purchased. Once again, many positive comments were received from the village and beyond about the stunning impact it made to our Christmas celebrations.

The quality of the village grass cut has been an on-going concern and we continue to work on the issue to improve both the quality and quantity of the cuts. It is complicated by the fact that different areas are owned and therefore cut by different

grass cutters and at different times. This includes areas maintained by RDC, NY Highways and the PC. We are very grateful to the village residents for their agreement to cut grassy areas beyond their property boundaries.

There were a few planning applications this year, the most significant being that of The Green Tree. Despite objections from North Yorkshire Highways regarding the availability of suitable parking, the planning committee, who met to determine the application, passed it. One significant planning condition was that should the Highways Department deem it the future that traffic calming and traffic restrictions become necessary on the A684, then the cost should be borne by the applicant. It is believed that a small parcel of additional land has been acquired behind the present car park by the applicant to create additional parking space. As I write this, work continues to renovate the building. Although plans were passed to build an extension to the rear, this is not currently being carried out.

Other planning applications this council year have included:-

St Patrick's Church yard....cherry tree works

Wardell House Hedgerow removal

Green Tree...tree works

Mill Close Farm...Farm Worker's Cottage

Carnaby House....pitch of roof, eaves work and dormer windows

East Farm...change of use to barn etc

Akebar Farm....field access

Dalesend.....Replace agricultural building with holiday accommodation

Also, the discharge has taken place of other planning conditions at Carnaby House and the Green Tree.

Further information can be found on the RDC public access planning portal.

The work on the building site next to Oak View has commenced and, following a meeting with the applicant, an amicable agreement to consider the potential damage to the village green has been reached. The Northfield Farm application for change of use to waste transfer is STILL to be determined.

In conclusion, I would like to thank those fellow councillors who have worked hard to represent the village and its community. Many villagers are very grateful for the efforts they have mustered to ensure that Patrick Brompton a good place to live. I am very grateful for the support given to me and the rest of the council by Jon MacNamara, our clerk and responsible financial officer. His expertise and knowledge have been invaluable.

Thank you for your support and commend this report to the council.

Grahame Shepherd MBE

Chair,

Patrick Brompton Parish Council.