

Loversall Parish Council
Annual Parish Meeting 2023/24
Chairman's Report

During this period Loversall Parish Council met regularly and as scheduled with all such meetings and resulting minutes being published with the required notice on the Council's website. There were no requests from the public to attend any of the meetings. I am pleased to report that meetings were also usually attended by either one of both of our two City of Doncaster Council (CDC) Ward Councillors, Nigel Cannings and Martin Greenhalgh who have provided us with valuable access and informed opinions concerning any issues, plans or policies arising from the CDC.

This period has continued to see traffic issues pose a constant problem. Firstly, the issue of speeding traffic both entering and leaving the village via Bubup Hill. Although this has been alleviated to some extent by the erection of new signage which has discouraged HGVs from entering the village believing it will provide access to the iPort, the problem continues in the form of vehicles using the Nursery and inconsiderate and at times, irresponsible behaviour of walkers, particularly at weekends and Bank Holidays who also park their cars too close to the entrance to Rakes Lane effectively obscuring vision which all too frequently results in some near misses. In addition, the influx of large numbers of worshippers attending Orthodox services at St. Katherine's Church whilst welcome, has resulted in similar problems. On a more positive note, and in agreement with CDC it is anticipated that Loversall will become a 20mph zone by the end of 2025.

As a consequence of the increase in the number of walkers, dog fouling has remained an issue and footpaths continue to be eroded or without signage which in some cases, has resulted in unauthorised entry to private property, particularly farmland. We have been actively addressing both issues and we are pleased to report that dog waste bins are now in place and we have an undertaking from CDC to re-instate signage for designated public footpaths in the village and to ensure that unauthorized signage is removed from public areas during the remainder of this year and into 2025.

Sadly, the village, like so many rural areas has been plagued by fly tipping, the frequency and level of which appears to be increasing and is in urgent need of attention. To this end we are liaising with CDC to ensure that hidden cameras and further signage can be installed as soon as possible. There have also been reports of anti-social behaviour particularly around the lakes and towards the iPort but we are pleased to report that the long-awaited transfer of the lease for management of this area to Yorkshire Wildlife has finally been completed and the YWF team will be putting a number of measures in place such as fencing and restricted access to protect this valuable site for wildlife.

The Council once again met all its statutory requirements and was able to obtain a certificate of exemption from external audit for its annual accounts and additionally did not seek an increase to the Annual Precept. On behalf of the Parish Council, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Joanne Halsall for providing much needed support in what was her first full year as the council's new Clerk.

Looking ahead our priorities will be to continue to work with CDC for improved road safety and signage, monitoring of noise nuisance and a reduction in fly tipping.

Nigel H Tomlinson - Chairman of Loversall Parish Council

7th May 2024