

**Loversall Parish Council**  
**Annual Parish Meeting 2024/25**  
**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 occasionally attended by one of our two City of Doncaster Council (CDC) Ward Councillors, Martin Greenhalgh who has provided us with invaluable access and informed opinions concerning any issues, plans or policies arising from the CDC which may affect the parish.

This period has regrettably 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 firmly discouraged HGVs from entering the village believing it will provide access to the iPort, the problem of irresponsible speeding continues in the form of vehicles accessing the Nursery, commercial units and farms. The issue of the inconsiderate behaviour of walkers, particularly at weekends and Bank Holidays who were parking their cars too close to the entrance to Rakes Lane effectively obscuring vision and which all too frequently had resulted in some near misses has been alleviated to some extent by the provision of car parking in the farmyard at the top of Bubup Hill for those seeking to use Anabel's Café. Unfortunately, the influx of large numbers of worshippers attending Orthodox services at St. Katherine's Church continues to cause problems despite the provision of car parking specifically designated for them in the field opposite Rakes Lane with many drivers still causing a persistent nuisance by accessing private property and driveways because they are following satellite navigation instructions instead of observing signage.

On a more positive note, CDC has installed the long awaited 20mph signage in January of this year and we continue to explore other measures to control speeding vehicles particularly at the entrance to Bubup Hill from the direction of Wadworth. The resurfacing of much of Hall Bauk Lane up to the access to the public footpath was very welcome albeit long overdue, although the potholes at the lower end are worsening and are causing significant access problems.

As a consequence of the increase in the number of walkers, dog fouling has been 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 continue to actively address both issues, and the installation of dog waste bins early last year has had a positive impact. We are also, currently engaging with CDC about the need for public footpath signage to be reinstated given the increased footfall since the Covid Pandemic and hope to have this in place shortly. Sadly, during this period there has been irresponsible and unauthorized third party signage of a commercial nature erected in the village and on CDC land and fixtures about which we have received a number of complaints. CDC have informed us that they have instructed their enforcement team to remove this signage.

Anti-social behaviour is particularly evident around the lakes and is a persistent issue involving quad bikes and acts of a destructive nature. We are engaging with CDC and Yorkshire Wildlife, the latter of which have erected more fencing and established restricted areas, but we are also exploring a variety of further countermeasures among which include restricting vehicular access. Also there have been some attempted thefts and break-ins in the village during the winter months which were fortunately

unsuccessful. We continue to liaise with SY Police, and the Parish Council has recently established a WhatsApp residents group which is open to all residents to join so they can ensure that alerts and information are passed on quickly.

Sadly, the village, like so many rural areas continues to be plagued by fly tipping, the frequency and level of which appears to be increasing, and which requires everyone's vigilance. To this end we have successfully lobbied CDC and hidden cameras, and further signage have been installed.

The Council once again met all of its statutory requirements and was able to obtain a certificate of exemption from external audit for its annual accounts. However, at the beginning of this year we have finally, albeit reluctantly sought an increase to the Annual Precept given rising operating costs. On behalf of the Parish Council, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Joanne Halsall for providing much needed and proactive support to Loversall's Parish Councillors in her role as the council's Clerk.

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

Nigel H Tomlinson - Chairman of Loversall Parish Council

30<sup>th</sup> April 2025