**Deighton Parish Council**

**Chairman’s Statement 2021**

Once again, another year has passed, an extraordinary year with the effects of the global pandemic and lockdown measures taking hold and curtailing a lot of the activity planned for our Parish Councill. Indeed almost all the meetings this year have been held remotely via Zoom.

* The financial state of the Council is extremely good, with a current balance in the bank account of over £16,000. This is in part due to the Council operating without a paid Clerk for over half of the year, my thanks goes to Councillor Fletcher who has performed a sterling job as Interim Clerk. The salary savings are reflected in the bank balance. We are currently recruiting and hope to appoint a Clerk in the next few weeks. We also received funding for the Neighbourhood plan from CYC of approximately £3,000.
* There was one resignation and no appointments to the parish council during the year.
* The Council, as mentioned earlier has successfully applied for funding to formulate a Neighbourhood Plan for the parish, this is being led by Councillor Brack and which will hopefully provide greater clarity on the outcomes the local community would like to see on planning for their area. In the next few weeks, a questionnaire will be posted to every property in the Parish seeking Parishioners views, and a report will be published at a later date reflecting the data collected.
* Councillor Chambers is leading a project into the feasibility of installing speed warning signs on the A19 and hopefully this will reach a conclusion over the coming months.
* A new light at the bus stop opposite the White Swan was finally installed, thanks go to Councillor Henshall and Ward Councillor Vassie for their efforts.
* The village green is looking very tidy and attractive and thanks go to Councillors Henshall and Chambers for the upkeep.

I look forward to another year which will hopefully return to some normality after this years difficulties of the pandemic. I again feel confident that whatever challenges are ahead for the Parish Council the Councillors will work in the best interests of the parish. I would also like to thank my fellow Councillors and residents for their continued support of the Parish Council.

Steve Hardcastle

Chair, Deighton Parish Council