

**NORTH MARSTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - Year May 2016 -May 2017**

As my 1<sup>st</sup> Year as chairman and 2<sup>nd</sup> year on the council for me and most of us, it has been a steep learning curve. It was a turbulent start to the year with the loss of the last clerk and the issue this brought through her reluctance to return our electronic information including the village web site.

This led to a Review in procedures for electronic data and protecting the parish's interests and resulted in all information being stored on a parish laptop and server only, and the web site being registered to the parish and not an individual.

The benefit of losing Ruth was that we managed to persuade Rachel to become our Parish clerk and despite being thrown in at the deep end has done a remarkable job.

Thank you to Paul Ketteridge who has helped over the last two years and has stepped down to concentrate on the Scouts and to Dom Kinnaird who stepped down early in the year. We welcome two new councillors Katherine and Andrew.

The council has focused this year on the following:

- Following another horrific accident outside the Day's house, a review of traffic calming will result shortly in new road markings and the installation of new MVAS placement points so we can move the existing equipment and use MVAS which will record number plates as well as speed information. This is just the start of a longer term plan to reduce speed through the village.
- The Schorne room has been partially refurbished and the Village Hall has undergone basic electrical work and lighting, prior to a major refurbishment in July / August. We have now raised £70k from grants and a 30K loan to help with the refurbishment.
- The parish council will also shortly hold an official licence for the two rooms allowing the sale of alcohol at events and social functions. We do still need Volunteers to help with the village hall and would welcome anyone who can help to please let us know.
- Devolution from the local council has meant more work to ensure the village is kept mowed and hedges cut and will continue to be a cost the village must now meet.
- The proposed housing in the village has been a major concern to many and the village questionnaire which recently went out, is our way of engaging the village to try and find out how people would ideally like the village to develop over the next 20 years. There are no guarantees this will help but we must try and influence any decision and the more supporting information we have the better.
- It is apparent from all the reports and work done, that our community relies on volunteers as we have limited resources. I would like to thank everyone in this room and everyone in the village who volunteers to improve the community, without this vital group of people the community and facilities would not be improving and it would be a very different place to live.

Ian Mordue

May 2017