

## **Hovingham with Scackleton Parish Council - Chairman's Report– year 2018 to 2019**

I would like to thank everyone who has worked hard, in both Hovingham and Scackleton, contributing to another very successful year. Unfortunately, Ian died suddenly, leaving a chasm within the whole Community and missed by us all.

In November, and 10 years after the very successful 2008 Community Survey, a new survey organised by the Purple Group took place. Community participation exceeding the impressive levels of 2008 and residents shared many of the same priorities. The conclusions from this survey will be published around Easter.

This year we were able to improve the flood diversion channel and reduce silting along the Beck. Thank you to Mark our Flood Warden, the volunteer team, plus Ryedale District Council, NY County Council and the Environment Agency who supported this vital work.

Excessive speeding continues to be one of the most serious problems for residents, together with the impact of heavy vehicles. Community Speedwatch volunteers have contributed to vehicles slowing down and residents must be encouraged to join this team. We continue to work with NYCC and the Police to reduce speeding in both villages. In addition, negotiating voluntary arrangements to reduce the impact of HGVs within the villages.

We live in a “low-crime area” and do not have a Police Officer or PCSO allocated. The Police do appear when problems are reported however, this does not provide a deterrent. The “No Cold Calling” area in Hovingham does reduce the number of organised cold callers and the Police have responded when complaints have been made. The non-emergency 101 number provides a poor service.

The bus service continues to provide an essential lifeline to Malton. Rumbings of national reductions in rural bus services means that is more important than ever that residents support and use these services.

Twice weekly the Mobile Post Office calls for ½ hour. This van provides virtually every service available from a fully-fledged Post Office. Every fortnight Hovingham receives a visit from the Supermobile Library. It is very important residents support and value these services.

The Village Hall decided not to proceed with its new Constitution; and are focusing on working closely with village groups and the community. A defibrillator is about to be installed at the Village Hall and the feasibility of a Car Charging Point is being investigated.

The Malt Shovel planning application has resulted in a lot of concern; the opposition of residents, supported by the Parish Council, will hopefully be listened to. This application has been removed from the RDC website. The Scackleton mobile home has caused much concern and the planning appeal has now been turned down and the site now has to be restored in the next 6 months.

The Village Market celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> Market in February however, had to cancel the next Market due to bad weather. More than 100 volunteers, together with the Community, make this possible. They have now raised over £115,000 for Community Groups and this year will be their 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

The Purple Group are actively working on improving recycling, use of renewable energy and reducing adverse impact on the environment. Both villages benefit from the hard work of volunteers; the evolution of the Playground and the Newsletter mean new teams of volunteers are needed to continue to make them successful.

The Villages remembered the Centenary of the 1918 Armistice with events in both Villages and memorial trees being planted in both.

The Newsletter and Village Diary help communicating with residents. The Village and Market websites continue to see increased number of visitors and the Village Hall website will go live shortly.

Unfortunately fracking still haunts us; remaining controversial and dividing communities; the Parish Council continue their opposition and imposition on all of us.

The Parish Council continues to invest in the future of Hovingham and Scackleton; this is a result of careful spending and the work of the team together with our hard-working Parish Clerk. Welcome to Frank.

These many projects demonstrate pride in the Villages and are something again we can all be proud of. Both villages achieve a “gold” standard of volunteering.

**THANK YOU** to the Council and residents of both villages, plus our friends who have helped us achieve this.

Phil Chapman - Chairman Hovingham with Scackleton Parish Council – 7<sup>th</sup> March 2019