



**HOLYMOORSIDE & WALTON  
PARISH COUNCIL  
ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2019-2020**



## **Message from the Chairman**

The coronavirus pandemic has served to strengthen community resolve in the Parish. There are many examples of how individuals have supported the isolated and vulnerable. There are also numerous instances of local businesses playing their part to ensure people have been helped. In addition to practical assistance, residents have demonstrated their gratitude for key workers who are on the 'front line' during these times. The scarecrows that appeared almost overnight in Holymoorside and Walton were a wonderful way of saying thank you to those working hard for us all. I know that the many key workers living in the Parish have appreciated this acknowledgement.

**Thank you** to those who contributed to the Holymoorside and Walton food collection. The donated food was used to provide food parcels for those self-isolating as a result of Covid-19. Surplus food was shared with local food banks. The toys were given to families in financial difficulty and a charity assisting children with special needs. The District Council had almost 7,000 people registered with them for help and our Parish's aid made a significant difference. The Parish Council has liaised closely with North East Derbyshire District Council throughout the pandemic. This included signposting local businesses for financial support. We shared advice and guidance for residents, businesses and local groups. We have also referred cases for assistance with appropriate organisations.

Before the start of lockdown the Parish Council announced its commitment to The Armed Forces Covenant. This is to show the Council's backing for 'a promise' by the nation that those who serve or have served in the armed forces and their families, are treated fairly.

The Council had planned to stage a VE75 commemoration event during June and a further one in August for VJ Day. The intention was to pay tribute to the service and sacrifice of the entire Second World War generation. However, the pandemic meant neither could be possible. The Council did mark VE75 day by flying the Union flag and displaying commemorative posters.

The Remembrance event during November was well attended by local residents. There were a number of other occasions around the same time, all of which evidence community spirit. Examples include: a successful Christmas Fair at the Village Hall organised by Holymoorside Scout Group; Holymoorside and Walton Arts Festival's AGM; and fundraising concert at St John's Church, Walton in aid of the Derbyshire Stroke Association. It was with great sadness that I attended the official closing of the Cottonmillers' Club. Mrs. Barbara Turner and her team are to be congratulated on the many years of voluntary work for the members of the Club. All they have done for young people with special needs is inspirational.

There are many organisations who make a difference locally. The Parish has a wealth of people wishing to enrich the lives of others. The Parish Council remains grateful for all they do. The work of the Parish Council on behalf of the community is outlined within this report. As ever, I thank the Councillors and staff for their contribution to Holymoorside and Walton. I hope you would consider that throughout the year the Council has played its part in making a difference.

**Councillor Martin Thacker M.B.E.  
Chairman**

## Administration

The four yearly elections for both district and parish councils were held in May 2019, which resulted in three councillors for the Walton ward and four for Holymoorside being appointed uncontested. This left three vacancies for Holymoorside, which needed to be filled through the co-option process. Existing members were therefore pleased to welcome Mrs D Phelps, Mr A Holmes and Mrs A Broderick between September 2019 and January 2020.

Your parish council is committed to remaining up to date with all legal requirements and has appointed a Human Resources company to assist the council in all personnel matters. This year, all staff contracts have been updated and a new staff handbook written. Training in both personnel and general matters is actively encouraged and both councillors and staff have undertaken and benefitted from courses this past year.

Health & Safety is always at the forefront of any council activity and your parish council commissions an independent H&S advisor to carry out an annual inspection of parish facilities and staff and councillors also complete a six-monthly assessment.

It was hoped that the council could re-apply for their four-year award via the Local Council Awards Scheme (Quality) but were unfortunately informed that the scheme is not currently running. However, as soon as it is reintroduced, the council will be reapplying and are allowed to continue to use the award emblem in the meantime.

The parish council has a wide range of policies and procedures in place, some external and some internal, which are reviewed annually. In February 2020 members were extremely pleased to sign and implement its own Armed Forces Covenant and appointed Chairman, Martin Thacker, as our armed forces champion.

## Allotments

Holymoorside and Walton Parish Council takes great pride in its rural community. This includes acknowledgement of those who demonstrate sustained care by working hard on the local allotments. This year the Council awarded prizes for the 'Best Kept Allotment' to Mr. Terry Boyer and 'Most Improved Allotment' to Mr. Patrick Branigan.

Council Chairman Councillor Martin Thacker said: "We are pleased to recognise the

'fruits of their labours' to our local allotment holders who have toiled hard throughout the year. It is always tough competition and Mr. Boyer and Mr. Branigan are worthy winners"



Pictured left to right at the presentation are: Terry Boyer; Councillor Martin Thacker MBE; and Jean Morgan (receiving the award on behalf of Patrick Branigan).

## **Climate strategy**

Your parish council is pleased to receive information from both district and county councils on their efforts on tackling climate change and had resolved to implement their own efforts to aid this cause. A training session was attended and much literature obtained. It is anticipated that the council will proceed with this initiative from summer 2020 onwards.

## **Communication and information**

The council remains committed to the production of the parish newsletter and to ensuring that every property in the parish receives a copy. It is delivered in conjunction with 'Sidelines', which lists local events in the parish. Production of the newsletter in 2019 was partly funded by the advertisers; Dave Banks, Deborah Botham, Ladywood MOT & Repair Centre, Lawnmower Man, Home Instead Senior Care and Bird's Funeral Directors. Three newsletters are produced annually as well as this report of parish council activities.

Official thanks are recorded for Mr & Mrs Plumb & Mr & Mrs Presswood for their help in the distribution of newsletters in Walton.

Your parish council continually assess the website and its compliance with the new Public Sector Accessibility Regulations. A vast amount of work has been completed including the ability to change text to speech, amendments to the layout of parish documents, the ability to change font sizes and colours, mobile phone compatibility and general ease of use. This is an on-going process and re-evaluations are carried out on a regular basis. Events scheduled in the village hall can also be placed on the web site calendar so please contact the Clerk for further information. You will also be able to find all the latest minutes, agendas, action plan, policies and press releases, together with general news such as mobile library times and consultation documents.

Your parish council is also invited out in the wider community and the Chairman attends many events in the parish, including the Annual Blessing of the Well Dressing, Holymoorside and Walton Arts Festival Society events and the Holymoorside History Society Annual General Meeting. Councillor Thacker is always pleased to note that all organisations in the parish extended a warm welcome to make visitors feel comfortable.

## **Covid-19**

Worldwide, the Covid-19 pandemic ensured that all plans had to be changed with no person or business not being affected. In relation to the parish council the Annual Meeting of the Parish was cancelled as was the wedding fair, scheduled for March 2020. This was most disappointing as a great amount of organisation and publicity had been invested into this project. Likewise, the celebration event – VE 75 Day – was cancelled. The village hall also closed in March with an immediate loss of income and no indication as to when it can re-open. However, the parish council, along with many other businesses received a £10,000 grant to help deal with this. It is unclear whether a claim can be made against the council's insurance company but an initial claim has already been submitted. The usual April meeting of the parish council was cancelled and delegated powers implemented to allow the required decision making processes to continue.

## **Finance**

Your parish council constantly seeks best value for its residents and will endeavour to source materials off the internet if savings can be made. However, as the council's main method of payment is by cheque, internet purchases had to be made by personal debit card and then reimbursed. A decision was therefore made to set up another current account to run with expenditure by a council debit card. This was officially sanctioned by the council's auditor and strict expenditure limits were set with the new system working well.

New Financial Regulations have been adopted and within them was a requirement to produce a possible three year budget forecast instead of the usual annual one. This has proved beneficial as it gives both councillors and administration staff guidelines as to both future income and expenditure and possible precept requirements.

Councillors have a duty to ensure the financial status of the parish council is regularly monitored. The council's finances are reviewed at regular meetings. Audit checks are carried out internally by a member of the parish council and an internal auditor and at the end of the financial year the accounts are submitted to an independent external auditor for examination. Members were pleased to note that for the current financial year the external auditor had 'no comment' which is a positive endorsement that council's finances are in good order.

### **Footpaths**

The footpath working party meets a minimum of twice a year and receives reports from volunteers and councillors in relation to the condition of the paths in the parish and considers making recommendations to full council for any expenditure.

This year ground clearance has been carried out on BR25 and FP 23, which is paid for under a Minor Maintenance Agreement with Derbyshire County Council. Anyone who wishes to discover local footpaths should visit Derbyshire County Council's Rights of Way web page for full information.

### **Highway matters**

It has been another busy year for traffic issues with your parish council still working with Derbyshire County Council to address parking near the school and other areas in Holymoorside. Traffic calming suggestions were made by DCC to try and alleviate any problems, which was followed by a consultation process but any scheduled works have yet to be completed.

Your parish council receives, on a regular basis, communication in relation to parking on grass verges in Holymoorside, especially on Holymoorside Road. In particular some residents, in an effort to stop cars damaging the verges and make the area more aesthetically pleasing, planted the verges and placed decorative stones. Unfortunately, letters were then issued to them from Derbyshire County Council instructing their removal. The parish council and residents felt this was unnecessary and unfair and these comments were submitted to DCC who indicated that any resident could apply for a cultivation licence and your parish council agreed to assist any resident who wanted to proceed with this.

A community speed-watch group was set up in Holymoorside and initial sessions proved to be successful. However, following the demise of Holymoorside Neighbourhood Watch the group were reluctant to continue as they did not have the umbrella of the organisation to support it. The parish council's actions to set up a similar group in Walton did not result in any volunteers coming forward. Likewise a consultation in relation to a possible vehicle activated sign did not attract any support. Whilst the forward plan for the council 2019-2020 also indicated a desire for this type of signage in Holymoorside as well, Derbyshire County Council vetoed the idea as against their policies. However, at this point the council is still pursuing the objective.

### **Outside**

The wonderful rural setting enjoyed by residents can still pose potential health and safety concerns so a professional annual tree audit is completed and all street furniture checked on a regular basis. The two defibrillator units in the parish, at Walton and Holymoorside, are inspected weekly to ensure that they are ready for use should the need arise.

Work was required on the memorial garden wall near the bus stop and it was confirmed that this was the responsibility of DCC. However, after waiting twelve weeks for the work to be completed, the parish council eventually paid for the work to be completed as they feared it could cause harm to residents.

Your parish council continues to work with North East Derbyshire District Council for the implementation of a Public Space Protection Order for the play area and recreation ground. When fully implemented it will mean that no dogs on the play area at all, all dogs on a lead on the recreation ground and all mess to be cleared up. Failure to comply will result in fines being issued. Following some disappointment over the aesthetics of the memorial garden, a new contractor was appointed and expenditure on new plants sanctioned. Also, the pinfold gave another excellent display and thanks are offered to Mr S Mellor for his continued work on this.

Your parish council is aware that the light in the bus shelter on Holymoore Road is not working and DCC have it scheduled on their programme of works to repair when possible.

In March 2020, the parish council were approached by a resident of a neighbouring property requesting that the council reinstate some of the boundary hedge on the recreation ground. To aid the council in this matter an independent report and advice was sought and this matter is still on-going.

Although little used last winter, all the grit bins are checked annually and topped up as required. This is via an agreement with the parish council and DCC. However, during inclement weather, the supply may be halted so all residents are reminded that the grit is for use on the public highways only.

The parish council were approached to ascertain whether they could provide a litter bin on the recreation ground. Members had no hesitation in agreeing to this and it is anticipated that it will be well used by the multitude of picnickers who use the recreation ground. Expenditure was also agreed for additional lights to be purchased for the Christmas tree in the play area and the tree looked stunning over the Christmas period. As usual thanks are recorded to resident Mr D Banks for putting up the lights, making a festive focal point for the community.

### **Parish Council Organised Events**

The Parish Council were honoured to host a commemoration event held on the 8th September 2019 to mark the anniversary of the start of WW2. The Chairman noted that those who attended had said that it was a respectful remembrance and a worthwhile event. There was some misunderstanding in the community that the event had been a celebration of the start of WW2 which was disappointing as the purpose of the event had been to commemorate and remember those who took part with the main focus being on the Act of Remembrance carried out by standard bearers and a bugler. The Chairman was congratulated for his part in the proceedings.

The annual Remembrance Service was held on the 10th November and was, as usual well attended and a positive reflection on the parish that so many people still attend to pay their respects. Thanks are recorded to all the community groups, Holymoorside Band, the Reverend Nick Green and Churches Together in Holymoorside for the loan of the PA system.

The Hallowe'en disco was again very well attended and is now a firmly established tradition. This parish council organised event allows our younger residents to enjoy the atmosphere and a protected environment and their parents to join in with the dancing!

Members were pleased to note that the Christmas event was well attended and enjoyed by all. Many attendees reported that the music had been excellent and the council were thanked for a wonderful evening.

## **Scouts**

Following previous representation at a parish council meeting, 1st Holymoorside Scouts representatives again attended a council meeting to present possible plans and ideas for an extension to the existing changing rooms. Whilst this is still in the early stages, the parish council generally supports the initiative and has offered administration assistance to the group when appropriate.

## **Sports & leisure facilities**

Unfortunately, some of the safety surfacing under the play equipment was vandalised, leaving a large hole and rendering the unit unusable. On this occasion, the parish council were able to act in a timely fashion, obtain a full repair kit and carry out all works required themselves.

Unfortunately, at a later inspection date, two other worn areas required extensive repairs and specialist contractors had to be commissioned.

The condition of the bowling green continues to be of a very high standard, thanks to the financial input of the council in appointing a dedicated green-keeper and installing an irrigation system. Back boards have been repaired and new paving slabs around the green to enable disabled access.

The tennis club committee have approached the council regarding the surface of the courts. Following site visits and professional advice it was agreed that the courts be moss treated and re-painted. This will be funded 50% by the club with the remainder from the dedicated tennis club account, which is accumulated via tennis fees paid annually.

Your parish council was pleased to welcome back Somersall Rangers Junior Football Club back onto the recreation ground for their matches and training sessions. As the parish council were made aware of possible parking issues when matches are played, the club now provides match dates and then they are informed whether they can park in the village hall car park or not. Managers of the teams are also aware of the parking problem and seek to rectify where possible.

Following an on-going problem with a persistent water leak at the tennis and bowling facilities, a specialist company were contracted to locate and repair the problem pipework. Thankfully the work the company completed seems to have solved the problem and the water meter is monitored for on-going usage.

With the increased usage of water at the bowling facilities, members have appointed a water company which can provide best value and a good invoicing procedure for both the provision of water and sewage fees with the changes implemented in April. Expenditure was also committed for the upgrade of the access lane to the tennis and bowling facilities with plenty of limestone stones and chippings being compacted into the deep ruts.

## **Staff**

The council employs four members of staff.

- Mrs Kate Brailsford –Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer. She has worked for the council since July 1999 and obtained the Certificate in Local Policy Studies from the University of Gloucester in 2005. She is on a programme of continuous professional development and attends a variety of training courses in order to keep up with current legislation.
- Mrs Marion Dale-Administration Assistant. Marion has worked for the council since September 2007 taking bookings for the village hall and carrying out other duties related to the hall.
- Mr Neil Chaplin - Caretaker/Cleaner has been in the council's employment since August 2010.

- Mr Vincent Payne – Caretaker/Cleaner has been in the council's employment since April 2018.

## **Village hall**

Your parish council is very aware how much the village hall is an asset for the whole community and maintains it to the highest possible standard, whilst working within budgetary constraints. The health and safety of all staff and attendees at the hall is paramount and stringent procedures are adhered to. Following the existing company letting the council down for their 'legionella' requirements, a new business needed to be found and the lengthy process of evaluation of procedures and schematics for the hall started again. However, this whole process was beneficial as remedial works were completed to a high standard and an additional 'Legionella Written Scheme' adopted. Weekly maintenance checks are completed with the external company attending every six months to carry out a detailed inspection of both the hall and changing rooms.

Unanticipated maintenance required included a damp problem in the upstairs toilets and a leaking roof over the main hall entrance foyer with both problems being successfully resolved. The central heating boiler, which is constantly in use requires regular repairs and maintenance. The hot water boiler (for drinks) benefitted from a full service and no problems were found with it. Annual decorating was completed in August 2019 and a full deep clean carried out. New curtains have been provided throughout to give the hall a fresher appearance, new padded chairs have been provided in the committee room, replacing the worn out ones and a new microwave in the kitchen. The parish council has received many positive comments in relation to the new kitchen which is much easier to keep clean and offers storage for regular hirers' beverages.

It was agreed that the bar area in the lounge be upgraded with various plans being considered. An order has been placed for this work to be completed but the covid-19 situation has put this initiative on hold.

Unfortunately, some recent late night bookings have not vacated the hall at the prescribed 11.45 pm. This means that the parish council were not adhering to the criteria set out in their licence for the hall. It was also considered to be unfair on caretaking staff who may still be at the hall at 1 or 2am cleaning for the following days booking. Members therefore made the decision to change the end of booking time to 11.30 pm and anyone who runs over will automatically lose their £100 deposit.

As dogs are not allowed in the hall a pooch park has been provided on the changing room wall, opposite the hall. This will allow those attending the hall to be able to leave their pets outside, tied securely on the fixings.

Your parish council is currently working with insurance representatives for the re-evaluation of both the village hall and changing rooms and to fully scrutinise all insured assets. A full report has been commissioned which will be considered in the near future.

Following representation at the Annual Meeting of the Parish in May 2019, the parish council entered into discussion with the Post Office provider in relation to the, sometimes, intermittent service provided. This problem was mainly related to problems with the hardware equipment, which has now been rectified.

The village hall benefits from bookings made by regular groups, fund raisers and members of the public holding private parties etc. The booking office is open on a Monday 1-3pm and Wednesdays and Fridays 9.15-11.15 am. If you call outside of these times please leave a message for your call to be returned or e-mail; [holymoorside@btconnect.com](mailto:holymoorside@btconnect.com)

## Financial information

	<b>Income 2018/2019</b>	<b>Income 2019-2020</b>
Precept/Council Tax Support Grant	57320.00	57320.00
Interest	67.31	104.91
Allotment rents	468.00	488.00
Village hall	26577.46	25072.65
Football/recreation ground	744.20	700.00
Tennis/bowling rent	7850.00	7900.00
Footpath grant	120.00	520.00
Other receipts	24.00	807.15
Newsletter	480.00	374.00
VAT	1019.52	6330.34
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>94670.49</b>	<b>99617.05</b>
	<b>Expenditure 2018/2019</b>	<b>Expenditure 2019-2020</b>
Sports/outside maintenance	16770.47	20579.11
Administration & administration salaries	25732.36	30275.17
VH & VH salaries	33181.26	47367.02
S137	1129.42	731.64
Allotments	Incorporated with outside maintenance	
Footpaths	120.00	260.00
VAT	2721.74	6240.33
<b>Total</b>	<b>79655.25</b>	<b>105453.27</b>

### Council Precept

The precept for 2020-2021 was set at £60186 and this was due to be the first year that all parish councils lost their council tax support scheme grant. However, following the district council elections in May 2019, North East Derbyshire District Council made a decision to extend the grant for an extra year, ensuring additional income to the council of £520.00.

## HOLYMOORSIDE & WALTON PARISH COUNCIL - ATTENDANCE OF COUNCILLORS 2019-2020

Council & Committee Meetings 2019 to 2020	FI May 19	FL June 19	P June 19	FL July 19	P July 19	FI July 19	S&L Aug 19	FL Sept 19	FL Oct 19	FL Nov 19	FL Dec 19	FL Jan 20	FL Feb 20	P Feb 20	FI Feb 20	P Feb 20	FL March 20
AUDREY BRODERICK	CO-OPTED JANUARY 2020											P	P	N/A	P	N/A	P
ANN GRINBERGS	P	P	N/A	P	N/A	N/A	N/A	P	P	P	P	P	P	N/A	P	N/A	P
DIANA HINCHLIFFE	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
ALAN HOLMES	CO-OPTED SEPTEMBER 19								P	P	P	P	N/A	N/A	P	N/A	P
PAT MASKREY	P	P	P	P	P	P	N/A	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
DENISE PHELPS	CO-OPTED JULY 19				N/A	P	N/A	P	N/A	P	P	P	A	N/A	P	N/A	P
JEFF SWALLOW	P	P	P	P	P	A	P	P	P	A	P	A	A	A	P	P	P
MARTIN THACKER	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
PAUL TRUSCOTT	P	P	P	P	A	P	P	P	A	P	A	P	P	P	P	P	P
NORMAN WRAGG	P	P	N/A	P	N/A	N/A	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	N/A	P	N/A	P

### Attendance Codes

**P** indicates present at the meeting  
**A** indicates absent and apology accepted  
**-** indicates no apology or not accepted  
**N/A** indicates not on the committee

### Type of Meeting

**P** – Personnel committee  
**FL** – Full council meeting  
**FI** – Full council meeting called expressly to deal with financial matters  
**S&L** - Sports & Leisure committee  
**E-O** – Extra-ordinary-full council

## CONTACT DETAILS FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL

### Holymoorside

**Mrs A Broderick** -2 School Court, Holymoorside, Chesterfield, S42 7DL; Tel-567314

**Mrs D Hinchliffe**— 57 Loads Road, Holymoorside, Chesterfield, S42 7ET; Tel–566894

**Mr A Holmes**-37 Loads Road, Holymoorside, Chesterfield, S42 7ET; Tel-07414 806833

**Mrs P Maskrey** - 9 Heather Way, Holymoorside, Chesterfield, S42 7EX; Tel–568561

**Mrs D Phelps** – 2 Moorlawn Avenue, Holymoorside, Chesterfield, S42 7EL; Tel-07542 398803

**Mr P Truscott** - (Vice-Chairman) 26 New Road, Holymoorside, Chesterfield, S42 7EN; Tel-566252

**Mr N Wragg** - 26 Holymoor Road, Holymoorside, Chesterfield, S42 7DX; Tel–568415

### Walton

**Mr M Thacker** (Chairman) - 198 Walton Road, Walton, Chesterfield, S40 3BS; Tel-275981

**Mrs A Grinbergs** - 6 Beeley View, Walton, Chesterfield S42 7HY; Tel-567118

**Mr J Swallow** - 7 Lodge Farm Close, Walton, Chesterfield, S42 7LF; Tel- 567208

**Clerk** - Mrs Kate Brailsford – The Village Hall, Holymoor Road, Holymoorside, Chesterfield, S42 7DX; Tel-865566; e-mail; [clerk@holymoorsideandwaltonparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@holymoorsideandwaltonparishcouncil.co.uk)

## OTHER USEFUL CONTACT INFORMATION

**North East Derbyshire District Councillors** – Mr M Thacker 198 Walton Road, Walton, Chesterfield, S40 3BS; Tel-275981 and Mr P Elliott\_34 Riggotts Way, Cutthorpe, Chesterfield S42 7AW **Email:** [cllr.peter.elliott@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.peter.elliott@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk); Tel- 07802 193200

**Derbyshire County Councillor** - Ms Angelique Foster email [angelique.foster@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:angelique.foster@derbyshire.gov.uk) or phone Mobile: 07970 741781 or post 29 Burns Drive, Dronfield, S18 1NJ

**Member of Parliament** - Lee Rowley- e-mail [lee.rowley.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:lee.rowley.mp@parliament.uk) or phone 01246 439222 or post Eckington Business Centre Market St, Eckington, Sheffield S21 4JH

**Police** - Tel; 101 for none-urgent reports of crime or general information. All other emergency calls must be made to 999.

**Non-urgent Fire & Rescue** - Administration and fire safety information is available for Tel; 01332 771221. Emergency calls should be made to 999

**Healthcare** - The 111 service in Derbyshire is available 24 hours a day and can provide help with enquiries about health information as well as whether you need to see a GP, pharmacist or need an ambulance. Emergency calls must be made to 999

## County, District and Parish Councils' Responsibility

### Parish Council

The Village Hall, Holymoore Road,  
Holymoorside, Chesterfield  
Tel 01246 865566

Allotments  
Bush shelter  
Car park at the village hall  
Changing rooms  
Defibrillator  
Dog bins  
Footpaths-minor repairs  
Grit-bins  
Holymoorside village hall  
Noticeboards  
Outside seats  
Play area  
Recreation ground  
Sports Maintenance-Tennis & Bowling  
War Memorial and garden

### North East Derbyshire District Council

2013 Mill Lane, Chesterfield, S42 6NG  
Tel (01246) 231111

Anti-social behaviour  
Bulk Waste/refuse collection  
Council tax  
Dangerous animals  
Dog wardens  
Elections  
Environmental health  
Fly tipping  
Housing  
Pest control  
Planning permission  
Recycling  
Rykneld Homes services  
Street cleaning

### Derbyshire County Council

County Hall, Matlock, Derbyshire,  
DE4 3AG  
Tel 08456 058 058 or 01629 533190

Adult community education  
Disability services  
Flooding  
Gold travel cards  
Highways  
Libraries  
Potholes  
Schools  
Social services  
Street lighting  
Street repairs  
Trading standards  
Traffic & transport  
Waste disposal sites  
Youth service

## Report from District Councillor – Martin Thacker M.B.E.

In May 2019 Peter Elliott and I were pleased to be re-elected as representatives of Brampton and Walton Ward on North East Derbyshire District Council.

The District Council election results made national news as there was a change of administration. Since that time Peter and I have continued to work on a number of issues of concern in the Ward.

However, the coronavirus pandemic could not be foreseen. The impact of COVID-19 has been wide and far reaching. It has required a strong Council leadership response to ensure provision of essential services for residents and businesses.



At North East Derbyshire a Community Support Team was set up. Business continuity arrangements were implemented to protect people who need help and ensure vital services for local residents. With some staff being redeployed into different jobs overnight, the Council created a team that:

- Telephoned over 7000 people to offer help and assistance
- Delivered over 4000 medical supplies
- Provided and delivered food boxes
- Contacted over 1,800 businesses to help them access financial support
- Provided 1,584 grants to businesses totalling almost £18M.
- Awarded 350 businesses 100% business rates relief
- Received over 21,000 calls and emails from residents and businesses requesting support and advice with Council Tax and Business Rates
- Had over 32,000 views of the Covid-19 information section on the Council's website

I was contacted by several residents in Brampton and Walton Ward who wished to donate money to support businesses in the Ward. In total £8,265 was received. This has been distributed, including £1,000 being given to Ashgate Hospice to purchase PPE such as facemasks. There were also residents who got in touch to seek practical ways of assisting the isolated and vulnerable. This was facilitated, including liaison with Holymoorside and Walton Parish Council.

The District Council is now moving from the response phase to recovery. There are plans to bring services back safely and kick start the local economy. We are working to breathe life back into North East Derbyshire once more.

Thank you to the Brampton and Walton Ward residents who have been supportive and encouraging of Peter and myself during this time. We wish to record our gratitude to those who have demonstrated community spirit during the pandemic. We also want to express sincere appreciation to the key workers in our Ward who are truly amazing.

As the District Council implements post COVID plans, Peter and I are returning to caseload that we had been working on previously. Stagecoach's plans to reduce the bus service for Holymoorside had been staved off but we expect them to be resurrected sometime in the future and this has now transpired. Potential plans for tackling parking in the village were shared at a public meeting in the Village Hall but rejected by residents. Rykneld has been asking to go back to the drawing board and develop further ideas. Peter and I have maintained our stance of being opposed to fracking and building in green belt.

We have organised litter picks on Baslow Road and Riggotts Wood in Walton for example, where there have been significant disregard for the rural nature of the Ward. We have also ensured increased enforcement action against flytippers. This is an area of outstanding natural beauty and we want it to stay that way.

Peter and I continue to be proud of Brampton and Walton Ward. We know you are too!