

## Parish Council Chairman Kath Owen's Report 2018-19

The 2018-19 council year was a good one for Costock says parish council chairman Kath Owen, saying that there had three events that stand out in village life.

In her annual report presented to the parish meeting, Coun. Mrs Owen said the commemoration of end of the Great War, marked by a service in their parish church and lighting a beacon as part of a national initiative had both been well attended as we remembered those who had fought for their country from our village. The evening event was followed by soup and cake in the village hall

In September we welcomed the Tour of Britain Cycle Race which passed -- albeit very rapidly -- through the village. Houses, walls and trees were decked with green and yellow bunting and lots of people turned out to watch and to enjoy some refreshment in the village hall.

In June we had a Village Open Day with displays and refreshments in the village hall, music in church, open gardens and games and refreshments at the Old Rectory. It was great success with lots of visitors and residents supporting the event

“All were true community events, our thanks to all who participated and supported these events.”

The chairman said their current major project is to replace the play equipment and surfacing at the top of the field behind the school. “We have had some interesting suggestions from pupils at the school and have consulted people in the village. We have applied for funding from Notts County Council and are now putting together applications to other organisations as well as budget for input from our precept.”

Kath said they had continued to maintain the fabric of the village hall and gave a grant to the Parents' Association at the school to help set up a school garden which the pupils are very enthusiastic about.

The website has been taken over by an external organisation and has a new name and a new appearance. It is taking time to build it up and any contributions are welcome via members of the PC or the Clerk. We do need

more input from village groups and organisations and we need to get used to thinking website when things happen.

The Nature Reserve continues to thrive and the chairman said there was to be a full report on its progress from its leader, Coun. Everard Robinson.

The chairman said the council continue to campaign for better road safety at every opportunity. They have been assured that Church and Chapel Lanes will have improved surfaces, some work has already been done in Church Lane. It may not be the complete resurfacing that we would like, however we will not stop asking.

Planning applications continue to be notified and the PC continues to comment when it is appropriate to do so. All applications appear on the RBC website for public perusal and comment.

The chairman said the council had carried out a brief survey asking for comments on village life. The results will be analysed and responded to after the date of Parish Council elections. "However I should say now that if people want things to happen they are going to need to get involved, even if it on an occasional basis."

Kath said there was to be no Parish elections, with there were six nominations for the seven places and so we will have a vacancy to fill.

The chairman ended her report by saying that John Young is standing down. He will be much missed on the Council for his strong contributions and attention to detail as well as the practical work he has done around the village.

"Thank you also to my fellow Councillors for their work and support and to Mike Elliott our clerk whose work is invaluable."