

AIRMYN PARISH COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT, MAY 2018

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We have had some quite trying situations to deal with but many good things have come out of this past year:

The claim to the title of the two pieces of land on the High Street for the village is still on-going, but progress has been made and, hopefully, the matter will soon be concluded.

Bracken Hill has been quite a difficult matter. A “Friends of Bracken Hill” group has emerged with interest in developing the site. Residents will now be asked to complete a survey so that we can gauge support for this initiative.

The play area is supported financially by the Parish Council and now needs quite a bit of work doing to it, with both repairs and replacement of some pieces. We are considering this as possibly a three year programme and are hoping to get financial assistance in the form of a grant to carry out some of the necessary work.

A Dog and Litter Bin has been purchased and installed at the entrance to Beech Avenue following a request by resident dog walkers.

The most recent success was the **Tour de Yorkshire**. A few residents helped with the making of bunting and Airmyn Garage offered to paint the bikes that were on display along the riverbank. Graham Backhouse agreed to the use of his business car park for any visitors during the day and people came out to help me with the decorating of the village. Some householders also got into the spirit of things by adding to the decoration of their property. The school had a great time in Mr & Mrs Webster’s paddock at the entrance to the village, the church ran the refreshment stall and it was very pleasing to see so many people turn out to enjoy the event. It was just a shame that we didn’t feature more on the television coverage, but it was nice to see a bit of community spirit in evidence.

And finally **The Precept**: We are conscious that this is your money, which is allocated as part of your Council Tax payments. Over this past year we have tried to deal with that money wisely, spending where it was necessary or for the benefit of our residents and we are pleased that we have not had to increase the precept for the forthcoming year.

We continue to work for the good of our Village Community to the best of our abilities and, although we cannot please everyone all the time, you can rest assured that whatever we have done over this past year has been with the best of intentions.

Susan Hayward
Chairman

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AIRMYN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
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With regard to the Village Hall, we have had some major obstacles to work on over this past twelve months.

The major problem that we have been dealing with has been the issue of **subsidence**, specifically with the storeroom. The foundations for this later addition were not as substantial as for the main building and, because of the very poor drainage, the land has moved, meaning that cracks have appeared in various places. We have had advice from a structural engineer and they are monitoring any further movement for the next few months so that we have a better idea of what work is needed to rectify the problem. When this is dealt with we may also have to look at the **hall floor**, which has suffered in one area due to damp issues.

Another area that we are looking at is the **lighting in the sports hall**. We have been getting quotes with a view to installing a more superior system suitable for sporting activities.

The German group, led by Claus Humbert, visited us again in March of this year and we are pleased to report that all went well. The weather was good and so the group went home very happy.

Following on from their visit we had a **new shower** installed in the men's changing room after a problem had been detected.

Two **fire extinguishers** have also been replaced following this year's inspection.

Councillor Fox has also begun the process of getting a **defibrillator** for the Village Hall. This will be a very important addition and could help to save a life if anyone suffers cardiac arrest at the hall.

I am pleased to report that **bookings in the hall** continue to increase and we now have a vast array of different activities going on:

Weekly sessions of Line Dancing and Sequence Dancing and a Jive group once a month; regular adult and children's indoor football groups several times a week and we had new indoor training sessions for children's groups from Rawcliffe and Goole during the winter months;

Archery, Pilates, two badminton groups, pickleball, a new table tennis group and our over 50s sporting activity group, which continues to go from strength to strength.

There is also adult Bingo with children's sessions during schools holidays, flower arranging groups, U3A now have two ukulele groups and a science group and, of course, we continue to play host to Goole Post Office on a Tuesday afternoon so that our residents have easy access to Post Office facilities without having to travel into Goole. We have seen an increase in children's birthday and christening parties over the year, the local Rotary Club continues to hold some of their larger events here and occasional Table Top Sales continue to raise money for the hall. We have also been the venue for music group rehearsals from time to time.

This year we have also hosted a 1940s Vintage Fair, a two day Fisheries Conference and driver training run by 1st Class Solutions. This increase in bookings means that the main hall is in use several times every day and the George Dales room also has regular bookings throughout the week, with the RL Walker room coming into play on occasions too.

We have had another very positive year, which I hope will continue.

Susan Hayward
Chairman

Report on the Activities of Airmyn Bowls Association 2017 Season

An average season for weather but we managed to get all our whistle stop events completed thus contributing to our bank balance. The continued problem with the poor British summers is influencing membership with more people giving up the outdoor events and continuing indoors for the whole year.

Our membership stayed reasonably steady for 2017 but this season has shown a drop in numbers with only the bare minimum of players available to make the same number of league teams and this appears true for most clubs in the local leagues.

Airmyn teams in the Goole and District leagues won Division A of the Pairs league and were also runners up.

In the Goole cup competitions club members won the Harry West Cup, the Clark Cup, the Bevan Cup, the Eastham Cup, and the Broderick Cup with one member, Steve Theaker, featuring in four of them. Janet Rushby won the ladies Killgallon Cup. The club were also runners up in the Harry West, Clark, Temple and Anderson Cups and Coronation Shield.

The club won the Humberside HSA Div.1 Triples league but were unsuccessful in the Humberside Team competitions.

As you may know we are currently seeking funding to do some alterations on the green by levelling the edges and replacing the ditches. This funding is being coordinated by Groundworks and is in the region of £30000.

General maintenance has taken place over the year to keep all buildings and land in a good condition and is ongoing thanks to the help of a small band of volunteers.

The green played particularly well over the season and this we feel is due to the purchase of the new mower in 2016 and the use of bio treatment for the green reducing the need for chemical fungicides and herbicides.

The club has again been successful in achieving ERCAS accreditation from the East Riding proving the club has reached an acceptable standard for the various categories including Health and Safety and Safeguarding.

The new season has started with our first successful whistle stop on Saturday 28 April despite poor weather predictions and with leagues due to start on April 30.

New members are always welcome especially from the village.

Once again, we thank the council for its continued support.

AIRMYN NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH GROUP

Annual Report to Airmyn Parish Council 2017/18

The Group meet four times a year in the Village Hall.

The membership of the group remained fairly stable throughout the year.

The Police Community Support Officer has attended three of the four meetings, and has provided the group with details of crimes committed within the Parish. In addition, I receive regular e-mails from the Neighbourhood Policing Team detailing crimes committed in the Police Sub Division. When anything of interest occurs in the villages adjacent to Airmyn, the details are sent to me and I then cascade them down to other members of the group.

Finally I wish to thank the Parish Council for its continued support in financing the cost of the Hall for our four meetings per year.

Airmyn Parish Emergency Team: Annual Report

A Defibrillator Training evening was held in Airmyn Park Primary School, thirty residents attended. Andrew Percy's office organised the event with the Yorkshire Ambulance Service and Airmyn Parish Council and Andrew Percy MP gave the Team a grant of £100 each to pay for the training.

Allen Thompson, Paul Gardener, Rob Charlesworth and Ian Dickinson volunteered to become Environment Agency Flood Wardens and we now have a gauge measuring the height of the river.

It can be seen more or less opposite The Paddock.

The Emergency Team liaised with the Environment Agency when remedial work had to be undertaken near the Clock Tower.

Members of the Team:-

Paul Gardener – Chair

Rob Charlesworth – Vice Chair

Helen Cowling – Secretary

Maria Jessney - Treasurer

Mary Mason-Pitt

Steve Marshall

Darron Dales

Alan Burton

Hugh Peake

John Bilton

Rob Jackson

Janet Rushby

Martin England

Les Appleby

Steve Garland

David Johnson

Alan Finch

Caroline Fox

Darren Harford

Helen Cowling, Secretary

A report prepared on behalf of the Airmyn Parochial Church Council reviewing the principal events and activities in the life of our village church, St. David's, during the past year for presentation to the Annual Parish Meeting, which is to be held in the Airmyn Memorial Hall on Wednesday, the 9th May, 2018.

The church building:

None of the urgent repairs needed to the church roof which were mentioned in my report to last year's Annual Parish Meeting have been carried out yet but some positive steps have been taken. Messrs. Furniss and Sons of Wentworth, builders, are scheduled to refix or replace a considerable number of loose or damaged Westmorland roof slates later this month. This will cost about £1.000 which the PCC will pay for out of its own funds. Quotations were also obtained for the rest of the repairs identified as urgent in the last Architect's Inspection, which was carried out in May, 2014. These involve some quite substantial works to make both gable ends of the church building watertight and to prevent any further internal damage to the stonework of the east window and to the décor of the internal walls at the east and west ends of the church. The entire guttering system along with the downpipes would also be taken down and refurbished before being rehung so as to make it operate more efficiently. The cheapest of the three quotations for these works that were obtained for us by our architect will amount to just over £40,000 including VAT and the only way that the PCC can afford to pay for this work is by obtaining grant aid or sponsorship from probably several funders, each one taking responsibility for the cost of one aspect of the work, say the scaffolding, the guttering, the east gable or the west gable. The redecoration of the church had been postponed until after the major roof repairs were completed but it has now been decided that we cannot wait any longer and will do as much of it as we can during the coming year. It has not been decorated since the year 2000 so a new generation of volunteer helpers will need to be recruited to help with this work, guided and assisted by the two churchwardens.

The church services:

The pattern of services is continuing unaltered from previous years at the present time, that is to say, the services start at 6-00 pm on the 1st and the 3rd Sundays of each month and at 10-00 am on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month. If there is a 5th Sunday in the month, each of the three churches in our Benefice, Airmyn, Hook and Rawcliffe, takes its turn in playing host to the congregations from all three parishes for a so-called Benefice service starting at 10-00 am. This may have to change slightly, however, in the not-too-distant future because of the sad death last December of Francis Sykes of Rawcliffe who had been taking one of our evening services every other month. Francis was a very good man and had been a great help to us here in Airmyn for several years. He has yet to be replaced in our service rota. During the past year, we experimented with starting our evening services at 4-00 pm instead of 6-00 pm between the beginning of October and the end of February but we found that attendances went down slightly rather than up and we have since reverted to the original pattern.

The Parochial Church Council:

The Airmyn PCC now has only eight members. When I first joined it, more years ago than I care to admit, it had 16 members. It now needs at least a couple of new members to offer fresh ideas and support and to avoid a situation developing where all the decision-making is left in the hands of a very small group and risks being viewed by some critics as undemocratic. A frequent subject for discussion at the monthly PCC meetings has been the need for us all to be enabled to talk more easily and more fluently about our beliefs and our faith to other people in the village, especially those who are perhaps on the fringe of becoming churchgoers themselves. The Vicar is considering offering people the chance to attend a so-called 'Enquirers course' which is a fancy term for bringing a good few people together as a discussion group. Enquirers' courses enable those taking part to find

Annual Parish Council Meeting

9th May 2018

AIRMYN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

I would like to present the WI's report for 2017.

We didn't have a meeting in January, instead we had our Christmas dinner at the Capricorn and had a very enjoyable get together with all the trimmings to get our year off with a bang.

Our membership has decreased dramatically over the past year due to a couple of members moving away and also the increased infirmity of some of our members. As it stands we are just about able to continue but do need new members to keep our little band viable. To this end we are trying to encourage new members by advertising our meetings in the village noticeboard and also the Goole Times.

For ten months of the year we have a speaker at our meetings which have been on various subjects including Chris Powell, the main charity fund raiser from Betty's/Yorkshire Tea, Sue Woodcock who writes a column in the Yorkshire Post (The Wold Diary) and a lady who gives the background to Lewis Carroll and the real Alice. Following this talk we had a Mad Hatters Tea Party to raise funds for Denman, a lovely old building gifted to the WI where residential courses are run for WI members.

Our members are currently knitting and crocheting poppies to form a display in the lych-gate this coming November for the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the ending of the 1st World War

We have supported the East Yorkshire Federation Fund Raising at St Crux, in York. Decorated a Harvest window and also read a lesson at the Carol Service at St David's Church here in Airmyn and also served teas at Airmyn Park Primary School.

Fund raising has gone reasonably well with two table top sales one in East Park and the other here in the village hall, a Fashion Show held in the school and also an Easter Concert by Castleford Male Voice Choir in St David's. This enabled the Speakers Fees and room hire to be secure for 2018.

Fund raising is still important for us to survive.

We still maintain to be a happy friendly group and thank the Parish Council for their continued interest

A report prepared on behalf of the Airmyn Coach-House Committee detailing its principal developments and activities during the past year for presentation to the Annual Parish Meeting which is to be held in the Airmyn Memorial Hall on Wednesday, the 9th May, 2018.

You all may just remember that this Committee was formed in January, 2012, with the intention of renovating the redundant coach-house belonging to the church into a non-profit-making community café to be open on a couple of days each week. Six long years later, in December of last year, the Committee was finally granted a faculty by the Sheffield Diocesan authorities authorising it to proceed with the renovation of the coach-house building in accordance with the very detailed plans which it had been obliged to compile and had submitted quite some time ago. At the same time, last December, the Committee at long last secured a 21-year lease agreement for the coach-house with these Diocesan authorities, a process which the solicitors had managed to drag out for two years.

The planning permission and the Listing Building consent which we had obtained almost three years earlier from the East Riding of Yorkshire Council were due to expire in March and April of this year so the Committee had to act very quickly in order to avoid having to apply for these permissions all over again. We consulted immediately with representatives of the ERYC planning department in order to ascertain what kind of work we could undertake that would represent a satisfactory start having been made to the renovation of the building in their eyes before our planning permission ran out and save us from having to reapply. It was mutually agreed that if we were to dig out the foundations of the toilet extension, which actually intrudes into the churchyard, and lay the required concrete in these footings before the deadline date, it would be acceptable. This was done but, as a pre-condition imposed by the Diocese, we had to employ an archaeologist to watch over the digging of the foundations in case any skeletal remains or other artefacts of historical interest or significance were unearthed during the process. We also had to submit samples of the bricks and roof slates which we intend to use in the renovation for approval by the ERYC before any work could commence.

Now we are in a position where we can go ahead and apply for grants from various different funding organisations in order to be able to pay for the bulk of the work. First of all, however, the Committee has to decide in what order the various aspects of the work required are to be carried out. The most obvious option to start with would be to have a water supply and an electricity supply brought into the building but another possibility is to tackle the underpinning of the southern side wall of the building, which has subsided visibly in recent years. We have to obtain three quotations from different firms for any building work that costs more than £500 and this is actually a handicap rather than a benefit to us because builders are hard to find, especially when you are asking them to provide a quotation for a job that they don't think it is very likely that they will get.

In order to obtain grants, it will be essential that we provide strong evidence to the potential funders that there is still very substantial support for the coach-house project from within our own village community. To this end, we will soon be sending out a questionnaire to every household in the village, asking if they would patronise the café or, if not, if they have any strong views for or against the project going ahead. The fact that the Committee has already raised well over £6,000 with the support of the Airmyn community via its Open Days and Bonus Ball competitions should count for something with the funders. The Committee has already paid for furniture worth some £2,000 and also the fees for planning permissions, solicitors' and architects' fees and for various surveys to be carried out on the building in advance of planning permission being obtained. After all this outlay, the Committee still had a balance of £4,058.25 in its bank account on the 31st December, 2017.

The Coach-House Committee has just 8 members at the present time and would welcome some newcomers who are interested in sharing in the process of renovating the coach-house building and converting it into a new asset to the Airmyn community.