

BURTON-IN-KENDAL PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF CHAIRMAN MIKE TAYLOR 2014

Looking back at the minutes for the past year, I could not help being reminded of the late Spike Milligan's remark "That for a long time nothing much happened and then after that not much happened again".

In October, we appointed our new clerk Jane Johnson after Peter Smith retired after four years of sterling work. We hope you are settling in and getting used to some of our peculiar ways and some of the arcane rules we have to work to.

We have seen quite a large increase in the number of planning applications coming forward on a monthly basis, some we have no objection and others we turn down, however this does not seem to have any bearing on the eventual outcome when these applications are passed to SLDC planning committee.

Our success stories include resolving the drainage problems, mainly due to the dogged determination of our lengthsman and councillor Paul Rogers. The speed monitoring device is finally up and running and will be a regular feature at the Clawthorpe junction. We have succeeded in getting the speed-measuring device for yet another go at determining the actual speed of traffic through the village.

On a less positive note, the condition of the Royal Hotel building draws adverse comments from many of our residents, as the economy gathers pace we can only hope that redevelopment work is started.

Higher authority has approved the Land Allocation Plan and it is looking likely that we will be asked to approve a major housing development on land above Church Bank Gardens. I am certain this will be very contentious. It amazes me that we have a situation where 100% of the population of Burton are against this development yet it will probably still happen.

The twice-daily pickup and drop off outside the school and the attendant danger is a constant worry to the council and leaving this to the school governors has not yet yielded a satisfactory result.

On a brighter note, the daffodils planted last year on the south side of the village have survived and are now flowering I am sure they will be there for many years to come. We also need to find somewhere appropriate to place our royal oak!

Can I finish by thanking the Clerk and all the councillors for their help and support in this past year?