

## **WILLOUGHBY PARISH COUNCIL** **ANNUAL REPORT 2002/2003**

Your Council has pleasure in presenting its report for the year 2002/2003. The Council has held 7 meetings during the last year and it is from the minutes of these meetings that this report has been compiled.

All meetings have been extremely well attended by Councillors, County Councillor G D Collett has attended 4 meetings.

The activities covered in the last year are as follows:

### **ROADS, VERGES, FOOTPATHS & STREET LIGHTING**

**Rose Inn - Foul Drain** - The seepage from the drain outside the Rose Inn persists despite repeated reminders to the Highways Department and Severn Trent.

**A426 Diversion** - Lorries diverted from the A426 as a result of damage to the M45 bridge had been stopped from coming through the village thanks to the efforts of County Councillor G D Collett.

**Magdalen Road** WPC 621 Haden had been involved in stopping the double parking of vehicles in Magdalen Road.

**Shrubery Footpath**: - The Parish Paths initiative had enabled the kissing gates on this footpath to be repaired and some tarmac placed in holes along its length, unfortunately, cows had scraped out the tarmac soon after the repairs had been carried out. It is not possible to fence off the footpath to prevent this.

A grant of £1,000 had been obtained from Rugby Borough Council to concrete this path from the Playing Field entrance up to the rear of Mr. Thomas's property. The total cost of the project would be £2,056 - work would be carried out in May 2003.

**Haywards Lodge** - Mr Sabine is to carry out repairs to the commemorative Plaque at the entrance to Haywards Lodge (A45 entrance) which had been vandalised.

**A45** - This trunk road had presented a number of problems to the Council during the year. The Council had been instrumental in having a parked vehicle, advertised for sale, on the verge opposite Tattle Bank removed.

The signposts at the junction of the A45 and Longdown Lane had been replaced after damage due to accidents. The Council have raised with the Police and Warwickshire County Council the number of accidents at both junctions of the A45 with Willoughby turnings, but had achieved no progress. solely due to financial restraints and accident significance recording.

Efforts have been made through the Police and Planning Authorities to prevent parking on the cross hatching at Willoughby Garage frontage which causes a restriction to view from traffic coming from Daventry, as yet no progress has been achieved.

**Main Street Car Park** - Abandoned Cars and a Caravan have been removed from this Car Park over the year, the Council is working with Rugby Borough Council to have the hedges trimmed and Car Park surface repaired.

**Moor Lane** - The wooden railings alongside the brook just prior to Manor Farm New Barns have had reflective posts put in front of them.

The Council is still waiting, despite repeated promises, to have the willow trees alongside the brook cut back by the Forestry Department of Warwickshire County Council.

**Shar Lane** - The Council has been successful in having the foliage cut back at the junction of Shar Lane and Woolscott Lane which was causing a restriction to view.

**Main Street - Blocked tunnel** - At last the blocked tunnel at the junction of Lower Street and Main Street had been cleared with subsequent improvement to water flow.

**Main Street Drains** - The Highways Department had cleared drains in Main Street opposite to the Village Hall.

**Stile Village Hall** - At the request of the Village Hall Management Committee the plank at

the stile in the perimeter fence between the Playing Field and the Village had now been removed.

**Kissing Gates** - New kissing gates had been erected on the footpath between Brooks Close and Pye Court and the footpath between Shar Lane and Pye Court; additionally a new stile had been erected on the footpath between Shar Lane and Pye Court.

**Pot Holes** - Pot holes had been filled in the footpath outside Woodstock, around the triangle outside The White House in Main Street and outside the Cricket Club entrance.

**Woolscott Lane** - Repairs had been made to Woolscott Lane between the sewage works and Olde Farm.

**Verges A45** - The Highways Department had been advised of damage to the verges of the A45 (Braunston side of the old Railway Bridge) repairs were still outstanding.

**Brook** - The Council had been made aware of the brook being blocked at the rear of College Road for a stretch between the garages and up to Thomas's field - this had been cleared by Rugby Borough Council.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

**Central Railway** - Situation remained basically unchanged during the year except that the Council had been advised that the Strategic Rail Authority would make a decision on the possible re-opening of the Great Central line in September 2003.

**Ashills** - The Parish Council had moved to a new firm of Solicitors (Lawcare) following the decision by Bradshaws the previous Solicitors that they were unable to act on our behalf due to the original Partner leaving the practice. Draft papers had been drawn up and were due to be served in early April 2003. The delay in drawing up the papers was as a result of agreeing a settlement figure with Bradshaws and the hand over of case papers.

**Bus Shelter** - An additional Bus Shelter had been erected in Main Street for the use of passengers en route to Daventry. Existing kerb levels have been raised for this Bus Shelter and the other existing Bus Shelters in the village to give easier access to wheelchairs.

**Marlow Pond** - A blockage to the pond overflow had been cleared by the Highways Department and they are to carry out repairs to the concrete frontage once the water level permits.

**Village Pump** - Agreement had been reached with the owner of the property adjacent to the site of the village pump to enable the pump to be visible and accessible.

**Skate Boarding** - The Council had received quotations for the provision of skate boarding in the region of £18,000 and this was considered to be out of the reach of Parish Council funds even with local business donations if available. It had been therefore regretted that this project could not be undertaken.

**Bulbs** - A quantity of bulbs for planting had been made available to the Council and Councillors Walton and Hubbard had distributed them to various village organisations.

**Jubilee Tree** - The Council had accepted a quotation from Mr T Thomas for the supply and planting of one Quercus Ilex (Evergreen Oak) to commemorate the Golden Jubilee. Agreement has been reached with the Diocese of Coventry and Miss Hobley to plant the tree on footpath R247C to replace the dead tree on this footpath, once the dead tree had been removed.

**Dog Litter Bins** - Following a request from a resident of Magdalen Road the Council had looked into the cost of providing Dog Litter Bins around the village and arranging for them to be emptied, unfortunately, they had found the total outlay financially unviable.

**Parish Clock** - After long and lengthy probing and enquiries the Diocesan Advisory Committee had now located the application for a faculty from the Parochial Church Council and at last had agreed to allow flood-lighting of the Church providing a number of conditions were complied with.

**Electricity Cuts** - The Council had made representation at a meeting with the Electricity provider at Shire Hall regarding the unsatisfactory actions during and after the power failures last October.

**Sewage - Manor Farm** - The Environmental Health Department and Severn Trent had been informed of sewage problems behind Manor Farm and that they had met Mr Heckford on site. Investigations were still ongoing as to the cause of the problem.

**Airport** - The Council had made a donation of £100 towards the Anti-Airport Fighting Fund and had attended several public meetings regarding the building of an airport at Church Lawford. A number of Anti-Airport notices had been placed at strategic points around the village and on the Parish Council Notice Board. The Council had been made aware of the possible widening of the A45 by two additional lanes if the proposal went ahead. It was unlikely that any decision would be made until early 2004.

**Notice Board** - A new Notice Board had been built for the Council by Russell Vessey Joinery and erected on the rear of the new Bus Shelter. It is proposed that the Notice Board will be shared by the Parish Council, Willoughby Society, Willoughby Cricket Club, Parochial Church Council and Womens Institute.

**Code of Conduct** - The Council had adopted the new Code of Conduct laid out for Parish Councils, Councillors had completed declarations to this effect.

**Golden Jubilee** - The Council had supported other village organisations in the celebrations of the Queen's Golden Jubilee. The event had been an outstanding success and only £36.02 was needed from Council funds to support the celebrations.

**Over 60's** - Funding of up to 90% had been agreed with Willoughby Charity for this event, but the Council were unable to arrange a suitable date around Christmas due to other Village hall bookings. It is hoped that at the Annual Meeting arrangements can be agreed for 2003 with the same funding.

**Soil Tipping** - The Council had supported Mr & Mrs Dodds in, objecting to the soil tipping to a height of 2 - 2.5 metres in the final third of the field adjacent to MT Dodds property. They could also not accept that the top soil was of turf growing quality and that it was acceptable to divert the existing footpath some 150 metres around the perimeter of the field. The Council have requested from Rugby Borough Council an update as to what actions have been taken in enforcing the conditions imposed on Lilbourne Turf Supplies after the site visit by the Planning Authorities.

**Post Office** - The Post Office finally closed down in May 2002 when Mr Montgomery left the village - the Council had worked with the Post Office to investigate possible alternative premises which included John's Garage on the A45 and the Village Hall, without any success.

Alternative Post Office facilities are available at Braunston, Barby and Dunchurch.

**Football Tournament Beaver Scouts** - Requests for the use of the Parish Council owned Goal Posts were granted to Rugby & District Beaver Scouts and the Six-a-Side Willoughby Football Competition run by Dr I Czerniewski.

### **PLAYING FIELD AND OTHER OPEN SPACES**

**Igloo** - The surrounds of the Igloo in the Playing Field is still to be modified to allow safe surfacing underneath with wood chippings.

**Roundabout** Quotations for re-surfacing around the Roundabout in the Playing Field are being obtained.

**Playing Field Fence** - The perimeter fence belonging to the Brewery (Rose Inn) had been strengthened with godfathers.

D E Neville April 2003

WILLOUGHBY PARISH COUNCIL  
SUMMARY RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31:03:03

<u>RECEIPTS</u>		£	
Previous Year			
125.06	VAT Refund	237.21	
5000.00	Precepts	5000.00	
5.89	COIF Dividend	5.89	
26.40	Bank Interest	28.64	
0.00	Parish Paths Grant	245.00	
0.00	Sale of Mugs	360.00	
<hr/> 5157.35	TOTAL RECEIPTS	<hr/> 5876.74	
 <u>PAYMENTS</u>			
00	SI37 Payments	175.00	
<u>RUNNING COSTS</u>			
	1127.00	Playing Field & Open Spaces	1035.50
1939.48	812.48	Street Lighting	781.68
			<hr/> 1817.18
<u>GRANTS</u>			
	646.92	Village Hall	450.00
	600.00	Churchyard	350.00
1546.92	300.00	Parish Clock	150.00
			<hr/> 950.00
<u>GENERAL ADMINISTRATION</u>			
	139.95	Subscriptions	154.95
	133.77	Insurance	169.65
	675.00	Salaries	500.00
	237.21	VAT Payments	270.12
	875.97	Other	462.77
	0.00	Legal Expenses	350.00
	0.00	Airport Fighting Fund	100.00
	0.00	Impact China	487.00
	28.14	Loss on Investment	36.28
2520.04	430.00	2000 Group	0.00
			<hr/> 2530.77
6106.44			5472.95

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS SUMMARY

	£
Balance Brought Forward 01:04:02	4812.19
Add Total Receipts	5876.74
Less Total Payments	<u>(5472.95)</u>
	5215.98
These cumulative Funds are represented by:	
Current Account	5065.40
Add Investments	137.60
Add Cash in Hand	<u>12.98</u>
	5215.98

WILLOUGHBY PARISH COUNCIL  
FIXED ASSETS AS AT 31:03:03

<u>ASSETS PURCHASED IN YEAR</u>	None
<u>ASSETS DISPOSED OF IN YEAR</u>	None
<u>ASSETS ACQUIRED IN YEAR</u>	3500.00

AT 31:03:03 THE FOLLOWING ASSETS WERE HELD

Value at replacement value unless given nominal value:

Bus Shelters (3)	7500.00
Street Lamps (Free standing) (12)	3000.00
Street Lamp (Attachments) (13)	1950.00
Seats (5)	1000.00
PLAYING FIELD EQUIPMENT	
Green Climbing Frame (Nominal Value)	1.00
Plank Swing (Nominal Value)	1.00
Shelter (Nominal Value)	1.00
Slide & Spring Animals	8587.60
Climbing Frame & Swings	10085.03
Roundabout & Safe Surfacing	2284.27
Litter Bins	266.74
Goal Posts	279.65
Playing Field (Nominal Value)	1.00
	<hr/>
	£ 34957.29

S137 PAYMENTS

The limit for spending under S 137 of the Local Government Act for Willoughby Parish Council was £1134.00

The payments were:

<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>NATURE OF PAYMENT</u>	
Citizens Advice Bureau	Support of Administration Costs	£125.00
Willoughby Six-a-Side Football Challenge Competition	Support of Tournament Costs	£50.00

OUTSTANDING COMMITMENTS AS AT 31:03:03

	£
Golden Jubilee Tree	130.00
Russell Vessey Joinery (Notice Boards)	473.00
Parish Clock	1070.00
Legal Fees anticipated	400.00
Doug Hargrave (Shrubbery Footpath) 2056.25 — 1000 Grant	1056.25
	<hr/>
	3129.25