



Dullingham Parish Council ANNUAL REPORT 2023/24

Chairman's Summary May 2024

Having nearly completed my first year as Chairman this is my report on what's been happening over the last twelve months.

Play Area and Village Green

The play area continues to be as well used as ever. We inspect it monthly and also have a yearly external inspection which noted that the seesaw was in a poor way. This has now been replaced with a double seater see saw. We hope it will prove popular. The zip wire has also had its faulty legs replaced and we've renewed some of the fencing which had deteriorated.

We have had some minor vandalism where some fence posts have been kicked off. This is not a regular occurrence but if passers-by could keep an eye out it would be appreciated.

Trees and Hedging

A survey was carried out on the sports field and the green. This required some tree felling where deemed necessary, ivy reduction and generally tidying up of some areas. Three new trees have also been planted. We also had the hedge that had encroached into the field, cut back to the original boundary giving us extra playing area.

Pavilion and Sports Field

After completing major renovations on the pavilion last year we have continued to make improvements on the building and the sports field. We have replaced the two main doors, shelled the cupboard and with generous donation from Dullingham Sports Club have bought some new chairs. We have also improved the driveway onto the field. Newmarket Cricket Club completed their first season at our ground; it's good to see the facilities used on a regular basis. We hope to welcome more clubs and users in the future.

We are hoping to get some basic heating in the building so that it can be used all year round and if anyone is interested in hiring the pavilion please get in contact with our Clerk or any Parish Council member.

Roads and Speeding

Our roads are in a poor state of repair similar to other parts of the country. When you see a pot hole please report it on the Cambridgeshire County Council website. It's the only way to get any action but unfortunately it doesn't seem to happen quickly.

Speeding through the village is a continual problem. The residents of Brinkley Road are going through the process of building a speed watch team. This could help give some evidence of what speed some people are doing, particularly along this stretch of road. We can then possibly get a police speed trap out. This seems to be the only thing that works.

Please drive carefully through the village; it's not only Brinkley Road that has problems.

Footpaths, Environment and Pond

Watery Lane footpath has lived up to its name over the winter and has been underwater for some periods. We have been in contact with the relevant people and are hoping the surface that has been washed away will be reinstated in the autumn if not before.

Work has been carried out around the village pond with cutting back some of the dead wood on the far side bank, cutting back the reeds which have gone a bit wild and re fencing the car park area. At the moment it's looking in good condition. We did have a duckweed issue in the summer, as did most ponds but it cleared itself eventually. It may well come back at some stage but we have consulted with an environmentalist who has said this really isn't too much of a problem and is advising us on some planting and other things we can do to make it healthy pond year round. Ducks have been spotted on the water lately and this could help the situation if they stay.

Thank You's

May I take this opportunity to thank our outgoing Chairman Cary Simpson and Councillor Keith Owen for all their hard work over the past few years. Thanks also to the volunteers who help with the many other jobs in the village. This helps to keep the village looking good. It is much appreciated.

We do have a vacancy on the Parish Council if anyone is interested in joining us . Please contact our clerk or any Parish Council member.

Rob Algar

WHO & WHAT IS THE PARISH COUNCIL?

Dullingham Parish Council has 6 unpaid Councillors representing an electorate of 593. Once elected, parish councillors sit on the council for a maximum of four years and if they then want to stay in the post they can stand for re-election.

Members of the public are welcome to attend meetings and may speak during Public Forum on matters that are on that meeting's agenda. The Parish Council is not permitted to decide on matters that have not been duly advertised to the public unless any matters are considered urgent or are authorised in the Parish Council's standing orders.

The Parish Council's major role is to represent the parish on issues affecting us to the District and County Councils, and to regional and central government, and other agencies. It is responsible for the Sports Pavilion, some parish grass cutting, its own street furniture (noticeboards, litter bins, dog waste bins, seats, bus stops and some street lighting) and through the Parish Paths Partnership, ensures that registered Rights of Way are open and maintained. It maintains open spaces: children's play area, the Village Green and Village Pond.

The Parish Council considers and comments to the Local Planning Authority on all planning applications (statutory consultee). The Parish Council supports other charitable groups and organisations which work within the village where ever possible.

Dullingham Parish Council Year End Accounts

Bank Reconciliation at 31/03/2024

Cash in Hand 01/04/2023		38,444.75
ADD		
Receipts 01/04/2023 - 31/03/2024		50,324.24
		88,768.99
MINUS		
Payments 01/04/2023 - 31/03/2024		51,405.48
Cash in Hand 31/03/2024		37,363.51
(per Cash Book)		

Cash in hand per Bank Statements

Petty Cash	31/03/2024	0.00	
Cambridge Building Society	31/03/2024	19,829.18	
Lloyds Bank Treasurers Account	31/03/2024	17,534.33	
			37,363.51
Less unrepresented payments			0
			37,363.51
Plus unrepresented receipts			0
Adjusted Bank Balance			37,363.51

YOUR CURRENT PARISH COUNCILLORS ARE:

Rob Algar (Chairman)	cllr.algar@dullingham-pc.org.uk
Mark Robertson (Vice Chair)	cllr.robertson@dullingham-pc.org.uk
Gail Parkins	cllr.parkins@dullingham-pc.org.uk
Sarah Mardon	cllr.mardon@dullingham-pc.org.uk
Mick Cameron	cllr.cameron@dullingha-pc.org.uk
Simon Park	cllr.park@dullingham-pc.org.uk
One Vacant Post	

To contact the Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs Karen Peck

Email: clerk@dullingham-pc.org.uk

District and County Councillor contacts

Councillor Alan Sharp (Woodditton Ward) 01638 507485 alan.sharp@eastcambs.gov.uk

Councillor James Lay (Woodditton Ward) james.lay@eastcambs.gov.uk

Copies of this report are available online

Any enquires regarding this publication please contact the Parish Clerk (details above)