

## **Badsworth Parish Council Chairman's Annual Report 2019/20**

At this time of the year the Chairman's report is normally prepared for the Annual Parish Meeting. This is the meeting where the residents can ask the council questions out of the normal council meeting setting and the Chairman presents a report on what the council has done over the last year. However these are not normal times but I felt it was necessary to still do a report and present it by what means we are able even though the meeting is not likely to take place this year.

In May 2019 five councillors were elected to the council, which meant we should not have the problems we have had in the previous year, when at some of the meetings we were not quorate. Unfortunately because of the resignation by Jessica Carrington and other Councillors commitments we have had problems again with not being quorate so were unable to take decisions at some meetings. However earlier this year we were able to co-opt Barrie Slinger on to the council taking up back to five councillors. I would like to thank Jessica Carrington for all she did during her time on the council and hope Barrie enjoys his time on the council. Jessica will still update us on matters from Wakefield MDC in her role as a District Councillor.

The council replaced the three old planters at the entrance to Badsworth Court, opposite the entrance to school and under the tree near the church steps with new stone ones and had them planted up. They certainly look very nice.

It was the intention this year to have the hanging baskets prepared by residents but this has had to be cancelled so they have been ordered again from a company that does them. In the current climate they are likely to be erected at night and also possibly watered at night.

The Christmas event took a different format this year with the Yew tree in the churchyard being lit up. My thanks go to all those who made this possible. The Reverend Charlene Smith and children from the school and nursery performed the Switch-On ceremony. This was followed in church by carols from the choir, a sing along and refreshments.

It has been the intention of the council for some considerable time to provide a defibrillator in the village but the logistics of where it is to be sited have been problematic because of the need for a constant electricity source. However hopefully this has been resolved although the positioning still needs formal approval. The defibrillator has been ordered so after the lock down we can look forward to it being put in place. Donations have been received from the Asda GMB Union, the Village Fete Committee and the Village Plan Group to help with the cost of it for which the council is very grateful.

It was hoped to organise an Easter Egg Hunt again after the success of last years but this had to be cancelled.

Parking and speeding through the village are still areas of concern, so with that in mind, after discussions with the police, we agreed to pay for dedicated police time as a means of trying to resolve this. Unfortunately that has yet to start due to them being tied up with the lock down.

Some councillors with the help of local residents have done work to clear some of the overgrown shrubs and weeds on Badsworth Way. This is the only piece of land we own so we have to maintain it.

As I close I would like to thank all those who have helped in any way during the last year. To our councillors for their time, the clerk for his services and any one else who has done anything for the Parish council in the past year. To all the residents keep safe and keep well during these very strange times.

Brenda Graham  
Chairman Badsworth Parish Council