

Winterton Town Council

Spring 2022

A welcome from The Mayor, Cllr Don Johnson

Mayors Report Spring 2022



As I write this report at the beginning of March it would appear that things are getting back to a more normal life than we have had during the past two and a half years.

I have been elected Mayor a number of times since my first stint as Chairman of the Winterton Parish Council in 1971 when, under the newly formed Humberside County Council, larger parish councils were able to apply for township status with a Town Mayor. In 1972 I had the honour of becoming the first Mayor of Winterton. The past two and a half years have been the most difficult of those fifty years. The number of councillors was halved and the first elections were held for many years. Half the newly elected councillors were new to Winterton Town Council, resignations soon followed and new councillors brought in by co-option.

All the councillors were working hard and then at the end of 2019 a bomb shell dropped and the council was served with a Public Interest Notice, for failing to comply with certain financial regulations. After many sleepless nights an Internal Auditor was found and a new Responsible Financial Officer appointed to help the Clerk. The Councillors also underwent Financial Training.

A few months later we went into a National Lockdown, due to the Covid Pandemic, Leaders of Local Authorities were expected to stay in position for a further year.

From May 2020 the Town Council moved forward, with the appointment of a new vastly experienced and qualified clerk. Unfulfilled actions were implemented and new initiatives undertaken. The West Street Park was totally refurbished, much to the delight of the children and their parents, a new footpath around the edge of Newport Drive Playing Field has been started and will be completed once the football season has finished.

The Council has taken on Devolved Powers for the Public Rights of Way and verge grass cutting. The former is carried out by our own staff to a much higher standard than previously, and we have this year been able to replace the previous verge cutting contractor with a new company. One with a lot of experience in other towns of our size and come highly recommended. Other devolved powers are also being looked at. Speed signs on the main routes into the town have been installed and are proving effective, shortly the 30mph speed limit on Top Road will be extended to beyond the new Gleeson Development.

We were able to hold the Christmas Light Switch-on in late November with a new outdoor food fest and craft stall market that we'll be extending this year. The Christmas Tree and the excellent street display, which included new lights, really lit our town beautifully. Thanks to our local electrical contractor, AKE Electrical and the Town Council staff for all their hard work at this very busy time.

Unfortunately the Christmas Carols and Civic Service had to be cancelled, due to another Covid spike. These decision were not taken easily and I can assure you we were as disappointed as some of you, but as a public body we have a duty of care to our community.

As Mayor I get invited to a lot of events, civic services and civic dinners in other towns in our area. I and my wife Linda, the Winterton Mayoress, are there representing Winterton. It is always good to see how other towns of our size operate but I am always keen to "talk up" our town. At the moment we making plans for my Civic Dinner, where I can show other Civic parties what is great about Winterton. Steps are underway to have a special event at the Community Pavilion and the Newport Drive Playing Field to start the Queen's Jubilee Celebrations on Thursday, 2nd of June. Plans for the lighting of the beacon, picnics on the field, bands and a whole lot of fun for all the family are underway. Many other events are taking place in Winterton for the four days of celebrations. Street Party organisers and those running other events are encouraged to apply to the Town Council for some financial assistance. All our Town Councillors will continue to support our town and try to improve the amenities of the place we are proud to call home.

Finally, I would like to thank the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Marilynne Harrison for all her support during the past three years and wish the new incoming Mayor a smooth and enjoyable term of office, there is some hard work to do but a considerable amount of satisfaction from the job.

Don Johnson, Mayor of Winterton

A note from the Clerk

As we reach the end of this Council Year it's good to reflect on the past year but even better to look forward. I've now been in post for nearly two years, the first of which was an "interesting" one, with the outbreak of the Coronavirus Pandemic whilst putting the Town Council governance and financial affairs in order. I am so pleased that we are putting most of this behind us and now can start looking to the future.

The Councillors proposed a good budget for the next financial year, whilst being able to maintain the same precept payments collected as part of your Council Tax. You will notice when you receive your Council Tax it is broken down into payments to Humberside Police, Humberside Fire and Rescue, North Lincolnshire Council including Adult Social Care and the precept payment to Winterton Town Council that pays for the services that it provides.

In the last year the Council was able to complete the West Street Park and were eventually able to hold the official opening, which was really well attended by families from Winterton. In the budget agreed in January, Councillors have earmarked some funds to make improvements to the Marmion Drive Park.

You will have noticed the new benches that were installed across Winterton that provide welcome breaks for people walking around the town as part of their daily exercise, heading out to utilise local businesses or waiting for the bus. We have three more benches on order to be placed where residents have asked for them.

We were pleased to make the central area on Market Place a safe area to sit, protecting with bollards, removing the very uneven flag stones that would always need attention with the tree roots there and replacing with a maintainable surface. The beautiful cast iron bench was refurbished and now bears a plaque in honour of Cllr Bob Bridge who gave so much service to the town.

We were pleased to be able to hold the Christmas Light Switch On. We will be holding the Outdoor Food Fest and Christmas Craft Market again this year on a bigger scale on Saturday 19th November. More news about that later in the year.

The Council were pleased to make Community Grants to local organisations in the last year and have again put aside some money for this. If you are a constituted group with a bank account in the group's name there are grants available. Please don't hesitate to get in touch for more information.

There are many events being planned for Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations across Winterton for the weekend of June 2nd—5th. Winterton Town Council will be holding a family fun afternoon/evening on 2nd June, and taking part in the National Beacon Lighting on Newport Drive Playing Field. Keep an eye out on our Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/WintertonTownCouncil>. There will also be a special grant available for anyone wishing to organise a street party or a community event with their neighbours, again do get in touch for more information.

The Town will also soon be adorned in floral displays with a patriotic red, white and blue planting scheme. The Town Council staff look after the larger planters and beds, but we are looking out for volunteers to maintain the small street sign planters, weeding, watering etc. The Council will supply the plants, so there will be no financial commitment expected and there will be a prize for the best planter. If you would like to "look after" a planter near to your home please get in touch.

Following the problems we had with the contractor last year, we terminated their contract and have a new contractor to cut the grass verges in Winterton. ONGO look after the verges on the DeLacy Way area and unfortunately we have no say in when they are cut, but with our new contractor for the other verges we do have more control and with careful financial management we have been able to request more than the 9 standard cuts.

Kerry McGrath

Allotment News

Winterton has twenty-six allotment plots which are all currently being worked to a high standard by members of our community. The winter season has been reasonably kind to the allotment holders in terms of deep frosts however, the recent storms did cause damage to some of the temporary structures on the plots. The allotment holder community soon pulled together to remove debris and get things back on track ready for what we hope will be another good growing year.

New for 2022 - A number of the allotment holders have agreed to 'adopt-a-planter' within our Town. Winterton Town Council will provide the plants for the planters as usual, and the adopted planters will be tended by the green-fingered allotment holders.



There is a waiting list for allotments, if you would like to add your name to the list then please contact Andy Preskey by any of the following methods.

Email: admin@wintertoncouncil.co.uk

Tel: 01724 488805

Mobile: 07888671998

Or call in person at the Winterton Town Council Offices 09:00 – 12:00hrs any Monday or Wednesday at 52, West Street Winterton DN15 9QF.

Winterton Community Pavilion News

This fantastic community asset which officially opened over eight years ago, continues to see bookings from regular users and new private hirers alike. As the grip from the pandemic has eased and restrictions have been lifted, Winterton Community Pavilion has fully reopened for use. Over the past months we have made some significant changes to enhance the facilities available.

Wi-Fi has now been installed and is available to persons using the building – a customer Wi-Fi policy has been written to protect both Wi-Fi users and Winterton Town Council. Amongst its many uses, this technology will afford internet browsing and live streaming of exercise classes as required adding another dimension to the pavilion facilities. In addition, Winterton Community Pavilion is now benefitting commercial users as a training site and also offers corporate office space as a venue for seminars and meetings.

Construction has started on an all-new perimeter path, this will be completed after the football season closes in May 2022. This path follows the outer edge of the sports field and will offer 800 metres of hardstanding access to the community. Discussions are taking place with regard to adding outdoor gym equipment at intervals around the path – by way of consultation, we encourage thought and comment from you all on this topic – please get in touch to let us know your thoughts.

A new CCTV system has been installed and is now live. The state-of-the-art security cameras and 24/7 monitoring equipment will protect the Community Pavilion from crime including vandalism and littering. The system covers 360 degrees of the building and the sports field.

To make a booking enquiry and for any other Community Pavilion matters, please contact Andy Preskey via the following methods. Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/WintertonCommunityPavilion> by email: admin@wintertoncouncil.co.uk

Tel: 01724 488805 Mobile: 07888671998

Or call-in person at the Winterton Town Council Offices 09:00 – 12:00hrs any Monday or Wednesday at 52, West Street Winterton DN15 9QF.



MEET YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL



Winterton Town Mayor
Cllr Don Johnson
07702 327139



Cllr Helen Rowson
07768 636568



Cllr Roger Kimberley-Scott
07484714937



Deputy Mayor
Cllr Marilyn Harrison
07814 375979



Cllr Ralph Ogg
07800 915584



Cllr Elaine Marper
07776 492330



Cllr Amanda Bazley
07767 821858



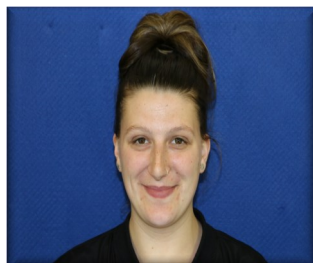
Cllr Norma King
07836 734116



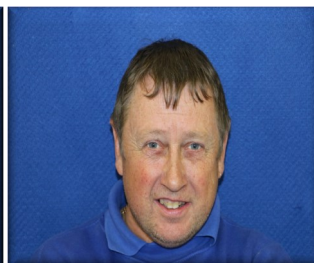
Cllr Pauline Howden
07999 338078



Town Clerk, Kerry McGrath
Clerk@wintertoncouncil.co.uk
07395 922704



Pavilion Cleaner & Groundswoman
Chantelle Leaning



Groundsman
Peter Parker



Admin Assistant, Andy Preskey
admin@wintertoncouncil.co.uk
01724 488085 07888671998

As well as contacting the Town Councillors or staff on the numbers listed above anyone is welcome to attend a Winterton Town Council meeting.

We meet every 2nd Tuesday (except for August) at 6pm in the Old School Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend the meeting to see how decisions that affect you are made and Winterton residents are welcome to address the Town Council with any issues that are important to you. The agenda for the meeting is always posted in the notice boards around the town and on our website www.wintertoncouncil.co.uk/agendas a minimum of 3 clear days before the meeting.