

## Chair's Annual Report 2024

I want to start by thanking my fellow Parish Councillors for their support and help during the past twelve months; I couldn't have managed the last twelve months without you. I would especially like to thank Wendy for returning to the Parish Council and to Simon who has only just joined us.

Unfortunately, due to personal reasons, we have had a couple of Councillors resign. I would like to thank Uwe Braun for his valuable contributions, Steve Fane de Salis for his work as the previous Chair of the parish council, and finally to Richard Johnson for over 30 years of service to Spaldwick.

I would also like to thank our Clerk, Sarah Cardwell, for all her support over the last twelve months. I know it hasn't been easy guiding and supporting a new, inexperienced Chair but she has done a fantastic job in ensuring that the council runs smoothly and finally, to thank District Councillor and County Councillor Ian Gardiner for his vital assistance.

During the last twelve months we have continued to encourage drivers to stick to the speed limit in the village. The 40mph buffer zones on the entry roads to the village were finally installed in August 2023. And an additional Motor Vehicle Activated Sign was purchased and installed on Stow Road. We have also applied for Local Highways funding for a further MVAS on Thrapston Road, this application is ongoing but we are hopeful that it will be successful. We have also installed no parking signs on the village green.

The allotments continue to be popular and all the plots are being worked. Unfortunately, for the second time, the main gates to the allotments were stolen last year. New metal gates have since been installed. The charity field was drilled and seeded in September and we are hopeful that this will become a useful space for the village.

As a whole we have had a number of more mundane items to deal with for example we have had to change banks because our previous bank was not being very cooperative. We have had the issues with the changes to the green bin collections, the possible closure of Kimbolton fire station, the continuing disagreement regarding the development on land east of Ivy Way and the resolving of the issues regarding the Town and Poors charity field.

Looking forward to the coming year the Platinum Jubilee bench will be installed soon and some exercise equipment is being installed in the land next to Playtimes.

I would also like to thank all the individuals that volunteer their time to making this village a lovely friendly place to live, Neighbourhood Watch, the litter pickers, the lady that sorts out the telephone box library, the ladies that run the 60's coffee mornings, the Spaldwick Social Events team, the PCC, Common Ground Mick Ager for his footpath work, Chris Hubbard for the village newsletter and many many others.

Sharan Jackson-Rimmer