

July 2021

Welcome

I wish to add my thanks to Merle Skinner for her exemplary service to the Parish. My time on the Council is modest in comparison, and I have benefited from her wealth of knowledge and experience.

This leaves the Council with a vacancy. Any parishioner who is interested in filling the vacancy should contact the Clerk.

The Council has been able to remain active during the various lockdowns. A number of meetings have been held via Zoom (a new experience for some) though the latest was face to face following the recent relaxations. I would like to thank Councillors and the Clerk for being able to maintain activity during this difficult period.

Chris Buswell – Parish Council Chair

Goodmanham Parish Council

News



Retirement of Cllr Merle Skinner

Cllr Merle Skinner has decided to retire from the Parish Council after 55 years of service. Merle joined the Parish Council in 1966 and during her long term she has been committed to serving the village on behalf of its residents.

Her late husband Alan also served the community as parish clerk for 22 years. Merle took on the role of clerk for about 18 months following Alan's passing until a permanent clerk was appointed. At the time parish council meetings were held either in the old school or old chapel now both demolished.

Always interested in the village children's education she served as a parish representative at Market Weighton Infants School as a governor. She was involved in the negotiations with the County Council to ensure there was always free transport to Market Weighton Infants and Junior Schools for all village children following the closure of the village school.

Merle was active in supporting the southern route of Market Weighton bypass saving Goodmanham being separated from Market Weighton. On the environment front she was involved in the purchase and planting of the first daffodils that still enhance the village in Spring. Along with the help of the local Young Farmers Club Merle and Alan in 1984 planted the many trees we see as you travel up Nursery Hill.

Over 55 years Merle has gained a wealth of local knowledge and has staged exhibitions showing past village events including memories of local characters from her fabulous collection of slides, photos and newspaper cuttings. These act as a lasting archive of days gone by in Goodmanham.

We all wish her well in her retirement and thank her for her dedicated service. Thank you, Merle.

Car Park and Picnic Area

The Council has held the Car Park under annual licence from East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ERYC) for many years on a full repair and maintenance basis. The licence could be terminated at any point meaning the loss of the

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asset to the village, and any associated investment. In the light of this the Parish Council contacted ERYC about better security of tenure, and have been offered and agreed to a 99-year lease on the site at a peppercorn rent. Once the lease is signed the Council have agreed to reserve an area in the car park for local residents.

Goodmanham Arms

Following a submission by the Parish Council the Goodmanham Arms has been designated as an Asset of Community Value. This means that the community would be given an opportunity to submit a bid for the pub, should at some time in the future it be put on the market. This does not mean that there is any likelihood of this happening in the immediate future, but provides some long-term protection.

Village Walkabout

The Council have recently held a “walkabout” with a member of ERYC’s environment team to discuss a variety of repair and maintenance issues, including those raised by parishioners. The team have agreed to paint the bench at Red Lane, and clean a number of road signs. Other highway issues discussed included the poor state of the pavement in the lower part of the village, and a number potholes and kerbs etc which require attention. The Parish Council also raised the issue of vehicles passing on Red Lane, parking and speeding.

Railway Footpath

After a protracted process the new footpath running north from the Hudson Way has been approved. ERYC will now erect signage and ensure the footpath is usable and maintained.

Dog fouling

The yellow dog fouling signs have been refreshed throughout the village as a reminder to dog owners. Bagged dog waste can be put into any of the 5 litter bins provided by the Parish Council.

Hedges

Parishioners are reminded of the need to trim hedges and garden plants where they are encroaching onto footpaths.

Parish History

There is a variety of information on Parish History held by a number of local residents. Any parishioner interested in leading on a project to record and publish this information should contact the Clerk.