

Kellington Parish Council

Chair's Report, 2023

I would like to start by thanking our excellent Parish Clerk, Janet Smith, for her consistent hard work and my colleagues on the Parish Council for their enthusiasm and support throughout the year. During the year two new members, Dave Peart and Debra Rollin, joined the Parish Council.

The Parish Council, once again, agreed, for the tenth year in a row, NOT to raise the Parish Precept

Working with the Village Hall Committee we got a grant to upgrade the Village Hall heating using local company Busy Heating,

The village sign/planter on Lunn Lane was destroyed by a car driver. It was an insurance claim and the work to repair the sign/planter was carried out by local Firm Roberts

The Eastfield Lane street sign was damaged by an unknown vehicle. The PC paid for a new sign.

Working with the then SDC councillor Mary McCartney, who facilitated a grant, we got a new disabled access point between Lunn Lane and Church Lane

A grant was obtained for a mower that would be used by the parish and the allotments.

A Rowan tree with a memorial plaque was planted close to our war memorial as part of the Queen's Canopy.

The two defibrillators, one at The Red Lion and the other at the Village Hall continue to be kept operational.

The PC continued with our annual grass cut in the "wildflower" area of St Edmunds Churchyard resulting in an improving display of Spring Flowers. A grant for the 2023 cut is already in place. The PC also cut the area of the churchyard where the newer graves are, three times a year.

Remembrance: the "Tommy" and large poppies were displayed on the lampposts, the village notice board was awash with poppies. Good turnout for the Remembrance Service, many thanks to our bugler Malcolm Walsh.

The grass cutting, hanging baskets and village planters (the latter maintained by volunteers, many thanks to them) received many positive public comments.

Kellington village and the surrounding roads always looks spick and span thanks to the many residents who regularly litter pick.

The Village Newsletter was delivered regularly keeping residents abreast of local news and information.

The Village Christmas Tree again looked great, thanks to Nigel Clayton.

The village hall continues to thrive and the Allotment Gardens are still very popular.

Kellington play park is still very popular with children both from Kellington children and surrounding villages.

The Village Coffee Mornings have continued to be popular, including one for the British Legion and another for Macmillan Nurses. In February local resident Steve Parker led a defibrillator training session. The Village Hall Coffee Mornings have raised £972.30 for charities.

The Parish Council have agreed to change all of our streetlights to LED bulbs which, along with moving to part-night operations will massively reduce our electricity bill. This year the bill is £5,332.37.

The Parish Council have agreed to put a disabled path and access to the areas of the play equipment. Grant funding has been accessed and the work will be carried out by local company Roberts.

It has been a challenging year for Kellington Parish Council. Keeping down our part of the Council Tax whilst at the same time working to help ensure that Kellington is a great place to live in. These are still our two priorities.

John McCartney

Chair, Kellington Parish Council.