

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF ABERFORD & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL

Good evening everyone and thank you for attending tonight's Annual Parish Meeting.

This report provides an opportunity to reflect on the last year and recognise some of the work, achievements and ongoing support provided by Aberford & District Parish Council on behalf of our community.

Firstly, I would like to give sincere thanks to our Clerk and fellow Councillors for another fantastic year.

Parish Council work is often carried out quietly behind the scenes, but a huge amount of time, care and commitment goes into supporting our village and helping move projects forward. It has been a pleasure working alongside such a dedicated team who continue to give their time for the benefit of the community.

One of the highlights of the year was once again the successful Christmas Light Switch-On event in Aberford.

The Parish Council was proud to heavily support this wonderful community occasion which continues to bring residents together and create such a fantastic atmosphere within the village.

Special thanks must go to the Aberford Christmas Lights organisation and all volunteers involved for the enormous amount of work that goes into making the event such a success year after year.

We are also delighted with the improvements seen at Pump Hill following the successful appointment of a subcontracted gardener. The area is looking beautiful and has received many positive comments from residents and visitors alike.

We hope to build on this success over the coming year and explore opportunities to improve and maintain further common areas throughout the parish to the same high standard.

The Parish Council has continued to support local groups and village amenities through community grants and ongoing partnership working. It has been a pleasure to work closely with organisations such as the football club and bowling club to help support the valuable facilities and opportunities they provide for residents of all ages.

We are excited to continue strengthening these relationships and supporting even more community projects in the year ahead.

We were also pleased to support our local school and the Literature Festival through grant funding, helping contribute towards activities and events that continue to enrich village life and bring people together.

Throughout the year the Parish Council has continued to consider local planning matters, village maintenance issues and ways to improve the appearance and facilities within the parish.

We always aim to represent the views and best interests of residents wherever possible and continue to work positively with Leeds City Council and other local organisations where required.

As always, community involvement remains extremely important to us.

We warmly welcome residents to attend our monthly meetings, which are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 7pm. New ideas, feedback and community involvement are always encouraged.

We currently also have vacancies on the Parish Council and would encourage anyone who feels they could bring positivity, enthusiasm and a desire to support their community to consider becoming a Parish Councillor. It is a rewarding role and a genuine opportunity to help make a difference within the village.

Finally, I would like to thank all residents, volunteers, community groups and local organisations for their continued support and contribution to village life.

Aberford remains a wonderful place to live, and we look forward to another positive and productive year ahead.

Thank you.

Kind Regards

Sarah Bradley