



Parish Council Report 2022-23

Annual Parishioners Meeting 2023

The Parish Council provides a report to the annual parishioners meeting each year setting out the challenges, achievements and future actions for progressing the Parish Plan for Tollerton and providing services for residents in the year ahead.

In 2022-23 **challenges** for the parish, village and residents included:

- The passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II
- Continued changing lifestyles in the aftermath of the Coronavirus Pandemic
- Local support for people displaced or impacted by the War in Ukraine
- Inflation, increased costs and higher interest rates
- Deteriorating pavement quality across the parish and limited maintenance from responsible bodies
- A number of incidents of theft from vehicles and of caravans

During 2022-23 Tollerton Parish Council focused on improvements requested by residents in the parish plan. The Council's budget is aligned to support this work and has funded short term actions and longer-term projects from the Parish Plan that included the following **achievements**:

- Village Centre – The Parish Council commenced work on the Village Centre Strategy to consolidate community meeting spaces; improve the offer; and support a vibrant economically successful village centre. During the year this has included renovation of rotting windows on the parish rooms to create a more attractive lettable space that will be used to support local business.

The village centre continued to be used as a focal point for community events, making use of the new Jubilee beacon and with support from the community trust, community pub, methodist church and shops. The Parish Council hosted a local proclamation of the accession in the village centre.

- Old Village – Following a protracted application planning consent has been obtained from Rushcliffe Borough Council for repairs to the stonework of the war memorial. This will be completed in 2023 by a professional stonemason, partly funded by a heritage grant. The parish council have also installed a new power supply to support the outdoor section of the annual remembrance service.

- Open Space – The Open Space continues to be well used and regular maintenance has taken place throughout the year to keep all the equipment in good condition. Recognising the interest in youth football in the village, the pitch is now marked for 9 a side as well as 11 a side matches and new 9 a side goals have been well used since councillors put them together.
- Village boundaries / Airport – Significant progress has been made during the year to take the comments and views of Tollerton residents and translate them into a draft Neighbourhood Plan to guide future development in the parish. Statutory and key stakeholders were consulted on the draft plan which has now been submitted to Rushcliffe Borough Council.

In addition, the Parish Council:

- Led the community response to the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II including coordinating activity in Tollerton as part of Operation London Bridge; and supporting events to mark the Coronation of King Charles III.
- Successfully applied to the County Council and secure funding for a *lengthsman* to work around the village. The Parish Council also commissioned an independent pay review of staffing at the Council to ensure that job roles meet the Parish Council's needs and receive appropriate remuneration.

Looking to 2023 the Parish Council's has three core projects to further actions from the Parish Plan:

- **Active Tollerton** - Increasing opportunities for residents of all ages and families to access sport, exercise and play in Tollerton. Initial funding has been secured for the next stage of improvements to the Open Space that include provision of a composing toilet, improved storage and energy supply to support the Village Fayre. The changing rooms on the open space are also reaching end of life and will be replaced as part of the project.
- **Your Tollerton** - Developing a hub for village life focused around the Community Pub, Methodist Church, Parish Rooms/Shops and Green Space. The Parish Council expects to bring forward proposals to enhance and improve meeting facilities and support long term sustainability of community buildings. The Council will also support the shops to improve the appearance of the village centre, provide further planting and instal a feature to commemorate the Coronation of King Charles III.
- **Greener Tollerton** – A community led approach to protecting the environment, developing sustainable village life and sensitive housing growth around Tollerton. Next year the Parish Council expects to see the Neighbourhood Plan move through the final stages to a community referendum and will make the case for the needs of the parish in any planning processes for the strategic site around Tollerton airport.

Councillor Matt Garrard

Chairman of the Parish Council

May 2023