

# NORTON- IN-HALES ANUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 2017

## Chairman's Report

It has been a steady year for the Parish Council without too much controversy compared with the previous few years, I think solid progress has been made in the Parish , there are many groups in the Village who all contribute to make the Norton a pleasant place to live , I would like to take this opportunity to thank them all for their work whether it is on the sports field or the Bloom Group or the Friends of Norton, the Church , the School , or the Pub

The main issue that has taxed the Parish Council for the last 9 months has been the Market Drayton Neighbourhood Plan which appears to want to encroach onto the adjoining Parishes of Norton , Adderley and Moreton Say. We have done our best to uphold Norton's views and we will have to see the outcome of the Inspectors report in the autumn. Norton , Adderley and Moreton Say have registered an interest in doing a neighbourhood plan for the 3 Parishes. I am very grateful to Councillor Paul Nash from Adderley for all his hard work and commitment. The current situation is that the 3 Parishes have expressed an interest to do a plan but we are waiting for the outcome of the Market Drayton plan before we progress the application because some of their plans will significantly affect our plan. I would like to ask for people to support our plan with thoughts as to how they want the area to develop. The significance of having a Neighbourhood Plan is twofold, firstly it would be an important part of Shropshire Council's consideration on planning matters, this will be very relevant in the next Shropshire Development Plan as the north east of Shropshire is earmarked for future development because of our proximity to HS2. Secondly it will increase our CIL receipts from any future developments from 15% to 25%

On the subject of CIL contributions, the first payment of £5900 has just been received with our precept for this year, next year we expect to receive £20.000+ as the new houses are built. It is the Parish Council's current plan to use these monies to build a community car park behind the Bus Shelter in conjunction with the Hinds Head, hopefully this benefit Main Road the School, the Hinds and the Church

The new Parish council takes over tonight, I would like to say a sincere thank you to the Councillors who have retired for all their hard work and commitment over the last 4 years .I find it very disappointing that only 3 people were prepared to stand for election, we need some volunteers please, it is not an onerous task to help

Going forward, I am concerned about the state of Shropshire Council and its commitment to Parish Councils I don't see how it can continue to fund Councils at current levels and I find its current level of service to be very poor particularly the planning department, they don't answer calls , don't take into consideration our views and thoughts on planning matters i.e. the footpath on the Norton Farm site only going half way to the Horseywash

Finally, I would like to say a sincere thank you to our Clerk Melanie Joyce for all her work in trying to keep us on the straight and narrow, being very patient with me in particular. She has done a great job for the Parish

