

TATTERSHALL THORPE JUBILEE GROUP

2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT

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The year began with a huge surge in cases of the Corona Virus, resulting in yet another national lockdown with the closure of schools, pubs and all non essential shops and businesses where people might gather. The home schooling of pupils was more organised this time as the closure was to be for an extended period. There were several cases of the virus within the village although thankfully no deaths. The standby Mortuary that was constructed during the first lockdown in the spring of 2020 on the Old Woodhall Airfield Site was brought into use for the first time. The first of the newly developed Covid Vaccines became available at the end of December 2020, and by the end of January 2021 most of those over 80 years had received their first dose. By the end of April all those over 50 years had been offered their first vaccine injection and the slow return to some kind of normality began. Children returned to school on 8th March.



Village display

The Union Flag was flown at half mast on the death of Captain Tom Moore. His memorable fundraising walk at the age of 100 years will no doubt go down in history. To raise £32,000,000 for the NHS is surely an unbeatable sum. A considerable number of residents stood outside and clapped for him at 6pm 3rd February, in appreciation of his remarkable achievement. Sadly only a few weeks later the flag was again lowered to half mast on the death of Prince Phillip, Duke of Edinburgh. The Government has recently issued a directive that the Union Flag should be flown

on a daily basis throughout the year. We will therefore continue to fly the flag during the winter months.

Our Annual Parish Meeting for Thorpe was the first of the village events to be cancelled due to Covid last year, and alas the same will happen again this year. A complete 12 months without any village social event. We did in fact hold a meeting, as it is a legal requirement to do so but it had to be on zoom. Whilst this did meet our obligations it really was not a satisfactory alternative as many of our residents are not familiar with this method of communication, and for those that are it was not possible to announce the entry codes more than a few days in advance. There were only 8 people on the computer screen, a far cry from 27 that came to our last Parish Meeting at the Camp. Over the last 18 months there has been quite a sizeable movement of people within the village and many new residents. Unfortunately because of lockdown restrictions many have remained strangers to us, as soon as the covid restrictions relax we will endeavour to resume our programme of social functions. Two important planning applications were discussed at the meeting, one for the relocation of the local waste recycling facility and the other for some expansion of Tattershall Farm Park. No major objection were raised at the meeting. However subsequently our residents on Kirkby Lane raised concern on the proximity of the new Recycling Site to their properties. These concerns were duly communicated to East Lindsey District Council. The issue of the access road to the Farm Park has also been raised.



Judging day

We are again entered in the East Midlands in Bloom Competition this year. Last year it was cancelled because of lockdown, and this year there are considerable changes to judging day. This time there is to be only be one judge. There was no social coffee morning to meet the judge and no accompanying of the judge around the village. The inspection of the village took place in the first half of July. Unfortunately it was a very wet day and the village and plants looked far from their best, with the bus shelter and the corner of North Road both flooded. I am sure the judge will make allowance for that. The results will be announced in November. The arrangements have not suited us well, because the organisers now require a large amount of written and photographic evidence prior to judging. The annual village spring clean was arranged for Sunday 27th June, with particular attention being paid to the two bus shelters and the Old Chapel areas. There was a fairly good turnout of helpers on the day and most of the most pressing jobs were achieved and the village looked as good as possible in a mornings work.



Railway day

Mark's Railway Day was again a resounding success, with a good attendance of residents, caravaners and others who had been visiting Thorpe Camp 1940s Weekend. It was the first large social function since the start of the Covid crisis. Police did visit the site during the day to check that we were not contravening any lockdown regulations. It was a lovely sunny day and was greatly enjoyed by all.

In mid July Weston Power arrived in Chapel Lane to replace all the electricity poles and electrical cables carrying power to the homes. The work should have been started in January but on the very day they were about to start it snowed and they had to abandon us to deal with emergencies. The whole operation of installing new poles and cabling took just 3 days. The new poles are taller and the old 4 electric wires have been replaced by one larger multiple cable. The poles that were removed had been installed 50 years ago, in 1972 to be precise. Having the road closed for 3 days was a delight with no traffic.



Western power

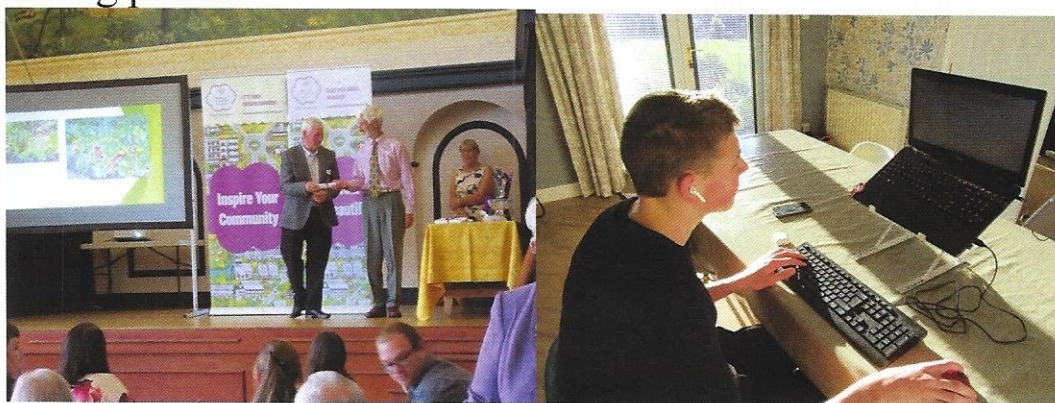
Mark Smith in conjunction with Thorpe Camp organised a talk and presentation by the Battle of Britain Commander, Squadron Leader Mark Driscombe AFC. The tickets were £6 which included refreshments. The talk ranged from the original setting up of the squadron to the present time and the pilots flying the various planes. There was also time for an informative question and answer session at the end of the evening which everyone enjoyed.

Two music festivals have taken place during August at Scholey Park. Both were considerably smaller than those which have used the site in the past and much less noisy. With very few complaints being recorded.

Annpasture Lane has had a facelift. Over a period of many years it has slowly been reduced to a narrow footway and in places blocked with brambles. During the summer, Andy Fitter and Dan Martin set about restoring the lane to its former state. After

many hours of hard graft it is now back to a wide pathway. A true act of community spirit. Well done.

Our Meet the Neighbours event took place on 1st September. It was the first community gathering since January 2020 and it was great to have the opportunity to meet up with every body once again. It was a very successful event with well over fifty residents attending. A ham and chine supper was served, followed by a cheese cake for desert and tea or coffee. Musical entertainment was provided by Debbie Dalglish. The Bluebell Trophy for the best kept garden was presented to Mark and Jean Smith for their outstanding display of summer bedding plants.



Prize giving EMIB

Home Schooling

I mentioned earlier in this report that the EMIB results would be announced in November, needless to say I got it wrong. The annual presentation of certificates took place in Grimsby at the end of September. Basically our scores were in line with previous years. There was an extremely comprehensive write up on the village as to location, amenities and general appearance. Plus of course the usual list of suggested improvements, many of which are not very practical in our context, but on the whole it was quite encouraging. The one area that comes up every year is the participation of children, we do have some ideas but if any resident has any suggestions perhaps we could discuss them at the Annual Parish Meeting in early May.

A Macmillan Nurse, coffee and cake, fundraising event was held at the Blue Bell at the end of September. It was very well

supported with the bar area jam packed with people, and a selection of cakes on offer to make any baker jealous. Rumour has it that around £350 was made on the day.

This year in preparation for Remembrance the lampposts and Village Sign were decorated with large poppies and an image of a serving soldier was installed in front of the Memorial. The Service took place at 12noon with possibly the largest attendance of residents in recent times. Well done everyone. Tea coffee and mince pies were on offer at Betty Harvey's afterwards. After last years' informal gathering it was lovely to see the community out and about again.



Remembrance day

Road improvements took place in early December at the junction of Pauls Lane and the Main Road, the aim being to reduce the width of the road in order to make a safer crossing for pedestrians. They also renewed the old worn out footway on either side of the new crossing point. The speed limit on the Main Road all through the village is due to be changed from 40 to 30. The new 30 restriction will operate from the Woodhall side of North Road all the way through the village as far as Carwood Crescent.

The Christmas tree proved much easier to erect this year. Being able to use the pole of the speeding device to hold it upright. was a major bonus. With extra lights this year it really looked impressive.



Putting up the Christmas tree

The Jubilee Committee would like to thank all residents who help to keep our village such a lovely place to live, and especially those who helped out during the autumn when one of our key men was taken poorly and was unable to maintain the public areas for a couple months. Hopefully a near normal service will resume next year with the possibility that the Parish Council will takeover at least some, if not all, of the grass cutting. The Parish Council will also be stripping down the bench adjacent to the Chapel and repainting it. They will also be applying a wood preservative to the War Memorial Gates.

2022 will be another Queen's Jubilee and to celebrate we are planning to install 2 new flower planters to replace the 2 old damaged ones. We shall also be lighting the beacon on the appointed day to coincide with the rest of the country. Plans are also in progress to organise an event at the Camp which will take place on the weekend following the Jubilee.

The year seems to be ending much as it began, Covid everywhere. TAKE CARE KEEP SAFE.



Talkt by Squadron Leader Mark Driscombe