



**TATTERSHALL THORPE JUBILEE
GROUP**

2023–2024 ANNUAL REPORT

JUBILEE GROUP ANNUAL REPORT 2023 – 2024

Welcome to the annual report for the past year. Now that the threat of Covid has receded, it is hoped that life can return to some sort of normality.

Continuing from last year with the painting of the North Road billboard, the Jubilee Group installed some solar powered lighting in order to maximise the visual impact, especially so since we moved the tree from the centre of the bed to a new site adjacent to the bus shelter. We waited with some anticipation to see if it would survive the move, and thankfully as spring came around buds and leaves appeared and all seemed to be well.

Early in the spring the Blue Bell was put on the market for sale. It was eventually bought by a group of long time residents who intend to run it as a community based amenity. Its takeover was accompanied by a considerable amount of publicity, which certainly increased the footfall and caused considerable parking problems in the short term. The new owners managed to purchase the adjoining field in order to extend the parking area. However it soon became apparent that the field was very wet and became very muddy quickly and a proper hard surface had to be laid. This did provoke some objection and the District Council Enforcement Officer did visit the site but found no problem. The field has now been made available for the use of the community and will be a great asset to the village.



The Annual Parish Meeting took place a little earlier than usual because of the local elections in early May. Some 25 residents attended the event, and a wide range of subjects were discussed including the ongoing state of the Old Forge, the continuing turning of lorries from the quarry over the island on North Road, and the state of the drainage through Carr

Wood which is causing the local ditches to be permanently full of water which cannot drain away. There was also a lengthy debate about the legality of the Parish Meeting itself. In all probability the Parish Meeting will continue in some guise, legal advice has been sought.

The local elections did not take place in our area as there were insufficient candidates to fill all the vacancies. Betty Harvey and Norman Leggate did not stand for re-election and our District Councillor Stan Avison also retired. They have been replaced by Neville Edwards and James Knowles who is also our new District Councillor. Serv Coulber is the only remaining previous Parish Councillor.



The Coronation of King Charles

The Coronation of King Charles was celebrated in the village on May 8th. The Post Box was resplendent with its topping of a crown. Our main event on the day took place on the Blue Bell field. The Jubilee Group and the Blue Bell Management combined to put on a fete with entertainment. It was officially opened by our MP Victoria Atkins at 1pm and it closed at 11pm that evening. There were various stalls, a very popular dog show, a dog agility display and a large show of Classic Cars. Entertainment was provided by the Dream Belles and the Ukelele Band with more music for the evening. A Coronation Cake was cut and distributed during the afternoon. Drinks and refreshments were served by the Blue Bell. It proved to be an extremely successful day despite the weather not being at its best. The whole event was open to all and was entirely free.





The Coronation of King Charles

From mid May onwards the planting of the summer bedding begins. It never ceases to amaze me the sheer number of plants required to make a decent show. To get them to be in bloom for early July they really do need to be planted out in good time.

The weather for Mark's Train Day was not the best, cool and windy, which was quite disappointing as so much effort goes into the organising of the event. However there was a good attendance of local people although many did not stay too long, but most did boost his sales of Tea, cake and burgers. Overall the day was judged a great success.



EMIB Judging Day

The judging of the village for the EMIB competition took place on July 11th. The format for the event was the same as in previous years, with 1 hour allowed to view the village with a few minutes before and after to look at any photos and documentation and generally chat to any residents present. Unfortunately 10 days before, a considerable quantity of plants disappeared one night from North Road and had to be quickly replaced. This year the judge had time to spare before his next assignment and was happy to stay a little longer to enjoy coffee and cake and some social chit chat. We will not know the result from his visit until late September, but credit to everyone who ensured that the village looked at its best on the

day. Five large baskets containing flowering begonias disappeared from outside Days Done in mid September.



New Notice Board



Receiving EMIB Winners Trophy



Meet the Neighbours

Our annual Meet the Neighbours was held on 23rd September this year, the format being roughly the same as in previous years. The total comfortable capacity of the building is 60 persons and the tickets quickly sold out, disappointing some who left it late in applying. An excellent meal with choice of desert was served, with background music provided by Nigel and Terri. A couple of days earlier Steve Wattam and Serv Coulber attended the annual awards presentation of East Midlands in Bloom and this year much to our surprise the Village came first in its category and much our delight we returned with a Trophy to present at Meet the Neighbours. Steve also presented a framed picture to Mark Smith in recognition of all his fund raising for the Village. Mark has now disposed of his model railway. The Blue Bell garden trophy this year went to Mandy Jagger.

Two Macmillan coffee mornings took place during September, one at the Cattery early in the month on a pleasant sunny morning, with the cats all looking out at the residents, and the residents looking in at the cats. A

similar event took place at the Blue Bell towards the end of the month. Both were very successful.

A meeting was held in the pub in mid October to discuss the management of the village upkeep and flowering areas, as Serv Coulber feels that now is the time to pass the baton to others. Some progress was made and a further meeting is to be held in January. The Blue Bell is proposing to fund the purchase of any plants required through fund raising



Remembrance Day

Our Remembrance Service this year took place on Saturday 11th November, instead of the normal Sunday, because of a shortage in the availability of clergy. Attendance was as good as ever and coffee and cake was on offer at the Blue Bell afterwards, which was much appreciated.

Our Christmas Tree was put up in its usual spot. The temptation is to install it earlier in line with many others, but we stuck with our tried and tested format. The erecting of the tree can be quite a social occasion, with residents passing and offering help or maybe 'advice', but that is what community is all about.

Now we all look forward to 2024.

Our thanks to NB Law for the printing of this report.