

# **ROSSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

### **YEAR ENDING 31/3/2007**

This report covers four areas :

- 1 Matters raised by the Public at last years Annual Parish Meeting**
- 2 Progress during the last year**
- 3 Concerns**
- 4 Future**

- 1 Matters raised by the Public at last years Annual Parish Meeting.**  
The major views expressed last year by Electors were to do with :

- **police attendance / police performance**

every year both public and councillors express dissatisfaction over the lack of attendance of SY Police at parish council meetings and poor response times to reported incidents.

Regrettably, during 2006/07 the perception is that police service levels in Rossington have deteriorated further despite representations made.

- **anti-social behaviour**

the parish council continues to report anti social behaviour to the police and to DMBC.

- **pit closure**

during past months assurances have been sought from UK Coal to preserve colliery mementoes including the winding house date plaques and a winding wheel.

- **Memorial Hall**

there have been problems over the construction and alignment of the new upstairs floor and staircase, but a new architect has recommended new details for submission of both, for building regulation approval. When these are confirmed, a finished level can be passed on to the disabled lift manufacturer for their construction and fitting. Security and vandalism remain a concern for this area, including the library and housing office. A joint approach of the police, DMBC, the Memorial Hall and this parish council may help to reduce these threats, but it is an uphill struggle when faced with a few individuals who have a limited understanding of right and wrong, and the consequences for normal people, who have to live and work with this anti-social behaviour.

- 2 Progress during the last year.**

During 2006/07 the parish council helped support :

- **Further Memorial Hall Works including a new heating system and provision for a lift for the disabled**
- **Extension of the opening of the market public toilet from two to six days a week**
- **A proposal for a Cliff Rhodes History Walk**
- **Grants, Donations, Support** - During 2006/2007 the Parish Council has provided a range of financial support to improve the well-being of Rossington and its residents :

	£
Young People	
• DMBC Library Summer Activities	150
• Rossington Juvenile Angling Club	500
• 3 <sup>rd</sup> Doncaster Scout Group	400
• Girl Guiding	400
Elderly	
• Age Concern	150
• Rossington Day Service	225
Disabled	
• Aquacise Instructor Training	250
Environmental	
• Council to Protect Rural England	26
• Open Spaces Society	30
• Allotments Prizes	120
• Rossington Environmental Association	366
Cultural	
• Rossington Male Voice Choir	250
• Rossington Ex Services Club	50
Charities	
• Civic Charity Fund	100
• Cancer Research	110
• Doncaster & Bassetlaw Childrens Fund	55
Community Events	
• Christmas Event	2332
• Christmas Lights Competition	100
• Radburn TARA Gala	250
• Rossington Community Carnival	1000
• Themed Walk Booklets	33

### 3 Concerns

- **Local Development Framework**

Parish council resolutions on the future of green belt intrusion by housing developments were made to DMBC as part of the new LDF consultation, before its closure period ended, a year last February. It now seems that period has been extended to include further property developer proposals. Long debate has taken place within this chamber on the item.

- **Rossington Level Crossing**

A parish council survey on the level crossing for a full working day revealed the full extent of the problem, highlighting the division of the two village halves by the protracted closures. As we all know, these interruptions cause business and domestic delays, but more importantly, delays to emergency services with the potential life threatening consequences. Network Rail seem oblivious to these concerns, but incidentally, this parish council did not back my previous proposal for a feasibility study on an underpass. The main objections being, the ensuing reduction in bargaining power for a motorway link road if our main domestic obstacle for village cohesion and delays, the station gates, was removed.

- **Withdrawal of Police Station Services**

This was a unilateral decision that was opposed by the parish council.

- **Rights of Way / Footpaths**

There is still the apparent ongoing legal dispute over Toad Holes Lane which when resolved would allow us to complete the Upper Torne Way Walk

- **The loss of the Sita Barrow Man**

We have written to the Mayor about this but to no effect.

### 4 Future

- **Community Spending Proposals**

At its February 2006 meeting the parish council resolved to progress a wide range of schemes.

- Seats

- Dog Bins

- Waste Bins

- Extend Public Toilet opening hours

- St Michaels Cenotaph Seat, planters and fencing

- Encourage schools to develop wild life gardens

- Encourage participation in 'Doncaster in Bloom'

Memorial Hall enhancements  
Extend Skate Park in Partnership with Youth Club  
Re-establish hedge rows along various footpaths  
Brick Pond enhancements  
Upper Torne Way footpath and bridge  
Picnic Areas  
Rights of way / footpath enhancements

Progress has been made on some of these schemes in 2006/07 and it is hoped to build on this during 2007/08.

- **New Code of Conduct**

The Code will be welcomed by this parish council to ensure all members act in accordance, with impartiality and fairness on behalf of the full community, and build on the traditions of this great village of which I have been proud to represent as Chairman for these past five years.

Rossington Parish Council looks forward to 2007/08.

Chairman

*Eddy Jones*