



With careful planning and budgeting we have been able to keep the parish element of your council tax at the same level. Council continues to set aside monies for street lighting. We have eighteen 80 watt mercury street lights in the village. These lights will need to be replaced with more energy efficient lights following changes in legislation and mercury lamps no longer being available for purchase from suppliers.

#### Playing Field

Our close working relationship with the 'Friends of the Playing Field' group continues to thrive ensuring the playing field remains well kept and maintained for the benefit of all. I could not report for the year without special mention and thanks to Georgina Carter and Michelle Wharton from the group who devote so much of their time to the upkeep of the playing field and for co-ordinating the fundraising efforts. The 'Friends' held tidy days in July and October and just before Easter this year. Each morning was well attended by a great team of volunteers who helped with the gardening, sterilising the sand pit, turning the bark and pruning the shrubs. The volunteers were rewarded for their hard work with bacon sandwiches kindly provided by Scaldwell Men's Breakfast Club. The council is sincerely grateful to all who help at the playing field. A big thank you must go to Lorraine Blackall who steps down from the rota of weekly inspections after having undertaken them for some years for us. A welcome is extended to Stella Simons who will be joining the rota.

#### Membership and representation

The council remains a member of the National and County Association of Local Councils and our Clerk is a member of the Society for Local Council Clerks. These organisations offer help and support to Clerks and Councillors and are invaluable to us in keeping us up to date with developments and legislation. As a village with a conservation area and with increasing development within the County we are also members of CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England) and ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England). We also have representation on the Village Hall Committee, the Parish Trust, the Relief in Need Charity, the Thomas Roe Foundation and Neighbourhood Watch. We are also very grateful to our Footpath Warden, Diane Kimbell and our Tree Warden, Dylan Lewis.

#### Meetings and general activities

The council held 6 statutory meetings during the year including the Annual Parish Meeting. In addition we held 6 extra meetings during the months of July, August, December and April to allow consideration of planning applications

Meetings are held in the Village Hall and we welcome all parishioners. We always provide an opportunity for questions or comments to be raised. We are very grateful to our District Councillors, Ian Barratt, Kevin Parker and Nick Bunting, who attend meetings whenever they are able and are a vital link for us with the District Council. At a county level we extend our gratitude to our County Councillor, Cecile Irving-Swift.

As I report to this Annual Parish Meeting we are a council of only 4, and have 3 vacancies. At the uncontested elections Michael Alcock, Annie Curtis, Jenny Lewis and Joan Randall stood down. On behalf of council I would like to offer a very big thank you to them for their hard work, support and commitment; between them, Michael, Annie, Jenny and Joan have given almost 50 years service to the village.

We have new councillors on board and offer a warm welcome to Matthew Wharton and Phil Purcell. My report is only a summary of our activities during the year but should you wish to learn more about the role and work of the Council further details can be found on our website or by contacting any of the Councillors or the Clerk.

4. **To receive report from Scaldwell Parish Council Clerk covering the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2016.**  
The accounts were included within the Parish Council's Annual Report. The Clerk had reported to council and council had approved the annual accounts earlier that evening at the AGM so it was agreed further report was not necessary.
5. **To receive reports from the County/District Councillors.**  
None.
6. **To receive reports from the village groups and organisations.**  
**The Foundation of Thomas Roe.** The current trustees are Mr R A Turney, Mr R King, Cllr C Irving Swift (NCC), Cllr Vinton (Scaldwell PC), Cllr Long (Scaldwell PC), Mr Richard Monk and Cllr Parker (Brixworth). Meetings were held April and September. Total income for the year amounted to £2,413, administration and expenses amounted to £484.92 and grants were made to 8 individuals

totalling £2,340.

#### **Neighbourhood Watch.**

Report from Sue Dodds-Smith.

We have a new Police Community Support Office, Matt Taylor, and I now receive numerous emails detailing crimes committed in the area. I have quite a few village email addresses and am not sure if I should circulate some of the emails. It was suggested that we could ask, in the newsletter, if people wanted the information to let me know.

We had one instance when a villager was concerned about a vehicle, which was driving slowly through the village and looking at the properties. The villager thought the vehicle and occupants were acting suspiciously. The police were informed and a flyer was distributed around the village to warn inhabitants to be aware.

I do not know of any other incidents and the web site indicates that statistics for our area are not available at the moment. I try to include all relevant information received in the newsletter.

#### **Parish Trust.**

Report from Sue Dodds-Smith.

During the year the Trustees have made grants to the PCC towards the upkeep of the churchyard, The Scaldwell Club towards the firework display and the Senior Citizens' Christmas Dinner, The Playing Field Committee for the Family Fun Day and grants towards the cost of the Newsletter and to the Mens' Breakfast Club. The value of the investments as at 31<sup>st</sup> January 2016 totalled £26,924.

#### **Relief in Need.**

Report from Sue Dodds-Smith.

One grant was applied for in 2015 and the annual Christmas Gift to senior citizens was distributed and the Bread Service was held in the Church. The value of investments as at 31<sup>st</sup> January 2016 totalled £18,706.

#### **Friends of the Playing Field.**

Report from Georgina Carter.

The Friends held Tidy Days in July and October last year and just before Easter this year. Each morning has been well attended by a great team of volunteers who helped with the gardening, sterilizing the sand pit, turning the bark and pruning the shrubs. The volunteers were rewarded for their hard work with bacon sandwiches kindly provided by Scaldwell Men's Breakfast Club and drinks provided by Michelle.

Two swing seats had to be replaced as the old ones had splits in the rubber. Some screws in the see-saw ride have also been replaced but may have to have more work done in the future.

We have been fund raising to replenish play sand in the sand pit. We held a February Family Fun Day in the Village Hall with games for all the family and teas and cakes on offer. Michelle worked incredibly hard to come up with games ideas and presentation. We had team of volunteers helping with the stalls.

The Easter Egg Hunt fell on the worst day of the year weather wise. We had kind sponsorship from M & S and Northampton Pets, Brixworth. We had an amazing turn out considering the weather.

Lorraine Blackall has stepped down from the weekly safety check due to family commitments. Stella, who is new to the village, has agreed to help out. Stella and Georgina spent a morning at the playing field with the Wicksteed inspector to familiarise themselves with all the safety aspects of different play equipment that needs to be checked each week.

The next Tidy Day is Sunday 17th July.

#### **Scaldwell Club.**

Report from the Chairman, Paul Amstice.

This is my second report as Chairman of Scaldwell Club and the second of my three year maximum term as Chairman completed. I would like to start by thanking each member of the committee for their continued hard work and support during the year. We seem to have had a team of secretaries this year and I would like to thank June, Cheryl and Michelle for their various inputs into the role. I would also like to thank Jackie for her continued diligence as Treasurer. My thanks go to all the volunteers that serve behind the bar in order to keep this club running and providing an essential service to the village and in particular to David Keir for his cellar work. I would like to place on record the clubs thanks to June who is standing down this year for all the hard work she has put into the club whilst serving on the committee.

This year the financial statement shows that sales have increased over the year although profits on sales are down a bit on last year. This is mainly due to the fact that the club has held its prices at a constant level for the last two and half years and has absorbed the increases in prices by Green King and the other suppliers. It looks likely that the committee will need to review its prices in the coming year.

The club has continued put on social events during the year for the benefit of the village and most of these have been well supported by the villagers. Our Quiz Night was yet again a very enjoyable evening and I would like to thank Peter and Julie Barfoot for all the hard work they put into preparing the Quiz. Unfortunately both were ill on the night of the Quiz and were unable to run the evening. Our French themed food night planned for July was cancelled through lack of numbers. On reviewing the situation the committee decided not to organise any further themed food evenings as the feeling was that they have run their course for the moment. On the positive side, we held two Friday Night Family Food evenings, one in October and the second last month in April. Both were very well attended and great hits, the latter included a fancy dress competition for the children to celebrate the Queen's birthday, Shakespeare's 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death and St George's Day. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone that cooked food and helped by serving and washing up at the events.

Not all events take place in the Village Hall and yet again we held a summer 'Picnic on the Green' event on the village green and our Firework display on the village playing field. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Parish Council for allowing us to use the village green and the playing field for our outdoor events. Once again the highlight of the summer event was the entertainment provided by Ollie May and his group. The firework display was also a great evening and I would like to thank David, Martin and Peter for setting off the fireworks. This year we bought single fused boxed displays rather than individual rockets and mortars. This made letting the fireworks off easier and safer and the consensus of opinion was the overall display was smoother and more spectacular. I would also like to thank all the ladies that who cooked and helped to sell soup and burgers, Neville for providing the generators, Paul for making the guy and all the committee members for erecting and dismantling the marquees.

Christmas would not be Christmas without our annual Senior Citizens' Christmas meal and Christmas starters. Once again thanks are due to Claire Worth for the efficient way she organises the meal and for all the cooks in the village that prepare the food and the committee members that serve it and wash up afterwards. I would also like to thank Scaldwell Charity for its kind donation towards the cost of the Christmas meal. Christmas Starter is always hugely popular and this year was no exception. I would like to thank all the committee members for their hard work in collecting prizes for the tombola and auction and particularly to David for acting as auctioneer and for June in preparing and running the tombola stall. I would also like to thank Father Christmas who managed to fit both events into his busy Christmas schedule.

Storage of some of the club's ancillary equipment has become a problem this year. A proposal to the PC to erect another shed on the playing field to store the marquees was modified by them making it impractical and so further discussions are on-going. We now have to find a new home to store the club's heated trolley now that Martin and Hayley May are leaving the village. I would like to place on record the club's thanks to both of them for all the effort they have put into the running of the club over many years.

#### **Village Hall Management Committee.**

Report from the Temporary Chairman, Russell Vann,

I once again present this report on behalf of the Scaldwell Village Hall Management Committee, as temporary Chairman.

The hall has had a high level of use this year and in particular the yoga sessions are very popular. This has resulted in the accumulation of a surplus in the bank account. The maintenance carried out in the previous years has resulted in a very low level of necessary maintenance this year. The only real issues relate to the disposal of fat in the kitchen sink, which has resulted in additional expenditure on plumbing and the planned replacement of the light bulbs for LED lightbulbs. The latter expenditure should result in extended intervals between light bulb changes and a decreased overall cost, although the initial cost is not insubstantial (both cost will appear in next year's accounts).

The committee have worked hard this year to ensure that the hall is maintained to a level appropriate to the needs of the users. We are in need of additional volunteers to work on the committee to ensure that the high standard of the hall is maintained.

The secretary Janine Hughes is resigning this year and we would welcome a volunteer to take on her duties. I should like to thank Janine for her work as secretary, keeping everything in order.

I should also like to thank the other committee members for their efforts in running the hall administration and fundraising.

#### **Parochial Church Council.**

7. **To take questions and receive comments from parishioners regarding Scaldwell Parish.**  
None.