

OCKBROOK AND BORROWASH PARISH COUNCIL

2018 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

WEDNESDAY 16 MAY 2018

REPORT BY THE CHAIRMAN

It was with great pride and an honour to be nominated for the position of Chairman of Ockbrook & Borrowash Parish Council in October 2017.

Stepping into the shoes of my predecessor Councillor Mike Wallis was always going to be a daunting challenge as he tirelessly worked for this Parish Council and its parishoners. and still does.

A personal thank you to Councillor Mike Wallis and indeed all Councillors for the support given to me in the early days of my Chairmanship.

Looking back over the last 12 months I think the most talked about topic has been the transformation of both villages since the appointment of Wayne Peapell, as our consultant horticulturist.

A significant investment by The Parish Council is now paying dividends as we see both villages bursting into bloom and a completely different landscape to what we had a few years ago.

After consultation with local school children the Parish now has its own flag that flies proudly in both villages.

The 2017 Christmas light switch on went extremely well in both villages with record crowds at both events.

The Christmas light switch on in Borrowash was jointly organised with Ashbrook Community Group.

In the summer, Ashbrook Community Group with the support of the Parish Council, organised an open-air cinema experience in Borrowash which was extremely well attended.

They used the funds raised to hire Santa's reindeer, sleigh and grotto for the evening to make it a truly spectacular event.

This was a great example of community spirit which should be roundly applauded.

As I write this report after weeks of very hard work by Councillor Jules – Frazer Burton our new website goes live and what a brilliant job she has done. Thank you so much Jules for all of your hard work.

we continue to support Ashbrook Youth Group and Borrowbrook Home Link financially, both organisations need our help in such challenging times.

Remembrance Sunday on 11th November will have significant importance as it will be exactly 100 years since the guns fell silent in the Great War that lasted from 28th July 1914 to 11th November 1918.

We must do our part in making sure those that gave their lives in all conflicts so that we can now live in peace are remembered on that day.

Now the icing on the cake. Thanks to the hard work of Councillor Mike Wallis over a significant period of time it now looks like our plans to take over the running of Ashbrook Community Centre should come to fruition in just a matter of days.

There is a lot of hard work required to bring the building back into a safe usable state but we can now see the light at the end of the tunnel.

This will be a great asset to the Parish and I look forward to seeing the building back into regular use in a matter of weeks and months.

Finally, can I thank every single Parish Councillor for your support and look forward to working with you all for the next 12 months.

The Parish Council are doing an amazing job, let's not let negative people or their comments spoil this.

Michael White

Chairman

Ockbrook and Borrowash Parish Council