

## **CHORLEY PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - 2018/ 2019**

We remain only 5 members of the council and I would like to thank Margaret Rainey, Kim Maxwell, Simon Watkins and Richard Barraclough for their continued support over the last 12 month .All members of the council have been successfully re-elected in the May election.

At the last AGM Kim took on the role of Vice Chair as well as having input into Highways matters and the Chorley Chat/Website.

Margaret continued in her role with the Lindow Trust and Airport Liaison, giving us a report after each meeting.

Richard took on the role of Footpaths and Tree Warden.

Simon took on responsibility for the Website and getting our new Council E Mails up and running. All 5 members now have input to Planning Issues, although Margaret continues to take the lead.

I attend meetings with the Police and Crime Commissioner, Town and Parish Conferences and ChALC AGM where I am accompanied by Kim.

Our Clerk Ashley Comiskey Dawson has now been with us for just over 18 months and has proved to be a valuable asset to the council .Ashley has brought a wealth of experience to the council and has access to a number of useful contacts within CEC.

Gary Barton and Ellie Brookes have both continued as our Ward Councillors, taking up issues with CEC on our behalf. I would like to thank them for their support. Both have now lost their seats in the May Election and will be replaced by Mark Goldsmith and Iain Macfarlane.

PCSO, James Morris regularly attends our meetings and if not available provides us with an update by E Mail. James has proved to be very helpful with any issues we have raised with him, and makes regular patrols within Chorley. Residents are having issues with parked cars along from the roundabout and James is keeping an eye on the situation.

### **We have had a number of successes over the last 12 months.**

Our lighting upgrade to LED lighting is in progress thanks to funding we received last year and hopefully when that is complete we will be in a position to have the lighting adopted by CEC. Failing that we should at least be able to reduce the running costs which have now risen to over £100 a month by having more energy efficient lighting.

We have a new Noticeboard and a new Chorley Sign soon to be erected again funded by a donation from a developer.

We have had a lot of patching done at last to the Road surface both at the Roundabout and along the length of Knutsford Road.

We have a new SID which we move to various locations along Knutsford Road, this gathers statistics which we then pass on to our PCSO who then carries out speed checks based on the information received. Long term these statistics will be passed on to CEC as we still have concerns about the speed of traffic along the road. We are still trying to get volunteers to man a speed gun.

### **We have also had a number of disappointments over the year.**

The blocked drain at the Roundabout has still not been repaired although I believe action is now imminent.

The white lines at the end of Dingle Avenue have not been re-painted following patching work.

The Cemetery Gatehouse still stands empty and neglected although Councillor Brooks now believes action is to be taken by CEC to sell the property.

My biggest disappointment has been that we have still not managed to recruit new councillors despite efforts being made to advertise the fact that we are short of numbers.

This has been my eighth year as Chairman, making a total of 14 years that I have been in the chair.