

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR AGM**  
**2016/2017**

The Parish Council have retained their representation on the national association of Local Councils, Yorkshire Local Councils Association Executive board, northern group of parish councils, strategic development, finance and general purposes committees of Yorkshire local councils Rural action Yorkshire and Yorkshire in Bloom.

I have represented the council at the following events, NALC conference, Yorkshire Day held in Halifax, Yorkshire in Bloom awards ceremony, Harrogate in Bloom awards ceremony, Harrogate's civic service held at Ripon Cathedral, presentation by the Army, Stockeld Parks Christmas Adventure opening, Castle Inn re opening following renovation, Harrogate's chief executive meeting for parish councillors and the Village society AGM.

The Parish Council kindly marked my 40 years service as a parish councillor in May, we celebrated the Queens 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, the village held a scarecrow competition to celebrate, a letter of thanks was received from Buckingham Palace thanking us for our good wishes.

The In Bloom group held a very well attended strawberry tea in the old rectory garden. A successful bonfire and firework display was held in the village.

Council was represented and laid a wreath at the village war memorial on remembrance Sunday.

I was delighted to judge the schools painting competition and later present prizes to the winners.

Christmas carols were held in the Memorial Hall due to the inclement weather.

The village society once again held a very successful beer festival.

I have met with the Leeds Road Practice doctors to review how they could extend services in the village.

Mr David Thomas was appointed Castle Key Keeper, we thank Mr Edmund Richman for his dedicated work over many years at the castle ruins.

Council was consulted in over thirty planning applications.

I now come to my thanks to councillors and friends of council who fundraise and assist throughout the year, County Cllr Cliff Trotter for his attendance at meetings and his assistance with highway matters, Richard Corderoy for continuing to oversee financial matters, the village hall booking clerk, the hall cleaners, the handyman for his assistance and help with attending to the village flag on commemorative dates, John Chilton for reporting parish news in the local press, Stockeld Estate for the gift of the village Christmas tree, Gary Marston for the village grass cutting.

The Giddings family for their input into the Christmas carols evening, the musicians which make this event so enjoyable.

The in bloom group for the lovely floral displays around the village, my personal thanks to Rachel Marston for all her help at all times with her duties as Clerk, also to Cllr June Geddes for all her assistance with council matters and her great support to myself. I thank all the councillors for their hard work for the council and the village.

We now have to rely on the willingness of councillors and residents to assist more with the upkeep of the village as the budget cuts take more hold. But we shall continue to work at all times for the benefit of the village and community.

This concludes my annual report.

Shirley Fawcett.  
Chairman