

CODNOR PARISH COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT
2009-2010

CHAIRMAN'S OVERVIEW

It has been a privilege to have served as Chairman of the Parish Council again this year and to produce this Annual Report, which aims to inform residents of Codnor about the activities undertaken by the Parish Council. The Council continues to build relationships with local and outside agencies and local residents through consultation and working with them. Training has been undertaken by members to broaden knowledge and understanding of powers enabling works to be undertaken on behalf of the parish.

The Parish Council endeavours to keep parishioners up to date about its activities and to this end published its first quarterly newsletter in July 2009. Copies of newsletters are available from the Adult Education Centre, Peverel House, local shops, post office, public houses, doctor's surgery, churches and the Clerk.

During the year I and my wife, Councillor Mrs Molly Parkes, had the honour of representing the Parish Council and the Codnor community by laying a wreath at the Menin Gate Memorial Service and attending the dedication service of the Sherwood Foresters Memorial at Tyne Cot, Ypres.

The Parish Council also had the pleasure of celebrating its 25 Year Anniversary in 2009. A booklet on the history and activities of the Parish Council was produced and made available to residents at the Codnor Fun Day, the Bonfire/Fireworks event, at various locations in the village including Peverel House, shops, businesses and from the Clerk.

ENVIRONMENT

The Parish Warden, Daryl Hemsell, continues to provide Codnor with an excellent service.

The extension to the recycling area in Mill Lane, allowing easier access to the bins, has resulted in less dumping of rubbish in and around the area. There has been an overall decrease in fly-tipping in the Codnor area and the Council is continually monitoring and taking action to further reduce this unwanted behaviour. The Chairman urges all who live or work in Codnor to help keep our village clean by taking litter home or putting it into the litter bins provided; and not leaving inappropriate rubbish in the recycling area.

Organised litter picks are attended by the Chairman, Councillors, voluntary organisations and Codnor residents. These are open events, welcoming any residents wishing to join in. Details are posted on the notice boards and are also available from the Clerk.

The Parish Council, in conjunction with the allotment holders of the Jessop Street Allotments, installed security measures to ensure that the allotments suffered less vandalism.

This year saw the installation of black-spot lighting for the footpath leading from Waingroves Road to Springhill Way, making the walkway safer for school children and parents.

The Council continues to organise the Best Kept Garden and Allotment competitions. Codnor residents are encouraged to enter. All you need do is to contact the Clerk. We thank the sponsor Shipley Garden Centre for their continued support.

Codnor Parish Council has agreed to take over the responsibilities for the Car Parks on Alfreton Road and Mill Lane from Amber Valley Borough Council next year. This will enable the Car Parks to remain free of charge to users.

After consultation with residents, bollards have been installed on the access road from Alfreton Road to Glasshouse Hill, Codnor. This access road was being used as a cut-through by speeding traffic, posing a potential danger to pedestrians.

A mining truck has been refurbished and arrangements are in progress to install it at the entrance to Codnor Business Park in the near future.

POLICE

The increased Police presence in the Codnor area and good communication with both Council members and Codnor residents has resulted in a significant downturn in crime and nuisance behaviour during this year. This is the second year that the Clock Building has suffered less vandalism and is allowing the toilet facilities remain open to the public for a few hours in the morning.

Again, less vandalism has been reported on the Sports and Welfare Ground this year.

We thank the police for their vigilance contributing to these improvements. Codnor residents witnessing crime or suspicious behaviour are urged to contact the police by telephoning 0845 123 3333.

YOUTH BUS

The Youth Bus service, sponsored in part by the Parish Council, received 434 visits from young people during 33 sessions in the area between April 2009 and March 2010. The increase in numbers this year is further encouragement and confirmation that the service is of substantial value to the community.

ANNUAL EVENTS

Codnor Fun Day, organised by the Rotary Club, was very well attended. The weather was good and enabled the Dakota flypast to take place, accompanied by music from the Belper Town Wind Band, sponsored by the Parish Council.

The Band Concert at Highfields was well attended by Codnor residents once again. The event was sponsored by the Parish Council in conjunction with Amber Valley Housing and the Community Police Team.

Bonfire Night Celebrations included a fireworks display to music, provided once again by Spyrotechnics. The event was a great success, taking place on the Alfreton Road Recreation Ground which enabled a larger attendance. The collection totalled £546 (including a donation from Bert Holland, the fairground operator); this was donated to the voluntary organisations who again contributed to the success of the event.

A wreath was laid on behalf of the Parish Council and the Codnor community at the Remembrance Day service held at St James' Church, Crosshill, Codnor on Sunday, 8th November 2009.

Carols Round The Tree was again enhanced by children from Codnor School, who sang carols for us and music was provided by the Salvation Army. £90 was collected and forwarded to Children in Need.

LITE Ltd provided the Christmas Lighting scheme with increased lighting this year and will do so again next year.

The Civic Service at St James' Church was well attended, including members of the Sherwood Rangers, and was enjoyed by all who came.

FINANCE

As in previous years, the draft precept for 2009/2010 was published for public comment; none were received.

The Parish Council's 2009/2010 income was £47155.28 and expenditure was £49576.32. The extra expenditure incurred for Blackspot Lighting installed on Springhill Way to Waingroves Road, Codnor, during the year was allowed from reserves.

The precept for 2009/2010 was £35250. The 2010/2011 precept is £41000 an increase of 14%. The increase is to cover maintenance costs of the two car parks situated at Mill Lane and Alfreton Road, Codnor, which are to be taken over by the Parish Council from Amber Valley Borough Council from 1st April 2010.