

Codnor Parish Council

Annual Report 2013-2014



I have enjoyed my year as Chair of the Council. Working with a group of dedicated councillors, and especially Cllr Chris Emmas-Williams, we have overseen one big development – the Sports Pavilion – and a number of small ones which we are sure will improve the lives of people in the village.



Steve McClaren opens the new Sports Pavilion (picture: Football Foundation)

There are many challenges, though. Our costs continue to go up, and we have taken over jobs that used to be carried out by Amber Valley Borough Council, including the maintenance of the car parks. We face the prospect of having our income capped by central government. We have also been busy consulting opinion and responding to the proposals in Amber Valley's Local Plan to build hundreds of houses around Codnor, destroying the Green Belt and building a "link road" instead of the by-pass that has been proposed for Codnor for over thirty years.

Some of the year's events are described in this report. I hope that we will be able to build on our achievements in the coming year.

Councillor Peter Smith, Chair 2013-14

The Sports Pavilion

Our new £450,000 facility was opened on 18th November by Derby County manager Steve McClaren. Since then it has hosted football and cricket training and matches, social events, civic functions and Parish Council meetings, as well as being available for private hire. It is rapidly proving its worth as a focus for the community.

Welcome

In September, we welcomed a new Parish Councillor, Cllr Rebecca Deans.

Environment

Our Parish Warden, Daryl Hemsell, continues to provide Codnor with an excellent service. He has recently been helped by Neil Rumfitt, of 4 Occasions, Market Place, Codnor, who has voluntarily offered to open and close the Market Place toilets. This has meant longer opening hours for the toilets.

The Best Kept Garden and Allotment competitions have again been organised by the Parish Council and sponsored by Shipley Garden Centre. Anyone with a garden or allotment in the village may enter by contacting the clerk. The judging takes place in July. The Community Payback team have helped clear the foliage around the Market Place toilets and have tidied up and repainted the railings and some of the facilities on the Alfreton Road playground. In addition some work has been done on the footpath from Goose Lane to the recreation ground by a work party from Amber Valley Ramblers. We are grateful to both organisations for their help.

As well as repairs to the barrier and curbs of the Market Place car park, and relining of the Mill Lane car park, the area around the Mining Wheel has been tidied and we have sought and received permission and funding from Amber Valley Borough Council to demolish Sheehy Hall and the old Scout Hut on the Alfreton Road recreation ground. They have also provided new gates for the Memorial Lych Gate at Crosshill.

Litter Picks led by councillors and scouts are well attended. More helpers are always welcome. For details please see Parish Council notice-boards and/or website.

The Parish Council maintains the provision of free doggie bags for Codnor dog owners. These can be collected from the Newsagents, Mill Lane, the Post Office, Market Place, M & C Hunts, Heanor Road, and the Jessop Arms, Jessop Street, Codnor. Dog fouling is a health hazard and all dog owners are asked to help keep Codnor clean and safe.

Police

PC Anna Wellberry along with PCSO Alison Dare and PCSO Sarah Dufton have maintained an effective police presence, ensuring that public safety in the community is maintained.

Codnor residents are requested to report non-emergency calls to the Police on telephone number **101** or www.derbyshire.police.uk

Youth Bus

Young people accessing the Youth Bus service, which visited the Codnor area 19 times from April 2013 to March 2014, saw 101 visits. This number indicates the need and success of the service

Annual Events

Codnor Fun Day, organised by the Amber Valley Rotary Club, enjoyed lovely weather and good attendance. Music was provided by the Belper Town Wind Band, sponsored by Codnor Parish Council.

The Band Concert at Highfields was well attended this year in reasonable weather. The Newstead Brass Band provided the musical entertainment. The event was generously sponsored by Friends of Highfields and Codnor Parish Council.

The best, free, spectacular Bonfire/Fireworks event in Derbyshire was again provided by Spyrotechnics. In spite of poor weather, the bonfire blazed and the fireworks were fantastic. The collection totalled £717 (which included a £200 donation from Bert Holland, the fairground operator). This was distributed, at a presentation held in February 2014, to the various voluntary organisations who contributed once again to the success of the event.

Carols round the Tree was again supported by the Salvation Army Band accompanied by the children from Codnor Primary School singing some Christmas songs for us. The event was well attended. The increased collection of £130 was donated to Children in Need. After the event, everyone was welcomed to Codnor Methodist Church for refreshments.



The Codnor and Crosshill Christmas Lights display has again been enhanced and provided by LITE Ltd.

Codnor Civic Service was held at St James' Church. The congregation included local dignitaries, members of local churches, our police and representatives of local organisations. The service

was led by Rev Christopher Holden, the sermon was given by the Rev Phillip Taylor, of the Methodist Church. The music group led the singing of hymns and members of the church provided refreshments afterwards.

Finance

As in previous years the draft precept for 2013-2014 was published for public comment; none was received.

The Parish Council's 2013/2014 revenue income was £52,517.72. Total expenditure was £61,738.77. Restricted monies in reserve £36,513.69. The precept for 2013/2014 was £48,000. The 2014/2015 precept is £50,453.

The total amount given in grants and awards was £958.75.

Free Car Parks at Mill Lane and Market Place, Codnor



Codnor Parish Council maintains these two car parks and budgets to ensure that they remain free of charge for residents and visitors. However, please be aware that regulations do still apply. Anyone found to breach these faces the possibility of enforcement fines.

How to Contact the Parish Council

Clerk to Codnor Parish Council:

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Tel: 01773 719545 or E-mail: codnornc@vahoo.co.uk



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****County Councillors**

Useful Contact Numbers:

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Derbyshire County Councillor Steve Freeborn, 56 Alfred Street, Ripley, Derbyshire
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Member of Parliament - Nigel Mills MP, 1st Floor, Thomas Henry House, 1-5 Church Street, Ripley DE5 3BU Tel: 01773 714413

Police - Non Urgent Police Tel 101