

THREE VIEWS NEWS

CIRCULATION 1330

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YOUR LOCAL NEWSLETTER

Platinum Jubilee Family Field Day On Friday 3rd June 2022

Detach
this cover
to bring your
**free colour
programme**
along
on the day



DONISTHORPE COMMUNITY GROUP

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Oakthorpe Donisthorpe Acresford Parish Council

Chairmans Annual Report 11th May 2022

There wasn't an annual Parish meeting last year and this report will cover more than the last 12 months.

It has been a difficult time for many people, but the strong sense of community that has come to the forefront since the pandemic began has been inspiring. Voluntary groups and local businesses have worked hard to support those who have been struggling to cope, or have needed someone to talk to in these difficult times and they have made a significant contribution to the care of the Parish and its people.



I want to pay tribute to the work of members of the whole range of groups and to those who choose to stay in the background, making contributions in their own way. We also know there are those who, for a range of reasons and circumstances, are unable to be involved in activities and whatever the contribution, it is equally valuable to us all.

The Council has been able to move towards usual business, returning to face-to-face meetings as we continue to carry out improvements to the Parish.

A tree survey was commissioned on land the Parish owns and the results of the survey provided reassurances most trees were healthy.

We continue to plant spring bulbs around the Parish and the positive feedback from parishioners indicates the difference they make.

The project to improve the Memorial Gardens progresses and our application for funds to carry out remedial work to the gates is being finalised.

Responsibility for operational management of the leisure centre has now transferred to ME Sports, a Community Interest Company.

Three new benches and flowering cherry trees have been secured for the Parish through an initiative by the District Council, one in each village. The benches provide a place to sit and reflect on the those lost during the pandemic.

In response to the growing concerns about speeding across the Parish, we purchased 2 Mobile Vehicle Activated Signs (MVAS), currently in use in Acresford whilst we await confirmation of other locations for MVAS across the Parish.

A new noticeboard was erected on Chapel Street in Donisthorpe and others will be replaced.

Hawthorn hedging has been laid alongside the allotment boundary with the orchard. It will take time to grow and will provide important habitats over time, as well as a robust boundary to the allotments.

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This year marks an historic achievement by the monarchy, a 70 year reign. In recognition of this unique historic event, the Council has commissioned commemorative medallions to give to every child attending our two schools in the Parish.

This is my final report as Chairman of the Council. I'd like to thank colleagues for putting their trust in me to lead the Council for the last three years, and for the professional assistance and advice of Kelly, the Parish Clerk, for the last two years.

It also gives me great pleasure to offer congratulations to Kelly, who has achieved a key qualification, the Certificate in Local Council Administration, otherwise known as the CILCA. This is the recognised qualification for local council clerks, and along with at least two thirds of councillors being declared elected to this Council, it now means the Council would meet the criteria to hold the General Power of Competence (GPC) should it so wish. The GPC enables a council to consider a range of powers and the right to act, that would not otherwise be available. A great achievement for Kelly from which the Council - and therefore the Parish - can benefit. I am happy to end my chairmanship with such positive news.

Cllr Sue McKendrick

Chairman, 11th May 2022

The next open Council meeting will take place at Oakthorpe Leisure Centre on
Wednesday 8th June at 7.30pm.

Chocolate Fridge Cake

200g milk chocolate

200g dark chocolate

130 g butter

160g golden syrup

150g digestive biscuits

150g raisins

150g mini eggs crushed

200g of white chocolate

- Chop the milk and dark chocolate into small chunks.
- Melt butter and syrup in a pan, add the chopped milk and dark chocolate and thoroughly mix.
- Mix raisins, crushed biscuits and mini eggs - then add the chocolate mixture until well combined.
- Pour into a lined tin and place in the fridge for a while.
- Melt white chocolate in a bowl over a pan of hot water. Pour the melted white chocolate over the mixture in the fridge. Add some crushed mini eggs and return to the fridge to set for a couple of hours.
- Cut into squares and enjoy.

Solar Together scheme launches in district

Save on energy bills and help cut carbon emissions by investing in solar panels through an exciting new group-buying energy scheme. Solar Together Leicestershire helps people looking to make an investment in solar panels on their house and battery storage systems for a reduced rate. Signing up is free for residents and opens from Monday 9 May. For more information and to sign up, visit www.nwleics.gov.uk/solar.

Residents who register will be entered into an auction, where solar pv suppliers compete by offering the lowest rate for solar panel installation. The more people registered, the lower the price can be. Working with iChoosr, Solar Together then provides those signed up with a free, no obligation offer from the successful energy supplier. A personal recommendation will be emailed out with information on the winning solar panel installer, the proposed system, costs, and savings ready for residents to make their choice.

North West Leicestershire District Council is working towards its Zero Carbon Roadmap to be carbon neutral by 2030, with the aim of then seeing the whole district carbon neutral by 2050. Installing solar panels on homes can reduce carbon emissions by generating clean electricity and save homeowners money on energy costs.

Councillor Andrew Woodman, Portfolio Holder for Community Services said: "Working with Solar Together means we'll be able to support residents who want to have solar panels on their home, but haven't known where to begin. Using clean energy from solar panels is not only good for the environment, but also means cheaper electricity."

Registration closes on Tuesday 14 June with the selection revealed from Monday 4 July onwards.

Blaby District Council is leading on the campaign in partnership with Charnwood Borough Council, Harborough District Council, Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council, Leicestershire County Council, Melton Borough Council, North West Leicestershire District Council and Oadby and Wigston Borough Council.

North West Leicestershire District Council (NWLDC) has appointed a new Chief Executive

At a meeting of Full Council on Tuesday 10 May 2022, councillors agreed to appoint Allison Thomas, who will join the authority in August. Allison Thomas is currently Strategic Director for Service Delivery at neighbouring South Derbyshire District Council, a role she has held for four years.

Before this, Allison spent 21 years with Derbyshire County Council in a variety of roles, including Service Director for Transport and the Environment.

Speaking of her appointment, Allison said, "Working just across the border in South Derbyshire, I've been impressed by the work that North West Leicestershire District Council does with its strong track record of partnership working, and I'm looking forward to taking up my position as Chief Executive. Positioned in the middle of the country in an important strategic location and at the heart of the National Forest, the district has a lot of growth on the agenda and the council has a key role to play in this, whilst driving environmental campaigns such as Zero Carbon and Recycle more, as well as the plans it has to support its communities. I'm looking forward to meeting colleagues at the council and across partnership organisations, and really getting to know the district through the council's work."

Allison's appointment was confirmed by Full Council following formal interviews and a recommendation by the authority's appointments panel.

Councillor Richard Blunt, Leader of NWLDC, said, "I'm delighted to bring Allison on board as Chief Executive. She joins us at a time of great opportunity as we work to support our communities across the district in our far-reaching role as district council. In her career, Allison has been responsible for a huge range of services, giving her a wealth of experience to draw on and an appreciation of the workings of local government. We're looking forward to welcoming her to the team."

To provide leadership in the time before Allison takes up the position, NWLDC has appointed an interim Chief Executive Joanna Davidson, an experienced Chief Executive and local government consultant, who took up the position last week.

"North West Leicestershire District Council is a busy authority with a lot of large projects on its agenda," Joanna said. "It has a strong reputation as a highly effective and well-regarded council, and I have been really impressed with everything I have seen so far. My role is to provide stability and guidance in the time before Allison starts and help to keep important projects on track."