

## CHAIRMANS REPORT 2021 SYRESHAM PARISH COUNCIL

It has been a very difficult year and thank you to the Parish Councillors who attended the meeting the day before lockdown when we were able to draw up details of parishioners who might need help. The village residents were asked to assist and thank you to everyone for helping with shopping, collecting prescriptions etc. The response was amazing and proves that the village is a caring community. Thank you to Samantha for the work she did, unbeknown to many delivering food boxes etc.

Zoom meetings became the norm but congratulations are in order to the Council for what has been achieved during lockdown. Funds were obtained to upgrade the children's play area, new equipment agreed and installed. It was very frustrating when children couldn't use it but as soon as it was allowed thank you to the councillors and residents who joined together to clean and sanitise every piece of equipment. A very socially distanced work force but congratulations and many thanks to everyone. The Swing Field is a wonderful play area used not only by our community but many visitors who congratulate us on the equipment. Thank you to Cllr Green who empties the litter bins in the park regularly.

Grass areas have been kept in good order during lock down and thanks to Cllr Munsey for planting flower boxes and to Michael Dempsey for keeping our grass areas looking neat and tidy.

Many more people have been walking and thank you to our Footpath Wardens for all they have achieved this year.

We were fortunate to obtain a grant to update the Pocket Park which hasn't been easy with restrictions on numbers working together. We had agreed for a start to open up Fillingford Bridge and thanks to the councillors who worked hard on this project. We have achieved a great deal of work in this area with trees being lopped, pontoon over River Ouse having work on it, a new path laid for members of the public to access the area safely. New tables and seats are being fixed and a fantastic new sign on order. Thanks to everyone for their input on this project not always easy on Zoom.

I feel as a Council we have achieved so much in lockdown and my thanks not only to councillors but also the Clerk who has helped us to succeed with our projects.

Elections brought us a new Councillor who we welcomed last week and I sincerely hope we can work together to do our best for our Parish. We are elected to serve the parish and we will be discussing our hopes for the future. If any parishioner wishes to raise an issue or suggest any ideas please contact the Parish Clerk who will bring these before the Parish Council for consideration.

Cllr Dorothy Dunkley