

Cassop cum Quarrington Parish Council

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Dear Parishioners

Parish Council Quarterly Newsletter - August - October 2021

Frank Salisbury

The Parish Council has recently said farewell to Frank Salisbury who stepped down from his role as parish councillor in September. Frank became a Member in May 2013 and has led on the development of the Cassop-cum-Quarrington Neighbourhood Plan for the last six years. The Parish Council thanks Frank for his huge contribution to the work of the parish during his time as councillor and wishes him well for the future.

Parish Council Vacancies

There is currently one vacancy in the West ward and two vacancies in the East ward of the parish. Anyone interested in becoming a parish councillor should get in touch with me using the contact details above. Please provide a brief statement telling us why you think you may be suitable for the role and any experience you may have which would be relevant.

Parish Council Meeting Times

The Parish Council meets on the third Wednesday of every month in either Bowburn or Cassop Community Centre. Since March 2021, the monthly meeting has started at 6.00pm, however the Parish Council have now decided to revert back to a 6.30pm start time which they feel is more accessible for both Members and the public.

Conclusion of the External Audit of Parish Council Accounts 2021/2022

The external audit of the Parish Council Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021 has been concluded by Mazars LLP and all of the relevant documentation has been published on the Parish Council website. I am very pleased to report that there were no issues highlighted by the auditor so the parish has a clean financial bill of health for another year.

Neighbourhood Plan

The referendum on the Cassop-cum-Quarrington Neighbourhood Plan was held on 23 September 2021 with the 'Yes' vote prevailing. 90% of voters wished to adopt the Neighbourhood Plan and subsequently, Durham County Council approved the Plan on 20 October 2021. The vision, aims and objectives of the Neighbourhood Plan must be given due consideration in relation to any proposed development in the parish area. The Plan seeks to improve the Parish as a place to live and work, whilst enhancing and protecting its green spaces and rural assets.

The Parish Council expressed its thanks to the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group and parish councillors, past and present, who had driven the development and production of the Plan. This had been a significant piece of work and the efforts of all involved were greatly appreciated.

Tursdale Play Area

Refurbishment work has been completed at Tursdale play area and the Parish Council is pleased to see this £40,000 project come to fruition. The new play area was designed in consultation with local residents and it is hoped that the children of Tursdale will be able to enjoy the facility for many years to come.

Gillian Kelly Clerk to Cassop-cum-Quarrington Parish Council