**West Bretton Parish Council Chairman’s Report 2021/22**

Over the past year the council has met once a month with the exception of August, and thankfully returned to face-to-face meetings in the village hall as covid restrictions eased.

Highways

I joined the Parish Council in 2015 and traffic issues have always been a major concern in the village, many residents attending meetings to express their concern.

It is very frustrating that WMDC highways department often respond negatively or not at all to our concerns.

Despite this the Parish Council has had several meetings with WMDC (including attending a Rural Ward highways meeting) to continue to discuss our concernsand collected traffic data via Automatic Traffic Counters.

The Parish Council will continue to respond to residents’ concerns on highways issues.

Environment

The Parish Council continues to employ the services of a contractor to undertake regular grass cutting on the highway verges around the village.

We held our first Community Litter Pick on Sunday 30th May and these have continued successfully throughout the year. Many thanks to those residents who have supported this.

The two Parish Council noticeboards have been replaced due to the very generous donation by Mr Tony Sadler, a resident of the village.

Hanging baskets will be hung throughout the village – “West Bretton in Bloom” – a theme to celebrate the Queen’s Platinum jubilee. We have had a wonderful response from residents offering to sponsor a basket.

The council looked into the possibility of bringing fibre broadband to our community through the BT Openreach Gigabit Initiative. There was a good response from residents but the cost per household proved too high.

Currently we are looking into the feasibility of once again siting a Christmas tree in the village.

Community funding

Grants were awarded to

West Bretton Church for the production of the Village Voice

The Over 50’s Club

West Bretton School

The Cricket Club

Remembrance Sunday

Councillor Smith laid a wreath on behalf of the Parish Council. Thanks go to the Police for their attendance, the Church for the service held at the War Memorial and to David Woodhead for ensuring that the area around the War Memorial was tidied in preparation for the event. October 2021 marked one hundred years since the erection of the War Memorial and this was also commemorated at the Service.

YSP and Bretton Hall

Many thanks to Helen Featherstone and Kirsty Fountain for attending our meetings providing reports on events and developments at YSP and responding to residents’ concerns.

I think most residents have benefited from their free access to the park – again thank you to YSP for this.

Finally I would like to thank our district councillors for their support and attendance at our meetings.

A huge thank you to Sue, our clerk, who works so hard behind the scenes.

And thanks to my fellow councillors who continue to work on behalf of the residents of West Bretton.

Lynne Watson

Chairman

2021-22