

ANNUAL REPORT BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE PARISH COUNCIL FOR 2023/24 TO BE PRESENTED TO THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING ON MONDAY 20th MAY 2024

Mr Allan Dawes our Clerk, has now served his first year and has been a valuable addition to the parish council, He can be contacted at [kirklingtonpc@gmail.com](mailto:kirklingtonpc@gmail.com)

#### Play area on Ryehill Park

Weekly inspections of the play area are carried out by members of the Parish Council, and an annual inspection was carried out by a qualified Inspector from The Play Inspection Company Ltd for Insurance purposes. The overall Risk Assessment for the play area and its' associated play equipment was graded 'Low Risk' by the Inspector.

Ongoing maintenance of the play area during 2023 were carried out by some residents of Ryehill park, Parish Councillor's and Mr Andy Parr professionally cuts the grass when required.

#### Bottle Bank

The Parish Council continued to promote the Bottle Bank at the Robin Hood Inn which now includes cans, tins, plastic and cardboard. The re-cycling facilities at the Robin Hood Inn are still available.

#### Defibrillator

The defibrillator has now been re-sited on the lamp post opposite the school.

#### Lobbying on behalf of residents

The Parish Council lobbied relevant authorities and/or individuals in respect of various issues raised by local residents. These included:

- \* road repairs and potholes.
- \* public rubbish bins.
- \* safety concerns and road repairs at various locations along the A6071.
- \* overgrown hedges and trees.
- \* dog fouling.
- \* street lighting.
- \* the inappropriate parking in and around Smithfield.
- \* support to the replacement weekly bus service provided by the Border Rambler

#### Planning Applications/Tree Preservation Orders/Footpath Diversions

The Parish Council provided the Planning Authority with comments and observations on Planning Applications within the Parish area.

#### Consultative documents

The Parish Council receives a large number of draft Policies and Procedures on a consultative basis. The Parish Council's views, comments and observations, reflecting the views of local residents, are relayed to the authors of these various documents following a discussion of them at Council meetings.

#### Hallburn Wind Farm Community Fund