Terrington St John Parish Council-Chairman’s report

Firstly I would like to thank Donna Read for her work on editing our village magazine. At the same time welcome Scott Mackenzie to the role.

As I identified in my last report a lot is going on in Terrington St John, some of these happenings are slower than we would like , but none the less here is the list that the Parish Council is engaged on-

* The Neighbourhood Plan We have now hired the services of a consultant to finalise the submission of our NP. Following a meeting with KLBC, which he attended we made significant progress toward achieving the final submission in the light of the recent call for development land. This was discussed at our last Parish Council meeting. We have now modified our document and submitted it for review. Hopefully upon acceptance we will be able to finally move on the referendum.

It goes without saying that the effort and work involved in getting to this stage has been extraordinary, and I can only thank again those members of the Parish Council for the work they have put into this initiative.

* The school road housing development by now we would have expected the development to have started. However we understand that the development has been‘re-funded’. Potential I understand this to mean that a new developer will step in. As far as we can ascertain the following agreements are held
  + It was agreed to construct a pedestrian crossing by the school and improve the road layout safety by the school.
  + The area outside the school will become a 20mph ‘school patrol’ zone during the construction of the housing development AND this will remain.
  + The 30 MPH speed limit will be extended south along school road-exact distance still to be confirmed, but we are seeking to extend it as far as possible.
  + The layby in front of the school playing field is retained and improved to ultimately provide a ‘drop off and pick up point’ for children. this will greatly reduce the need for parents and guardians to park on school road and together with the crossing greatly improve road safety outside the school
* Housing Development at the end of Old Church Road. The developer is engaged with Planning to resolve some issues upon which once resolved he should begin the development work. The Parish Council has insisted that the style and overall appearance of the development is sympathetic to the style of our village housing. Currently this is subject to Planning control. Part of the agreement for this development will be a footpath from the pharmacy, on the west side of the road, which will be extended the full length of Old church road, providing a pedestrian access to the new development.

Both these new developments will, increase the volume of Heavy vehicle traffic until they are complete. Both developers have acknowledge this and will be working to minimise any disruption

* . Those of you who have used the trod will know that the lamp post has been removed. However we remain dissatisfied with the stretch from the church to church Lane. It fails to meet our expectation and so we are revisiting the concept to have this stretch fully kerbed as the is the second phase
* Village playing area car park. The extended car park has been well received. We have tidied up the whole site and urge ALL parishioners to use the car park and NOT to park on Old Church road. We have placed disabled parking spaces only a few yards from the Pharmacy-amazingly I have witnessed people driving into the car park , reversing ‘blind ‘into Old church road and parking on the footpath in front of the Pharmacy when there are literally a dozen parking spaces available. Please consider wheel chair, mobility scoter users and mums with push chairs who then have to go into the road to pass by your vehicles.
* Children’s play equipment This is now fully functional and available for parishioner to use ,We are in the process of adding further seating ,and as soon as practicable will hold a formal opening ceremony to thank the Village Hall committee for their generosity
* Our Speedwatch initiative continues to hold session, although Roger is in need of more helpers- so please if you have a spar hour /month –contact roger –or Gail .
* High ways actions. Despite the fact that for many years now I have had regular meeting with highways engineers and their management, actions have not been totally forthcoming. At a recent meeting with the local area manager, I found out the back ground to these issues and I am pleased to report that we have been allocated an engineer to resolve our long standing problems. We met with him and toured the parish, identifying a long list of actions’ he has committed to resolve these in due course. You should by now have witnessed several actions to repair roads, install village gates etc. Please inform us if you have any concerns regarding roads ,footpath condition
* There are numerous actions the parish council have-are undertaking to improve and upgrade the wellbeing of all parishioners, to numerous to mention here – but please come along to our meetings at the Methodist hall -7.0pm the first Wednesday of each month to find out what we are doing , have you say and inform us of any concerns you have .

Colin Clifton - Chair Terrington St John Parish Council