

WEST DEEPING PARISH COUNCIL – CHAIRMAN’S REPORT 2022/23

Over the past year it's been disappointing that no progress has been made on the work needed on the Bus Shelter despite many discussions taking place and also the proposed new Children's Playground Area for the village. But let's hope the coming year will see progress in both these projects.

The Kings Coronation Weekend was a great success and thanks must be given to all the ladies of West Deeping Jubilee Committee for all their efforts in this regard. Also thanks to the Village Hall Committee and to Frazer and Emma at the Red Lion for all their contributions and work for the Coronation weekend.

By far the biggest subject for the village has been, {as we all know}, the proposed gravel extraction around the village. This started out as MS29, a wedge shape parcel of land running along the south side of Stamford Road A1175 between the village and Molecey Mill.

A considerable amount of work was undertaken by the Parish Council with regard to the restoration of this parcel of land. Negotiations took place with land owners, Tinsley's and LCC and an agreement reached for the land to be transferred in ownership to West Deeping village with details of exactly where the ownership should rest still to be worked out.

Plans drawn and agreed in principle to restore the land at the end of the extraction period (approximately 4 years) to a nature reserve/community park for the benefit of the village and others. The cost of which would be borne in total by Breedon's. This plan was to be put to Parish Council Meeting, scheduled for November 2022.

However, following the publication of the LCC's Mineral and Waste Proposal Plan, and a meeting with Breedon's on September 22nd 2022. They (Breedon's) were proposing that MS29 would be, in effect, swallowed up by a new proposal SG17 which would take the whole area east and south of the village in 3 stages, taking up to 16 to 20 years to complete. This, in my opinion, would devastate the village for years to come and was totally unacceptable in so many ways. Breedon's set up a public meeting in the village hall to allay fears, which totally failed as there were so many and various objections raised. As far as I am aware, Breedon's, in conjunction with LCC, are continuing with this proposal, which will be a source of aggravation and dispute for not only the coming year but for a number of years to come.

As most will know, I have not sought re-election to the Parish Council but wish the new Parish Council every success in the future.

David Ward
Chair
West Deeping Parish Council

May 2023