



The Parish Council is made up of seven local men and women who balance their time between job and family so that they can try to make a difference for the people they share the village with. My wife compares it to an iceberg, because most people don't see 90% of the work and effort that goes into every project.

There can be no doubt that in terms of achievement, the council performed well again in what was a very difficult year for all of us, but there is clearly still so much to do. Resolving the road and parking issues in School Close is a good example of the challenges facing us this year. Issues, which are not of our making and are well beyond our control as a Parish Council, date back over twenty odd years and have been exacerbated by the additional traffic of, and the junction with, Wilds Way. We will continue to seek a long-term solution with the parties involved because I firmly believe that this is a council that is prepared for the long haul if that's what it takes to get things done.

The biggest change between now and when I first became Chair two years ago is the palpable difference in the can-do attitude of this council. The sum is certainly greater than the parts as councillors support and work with each other on projects such as those listed below in addition to their own portfolios.

The most obvious example of this is the Angels, who continue to be a local phenomenon, a beacon of light in the dark days of lockdown, with almost 600 recorded instances of help and support given to those parishioners that needed it, and acknowledged for doing so by HM Lord Lieutenant of Norfolk.

So, our agenda for the next twelve months, in no particular order, includes;

School Close / Wilds Way

With the support of our District Councillor and our local MP, we will continue to work with Highways, Victory and NNDC to press for a long-term solution to the on-going parking and junction access issues

Footpath to Knapton Green

Having reached agreement with the landowners, we expect to have a formalised walkway to provide safe walking passage between Knapton and Knapton Green established by the end of the summer

30mph speed limit extension in Hall Lane

Covid-19 has caused havoc to working schedules, but this project should be completed in the next twelve months as Highways are nearing the final stages of the planning process.

Knapton Road junction re-modelling

Once again, we are simply waiting for Highways to proceed

Anglian Water sewerage system

Work is due to start in July and it will make a big difference to those properties that can access it

Superfast Broadband

The huge benefits that broadband offers have really been highlighted during lockdown. We are looking to create a working partnership with BT to bring a bespoke fibre solution to the village that will provide a faster and more reliable service which is better suited to today's lifestyles

All of these are big projects in themselves and any one of them would be considered to be a major challenge to most parish councils of our size. But I'm confident that we can deliver because of the people driving them and the self-motivation that they have to succeed. Your parish councillors are dedicated, their efforts have been extraordinary and I am privileged to be part of a team that works so hard for others.

Peter.