

Report on the activities of the Parish Council 2021/22 – by the Chairman Peter Foster

Welcome to the Annual Parish Assembly for 2022. Here is a summary of our activities.

A number of planning applications have been considered over the year, and the Parish Council has made comments as appropriate.

The Parish Council is responsible for the Wood End Play Space, which due to the Covid-19 restrictions has been closed from time to time, but is now open again.

A representative from the Parish Council attends quarterly meetings with the Community Policing Team, where issues are discussed and priorities set. The latest priority is speeding.

The Parish Council continues to be represented on the Joint Burials Committee with Kempston Town Council, to jointly manage the public burial ground in Green End Road.

The Parish Council is also represented on Kempston Charities, and the charities (there are two!) welcome applications for grants from any residents who are in financial need.

The Parish Council is responsible for maintaining the closed church yard at All Saints Church, and continues to keep the area well maintained, including grass cutting, tree trimming and maintenance of the boundaries. We are hoping to plant a wild flower garden in the churchyard once we have agreement from the Church.

We endeavour to keep residents updated with relevant news by using our 6 noticeboards and our website.

Speeding and Litter are still recurring themes. We are working with the Borough Council to try and address these challenging issues. We have had a 40mph speed limit applied to Tithe Road after much delay, and 40mph limits are planned for some other rural roads.

We currently have two vacancies on the Parish Council due to resignations, and would welcome applications..

Finally, I would like to thank all the Parish Councillors and our Clerk, plus our Borough Councillor Jim Weir, for their continued work on behalf of the residents of this Parish.

Peter Foster – Chairman, Kempston Rural Parish Council