

Ightfield Parish Council Annual General Meeting: 15th May 2023 - Annual Statement

Ightfield Parish Council moved forward in FY22/23 with a stable and full membership of councillors. Unfortunately, our Parish Clerk Mrs Chloe Martin resigned in Mar 2023. For the start of Fy23/24 we will be using Mrs Amanda Roberts as our locum Clerk until a new Parish Clerk can be appointed.

Our financial turnover in FY22/23 was £14452. The main spends during this period was the final instalment of the Public Works Loan and Parish wide grounds maintenance. The Council now has no outstanding debts.

The Council tax precept for the Parish was held by the Parish Council well below the prevailing rate of inflation. This was helped by the additional income of new build homes within the Parish being completed in the last Financial Year.

In FY 22/23 there was mainly only one planning application presented to this Parish Council – The refurbishment and alteration of Ightfield Old Hall. This was a re-application.

We continued to work closely with Shropshire Council on pothole and flood reporting.

During the Queen's Jubilee weekend in June 23, the Parish Council officially opened and named it The Platinum Jubilee Pathway.

Funds were secured from the Community Levy Neighbourhood funding for the upgrade of the Parish Street lighting to LED. The work was started by the contractor Eon in early autumn 22.

Since 2019, the Parish council has focused its efforts within a Strategic Vision that has 3 goals: securing and improving our local infrastructure, representing the Parish in planning and development, and supporting/enabling our local communities.

The Parish Council website over the last few years has become our main portal for news and communication within the community. Parishioners are advised to contact the Parish Council through the website.

Over the two years since opening, the Parish Council have come to understand how to manage the Platinum Jubilee Pathway. In FY22/23 we implemented a new Parish Maintenance programme which includes regular maintenance on the Pathway. A new grounds maintenance contractor has been appointed on a three year agreement; subject to an annual review each November. This new maintenance programme started in March 23.

The Parish Council awarded grants in the financial year to the Calverhall Village Hall Committee, Salop Wheels, Calverhall in Bloom and The Maurice Chandler Centre.

In this coming new financial year, we will continue to try and secure funds through Council reserves and CIL payments for the upgrade of the Ightfield Playground, we are unable to determine when this will be possible. We have secured a grant from the War Memorial Trust in London for the repair of the retaining wall at the Ightfield War Memorial, this work is due to start in early June 23. The ongoing maintenance of parish facilities, the provision of utilities, insurance and grants is financed through the Council Tax Precept we receive at the beginning of each financial year.

M K Astley Parish Chair

