1. Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) – Update report – CWGC will maintain the new signs and has confirmed that the headstones in the cemetery are maintained by them which will take place in July-August this year and roughly the same time each year thereafter.
2. Section 106 contributions – NWLDC continue to chase the developers for the outstanding monies. It has confirmed that part of this outstanding money has been paid to them and will now be transferred to the Parish Council. It will continue to chase the remaining developer for the outstanding funds.
3. May Market is progressing well. Stall spaces have been allocated and entertainment secured. Work is progressing on a special programme for the Coronation including details of the entertainment on the day. Sponsorship is slow but it is hoped that a number of local businesses may still come forward.
4. NWLDC Parish Liaison meeting. Very interesting and informative. Information and timelines explained in relation to the forthcoming elections. Slides are to be sent and can be circulated to councillors in due course. UK Shared Prosperity Fund Community Grant details were shared and explained in detail. There is £300,000.00 available over the next two years. Election papers are available from the Community Hub.
5. A number of local businesses have expressed interest in volunteering in the community. The Clerk and Team continue to work with these businesses to achieve productive and fulfilling outcomes for the businesses and community.
6. Royal British Legion Sleep Out took place with the support of the Parish Council. Well done to those involved a worthy cause.
7. Rural Market Town Group – The Parish Council joined this on a free trial. It hasn’t been used much as yet, but with a lot of these advice groups, they are these in “case-of”. The National Allotment Society and Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management have proved to be invaluable over the years. The cost for 2023/24 is £105.64.
8. Merchantmen Mews open space – It has been reported to the Parish Council that the area is easily accessible by a vehicle. This area opens on to Bentley Road which saw itinerant caravans parking up a few years ago. This site was secured by installing large granite stones along the road edge. In the view of the potential for an issue going forward, it is proposed that a number of large boulders are secured from the Breedon Quarry and placed along the Merchantman Mews open space.
9. Tanyard Close yellow lining – Although it has been agreed that LCC will paint lines at the junction in the interests of health and safety; they still haven’t been installed at the are awaiting formal approval by Cllr T Pendleton.
10. Society of Local Council Clerks Leicestershire and Rutland branch meeting – Very interesting and informative. Guest speaker in attendance from the National Association of Allotments. A lot of information in relation to the running of allotments, cost savings examples, dealing with empty overgrown plots, etc.
11. Coronation weekend – The Community Hub will host a joint afternoon tea with the Volunteer Centre Friday Group aimed at the older generation within the village. On the day of the Coronation a live streaming will take place at the Community Hub. This will be a joint venture with the Volunteer Centre and will be aimed at the older generation, some of which may have seen the last coronation of Queen Elizabeth and families. Councillors are invited to support these historic events.
12. Coronation activities supported by the Parish Council include presentation of celebratory coins to all primary school children. Arts competition for the primary children. Kings and Queens trail around the village.
13. Park Lane developments and environmental issues caused by the ongoing development works. Discussions are on-going with landowner behind Long Well in relation to the recent flooding issues. Discussions are on-going in relation to the placing of bins along the relief road. NWLDC has confirmed that there isn’t a litter issue, so it would not be installing this. This is the downside of the Litter Wombles! It is hopefully that the developer may install a number and then NWLDC may be persuaded to include these on their programme of bin emptying.
14. Village CCTV and ANPR have been chased again. No response received to date.
15. NWL Draft Local Walking and Cycling Infrastructure Plan. This was circulated to the Chairman, vice-Chairman and Chairman of Recreation for any possible comments. It was a very interesting document with some interesting plans for the district in relation of improving the cycling and walking infrastructure. For the Castle Donington area it is suggested that a ”Quiet Way” is created along Park Lane to Kings Mill and that the Spittal will see improved signage, barrier removal and path widening. Both of these raise concerns due to the speed of vehicles and the potential for increased traffic on which is currently a closed road.
16. Spital pavilion and park – Repairs and upgrades to the CCTV system and high level flood lights has been on-going this week. Issues with Chubb contractor has meant a delay in finishing the work, and additional costs. These are to be invoiced to Chubb as they had ordered the incorrect equipment to do the job!
17. Cavendish Bridge open space – New dog bin installed due to the issues of the litter bin being over-filled with dog-poo bags!