

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

APRIL 2022

PROPERTY AND ASSETS COMMITTEE REPORT

As we have emerged from the pandemic our community spaces have begun to slowly come back to life. Bookings are increasing at Cass Hall and at our Meeting Room at Market Walk. We now play host to Barclays Bank at the Meeting Room three days a week and also hire the Top Office at Market Walk to a local design company and Credit Union – all generating useful revenue. Projects to extend the use of Cass Hall via the Driffield & Wolds Create Community stalled slightly due to the pandemic in the latter part of 2021, however in recent weeks the craft classes and Panto performance projects have really taken off and we look forward to more exciting developments with this.

The Skerne Park Depot has continued to prove itself invaluable and has allowed our Tidy Team to extend their activities beyond anything we could have imagined, providing them with a safe and highly effective work space, as well as a location to securely store our equipment.

The former depot at North Street continues to be used by us for the storage of grit and other equipment and we are very happy to share the space with Driffield Men in Sheds, who are going from strength to strength.

A new tractor was purchased in February as well as a pedestrian ride on/push along street cleansing machine. The old tractor it was agreed be retained for the repairs of the allotment roads/spread of grit etc.

We have been delighted to work with the newly formed Friends of St Margaret's Close Play Area, who have done an excellent job fund raising for some new equipment at this much loved and well used play area run by us. With funding bids being submitted imminently and a wide consultation being undertaken we are confident we can deliver a safe, modern and popular facility moving forwards.

In December we agreed to purchase a defibrillator to be situated at Little Driffield and with the kind agreement of local resident, Carla Bekker, the machine is now installed on York Road.

We also further invested in our Christmas light displays – extending the light up Christmas trees to the outlying town centre streets as promised and installing the breath-taking Plaza of Light which remained in Market Place brightening our spirits throughout the dismal winter months. We are delighted to welcome back the Umbrellas, this year in red, white and blue to celebrate the Jubilee.

Projects have been identified for the forthcoming months, including the refurbishment and redecoration of the public conveniences at both Cross Hill and North End and also new planting and fencing etc at Fawcett Gardens.

Property and Assets work to ensure the safeguarding of all our buildings, lands and equipment and we are about to embark in partnership with the Environment Committee on how we can lessen our carbon footprint.

Cllr Mark Blakeston

Chairman