

Appendix B

Shevington Parish Council Chairman's Report to the Annual Parish Meeting 16 March 2022

These past few years have been difficult to say the least. The Parish Council has still been meeting, albeit mostly virtually. A big 'thank you' should go to our Clerk, Krystyna. She has worked tirelessly to enable the function of the Parish Council to be maintained. She has always been professional in her duties and I feel we are lucky to have someone with her dedication.

I would like to thank our Caretaker, Tony, who carries out tasks on behalf of the Parish Council and who has worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic. Thanks also go to Sylvia, who has also worked hard for us. She has been a valued member of our team. Sadly, Sylvia has had to give up her duties due to re-locating to another area. We wish her and Sean all the best and she leaves with our thanks. We will be advertising for her replacement soon.

As Chairman I would like to thank my fellow hard working Parish Councillors, without whose dedication the Parish Council would not function. Special thanks go to our unsung Councillor, Chris Horridge, without whose help we would struggle. He is one of those who gets on with helping in a silent manner, never letting us down when we need him.

Thanks also go to our 'in Bloom' teams, whose dedication to our villages cannot be questioned. Our floral displays are a pleasure to many and, as our past Chairman – Ira - said, they have helped to keep our spirits up.

Our Parish is blessed with many volunteers who tirelessly work to enhance the lives of our residents. Our thanks go to those unsung heroes.

The Parish Council works closely with our three local councillors: Paul Collins, Mike Crosby and Janet Brown. Many thanks for their support and concise reports on the function of Wigan Council.

We are also supported by our Co-opted Committee members and group representatives. Thanks go to those who give up their time for the residents of our Parish.

The Memorial Park drainage scheme, as you will have noticed, has not yet commenced. This has been delayed by a number of factors: finance not being agreed, a potential need for a re-design due to fears that local watercourses may be unsuitable for the water from our project. We are trying to get permission to divert surface water from the site via a different route. Due to rising costs, we may have to re-evaluate how we finance this project.

In conclusion, I would like to ask everyone to keep safe, despite the easing of restrictions. I fear we may not have seen the last of this pandemic.

Bill McKnight
Chairman – Shevington Parish Council