

Parish Council Matters

Leisure Centre.

By the time this article is published, we expect the Leisure Centre to be fully open, including bookings until 10.00pm. After so many months of either being fully closed or partially open, it will be great to see the facilities being fully used. The Parish Council is extremely grateful to those who have taken out new and regular bookings, but we recognise that some of the previous regular users, who were unable to be present during the lockdown, may wish to return to their regular slot. The Booking Office staff are working hard to keep all users happy, whilst trying to accommodate those individuals who have been using the facilities at a set time, for many years.

Tennis players in particular, will have noticed that courts 2 and 3 have been cleaned and re lined, hopefully making it a better surface to play on. Football is due to resume on the site from 31st July, when a summer training pitch will be marked out and available to Ravenshead F C and Ravenshead Reds, for their pre-season warm up games. The final marking of the pitches will coincide with the start of league fixtures. All of the pitches have been fertilised, weed treated, re seeded and verti-drained over recent weeks.

Waste Bins.

Residents will no doubt be aware that Gedling Borough Council (GBC), is responsible for waste collection. Likewise, the street bins are also their responsibility. Last month there was reference in the newsletter to an old rusty bin. Myself, and my other two GBC Councillors, Chris Barnfather and Simon Murray, along with the Parish Council, made a request just over a year ago for a replacement. GBC in their wisdom, decided not to replace the bin but instead, placed two additional bins within the village. Whilst these two are very welcome, we will also continue to try to persuade the Labour administration at GBC to replace the old rusty one.

Overgrown hedges and foliage.

An annual plea is made again this year to residents, to check the footpath outside of their property and to see if there are any obstructing branches and foliage. If so, please cut it back to ensure a safe passage for all pedestrians including those who are partially sighted and push chair and wheelchair users.

Anti-social behaviour.

Whilst this is a recurring issue, I am pleased to report that the Police have taken a group of young people to task over some damage that occurred recently on Gorse Hill. With the cooperation of both the householder and the parents of the young people, the Police supervised a litter pick on the Leisure Centre site as part of a restorative justice initiative. Hopefully this will serve its intended purpose to that group of youngsters, as the consequences next time, if caught, will be much more serious.

Plants around the village.

Whilst reference to the fantastic floral displays around the village have been made previously and elsewhere in the newsletter, I would like to add my thanks and those of the Parish Council to all those who have contributed to making the village so bright and cheerful. Cllr Kennedy coordinates the planting, but so many others, including other Parish Councillors, have planted, watered and maintained the flowers. It was such a shame however, when it was reported to me on a Saturday morning recently that the planter at the junction of Sheepwalk Lane and Main Road, had been vandalised. Some swift action saw it re positioned and the plants recovered. As always, if anyone spots these incidents occurring, please report it to the Police on 101.

Summer holidays.

Now that schools have broken up for the summer and travel restrictions are easing, I would like to send my best wishes to all residents. I hope that many of you are able to take a break and relax, after such a difficult time for all of us.

Martin Smith - Chairman