

Welcome to Castle Gresley Annual Parish meeting 2023.

This is a short report on what your Parish Council have been doing over the last year and our plans for the coming year.

The key goals of the Parish Council over the past 12 months has been to continue with village improvements, improve our community interaction and to continue to represent and support the needs of the community as a whole. The Council have been advertising for a Parish Warden to litter pick and keep on top of general maintenance, such as the benches and noticeboards – we are optimistic that role will start soon. The council continue to work with the District and County Councils to make improvements to the area, including street lighting, potholes and general improvements around the Linton Road shop area

The Councils new grounds maintenance team has settled in to the needs of the area and is working well with the council. The decision was taken to cut back on works at White Lady Springs. Basic maintenance to the main path and ensuring the water runs free without any blockages are being taken care of. An annual check on the trees will continue to take place too, with only maintenance work going ahead to ensure the management of the wood and safety of people walking the path.

In the past 12 months, the council has made considerable donations to both the CVS foodbank and St Johns Ambulance.

The Queens Jubilee was commemorated with a stone, sited at the Memorial on the corner of Burton Road/Linton Road. A celebration was also arranged by the Parish Council at the Mount Pleasant Inn, with various musical entertainment, face painting and cupcakes.

Summer 2022 saw the return of the SDDC run activity and play events, which the Parish Council paid for 5 events, all well attended by local children which is great in the summer holidays. The council have booked another 5 for summer 2023.

The council arranged for festive tree lights on the lamp posts throughout the streets, for which we received lots of positive comments, this will be repeated again for Christmas 2023. We have also purchased lamp post poppies in readiness for Remembrance in November 2023, when we will see the Act of Remembrance again at the Memorial.

The council arranged a Christmas event, held at the Drum and Monkey, with singing, face painting and festive food treats. Also, Gresley Male Voice Choir attended Castle Court Care home with mince pies and shortbreads, which was a wonderful event for the residents and their guests.

Unfortunately, we have all seen our utility costs rise and the Parish Council is no exception. Our electricity for the Pavilion building on Mount Pleasant Recreation ground and the container has tripled this year. Fortunately, the council has reserve funds and has been able to cover the costs, without increasing the precept, which has remained the same for a good number of years now.

The council has spoken with Gresley Ladies football team, who have entered into an agreement with the council to use the facilities, this will also help financially as the rent will go towards the utility costs and it will be really positive to see the pitch used by a local team again.

For 2023 the council is hoping to make improvements to the tap houses at the allotments, and later in the year address what the residents would like to see on the Mount Pleasant Recreation ground. Currently the play equipment is around 15 years old and showing signs of age. The District Council

are to remove this and the Parish Council will consult with residents on what would be most useful replacement for Castle Gresley.

For the Kings Coronation another event was held at Castle Court Care home for the residents and their guests with a 1940's singer and afternoon tea to mark the occasion.

We currently have 1 councillor vacancy and if you're curious, please get in touch with the clerk, we are a friendly council and open to any new ideas you may have.

If anyone has any suggestions for further improving our Parish or would like support on any issues, please come along to a Council meeting, held on the second Thursday of each month, or email the clerk.