

East Tuddenham Parish Council – Chair’s Report 2022-23

East Tuddenham Parish Council has been re-forming over the past 12 to 18 months. Over this time I have taken the role of Chair, and James Howells, Tom Bland and Chris Rose have joined as new councillors, having moved to the village in recent times. The change in the councillor roles has allowed some new life which has been extremely beneficial in the number of actions and tasks we are all taking on, on behalf of our village.

We have also had a change in our Clerk, having taken on a new Clerk last March, to then having to re-recruit in September of last year. Our new Clerk Lorraine Trueman has been fundamental in getting us up to speed and compliant, as there have been many areas where the Parish Council has fallen short on the standards and regulations expected. We are still unearthing challenges where previous costs have been paid without the correct procurement and as our finances are extremely tight, we are making headway to get us into a good position going forward – this has included increasing our precept.

Over the last 12 months we have had some great wins with the 100% funding and building of our Platinum Jubilee Boardwalk, assisting our local community with various issues on pathway conditions, issues with rubbish not being collected and also providing funded support to our friends at the Community Allotment. We also had a successful celebration with the Platinum Jubilee in which we had a great time having a walk, tea and cake and meeting members of our community. We have since then organised a couple of walks around the village and invited our community, and whilst we perhaps haven’t had the take up, we will continue to encourage us to meet and build new relationships.

We were pleased earlier in the year when Cllr Tom Bland kindly stepped in to take over the running of our Parish Pump. Feedback from our community has been telling us that our communication needed to improve, and with the Parish Pump back up and running and with the addition of the new Facebook page and also our new website, we hope those channels are improving. Whilst the Parish Pump and the Facebook page are not run under the Parish Council, they have our full support. We would like to extend our sincere thanks and gratitude to Sarah Mugford who previously ran the Parish Pump and did a first class job for the community.

We also undertook in 2022 a new survey in the parish to understand the appetite and views of the low-cost housing project, and these views are now with the project team/developers who are in the process of presenting new plans to the Parish. This is an exciting opportunity for us all, and one which the Parish Council wishes to see underway.

We also have other projects underway to help make East Tuddenham a more attractive village to pass through including planters and also litter picks. The Parish Council have been out a couple of times now and we will continue our endeavours next spring when cleared ground makes the rubbish more visible.

There have been movements regarding larger projects, the Norwich Western Link and also the A47 Dualling and the Parish Council will remain abreast of any impacts

on our village. It is also important to note that East Tuddenham Church is seeking any help and support from our community as it is running a risk of closure. With some of our parishioners leaving the village means that roles previously undertaken to support the Church are now diminishing.

We would finally like to extend our thanks to John Baldock, who unfortunately has had to step down as Councillor, as he no longer resides in our Parish. We would like to thank him for his commitment to the village, helping out with many tasks, and also to thank him for helping to keep a steady ship through the change in the councillor roles and for his support whilst we have been finding our feet. Also to my team here at ETPC, because it is only with us working together that enables us to deliver. On behalf of the Parish Council, I would like to thank the public for attending our meetings and for their continued support and communication with us. The Parish Council wish to be a continued and valued voice of the community.

Kathryn Horton
Chair of East Tuddenham Parish Council