

BARBY TOWNLANDS AND EDUCATIONAL CHARITY

Report for Barby & Onley Annual Parish Meeting 29th April 2019

Barby Townlands and Educational Charity (TLC) was established about 150 years ago when certain pieces of land in the parish were gifted to the village to administer and maintain.

Any revenue generated from this land was to be used to help and support members of the Parish and develop the amenities within the parish.

The TLC currently has 8 trustees who are nominated by the Parish Council or co-opted. Richard Camp is currently one of the trustees and Chairman of the trust.

As a Charity the TLC still hold onto the land that was gifted to the village and let most of it out to generate an income.

The areas of land that belong to the charity are

Barby Sports Field, Longdown Lane

Pasture Land (about 23 acres) including three areas of woodland "Camp's Copse", "Townlands Spinney" and a new area of tree planting at the rear of an 8 acre arable field off Longdown lane.

Barby Play Area, Daventry Road

Barby Allotments

The Tennis Court

Barby Garage

Millennium Orchard to the rear of the Tennis Court.

TLC rent the pasture land to a local farmer and the Parish Council rent the Sports Field, Play Area and Tennis Court for village use. The Garage is also leased out.

The trustees meet about 4 times a year to discuss the land and allocate grants to village organisations and some individuals. Last year TLC gave a total of £13,375 in grants to the following organisations;

Parish Council, Cricket Club, Pre-School, Twinning, Evergreens, Church Fete, Onley Orchard, Rights of Way, Village Hall, Gardening, Barby Primary School, History Society, Junior Football, WI and Young Persons Grant.

Our current project is to develop the Orchard area. The trees are being pruned and more will be planted. The scrub area has been removed and a new fence is being installed. We are hoping to develop an outdoor theatre/performance area at the back of the orchard.

We shall still put on the Apple Day and support Carols around the Christmas Tree.

Richard Camp

Chairman – Barby Townlands and Educational Charity

District Councillor's Report for Barby and Onley. Annual Parish Meeting 2019

I reported in 2018 that the most significant event of the year was the collapse of the County Council. This year has been dominated by the consequences of that for Daventry District Council. In addition to keeping all its services and activities running as normal, a huge amount of time has been taken up by Members and officers in discussions about the future of DDC and local government in the county. Two new unitary authorities, looking after all the services previously provided by NCC, are still expected to be established in our area, West Northamptonshire, comprising Daventry and South Northants Districts, plus the Borough of Northampton. The Government's concentration on Brexit has caused significant delay to a final decision on the new structures, and time is running short to achieve the start date of May 2020.

For the last 14 years DDC has been pursuing an ambitious regeneration programme, which involved development on 5 sites in the town. For various reasons progress has been slow overall, though some projects have come to fruition. The plan to build a commercial development, including a supermarket, at the bottom of Ashby and Braunston Roads in Daventry has been reduced. The development of a new shopping area behind the High Street has been abandoned, and now a cinema and restaurants will be built there. The long-promised new library will be re-located on the ground floor of the Abbey Centre. The canal arm scheme has been abandoned, and the likelihood of the town extension east of the country park seems as far away as ever.

As DDC has considerable reserves, unlike the other local authorities, it has been spending them in the District so that those funds, raised in our area, are not swallowed up by the new unitary. So the grants budget for voluntary organisations was doubled, and large sums have been allocated to projects such as a new building for Reach for Health, improvements to the Sports Park in Daventry, new play equipment at the Country Park.

Two significant changes in the year have been the start of the partnership with Norse for the collection of waste and grounds maintenance, and the launch of the Local Lotto scheme. The change to the so-called 1-2-3 service under Norse seems to have gone well, although inevitably there were some minor teething troubles, and there is general acceptance that it is much better overall than the former service from Amey. I am a member of the Liaison Board which meets regularly with the Norse management, and there is a willingness to listen, to co-operate, and to deal with any problems that arise.

The Local Lotto scheme was launched a year ago, and has so far raised over £26,000 for local good causes, with 803 individual winners claiming altogether £7800 in prize money for a £1 ticket, and other prizes in kind also being distributed.

I mentioned last year the Settlements and Countryside Local Plan which has been worked on for several years. This was finally submitted for inspection by a planning inspector early this year, and that public examination will take place shortly.

The Big Switch initiative has run again during the year, giving householders to find a cheaper electricity tariff. The Good Neighbour Scheme has been promoted in conjunction with Northamptonshire ACRE, and a number of villages have set up initiatives. The Country Park has yet again achieved a Green Flag Award, and is still a huge attraction for people across the district. The annual sports awards, recognising achievement across age groups and sports was also run again.

DDC won its bid to host the final Northamptonshire stage of the Women's Cycling Tour in June, and the event was a great success.

It isn't possible to give more than a flavour of what has been happening at DDC in the last 12 months. I have continued as a member of the Licensing Committee and of a number of working groups, including the A5 Member Partnership, a grouping of all the boroughs and counties through which the A5 passes between Cannock and Towcester. It liaises with Highways England, the Police and other agencies to discuss and resolve, where possible, the many common problems that the road causes to local communities through its length.

I have taken up a number of issues on behalf of individual residents and the parishes in the ward during the course of the year, and I remain ready to deal with any District Council issues you may have. A reminder of my contact details, which have changed, is below.

Catherine Lomax

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