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# Wakes Colne Parish Council

[www.wakescolne.org](http://www.wakescolne.org)

**YOUR PARISH COUNCIL WORKING FOR YOUR PARISH**

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - 9<sup>th</sup> MAY 2018

This report covers the period from April 2017 to March 2018 for Wakes Colne Parish Council.

During this period, we have had some comings and goings amongst the parish council membership, we lost our newest councillor, Mr Peter Cope, due to other external demands on his time, which he felt would interfere with parish council duties. We welcomed a new councillor, Mr Graham King, who we hope will soon be undertaking councillor training and who will stay with us for the foreseeable future, unfortunately, this does not yet bring us up to full strength on our council as a vacancy still exists. We would welcome applications from parishioners.

Although no longer a councillor, having retired last year through ill health, we greatly regret the demise of our friend and colleague, Hilda Cresswell, in September 2017. Her funeral was attended by many and she remains sadly missed.

It is with much joy that I am able to report that Hilda's daughter, Trudi, is to be presented with the first Wakes Colne Parish Council Award for outstanding service to the parish during 2017. The presentation of this award will be made on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2018 during the Annual Parish Assembly Meeting.

Also on a positive note, and after discussion with the developer Nicholas Percival, we are pleased to report that the future re-development of Wakes Hall should include a new public footpath inside the hedge from near a point west of the front of the hall itself and down Tyburn Hill westwards, to connect with an existing footpath alongside Cammack's Depot egressing on to the A1124.

Another project, the pedestrian solar lighted pathway of Station Approach has been completed within the last year after a sizeable donation from the Parish Council. With the addition of a few more new lights, jointly funded by the Parish Council and Essex and South Suffolk Community Rail Partnership and also the Association of Community Rail Partnerships a really thorough and fully effective project will have been achieved. There is a need to replace a few nonfunctioning units and one not installed due to the position of a parked vehicle at the time of installation.

One evening whilst driving home up Station Road I drove very slowly past the end of Station Approach, and with much pride pointed out to my wife the very clear "cats-eyes" pathway;

her comment was “When does the first 747 land?” I saw her point, nevertheless I understand that there have been many favorable comments from users/parishioners. It may be of interest to know that this is one of the first, if not the first, scheme of this type in the country and therefore it may become somewhat of a celebrity item.

After efforts by the Parish Council who, it seems, have played the role of “piggy in the middle” between parishioners, highway authority agents, and various county councillors, as last known to me, the VAS Sign (Vehicle Activated Sign) on the southbound side of Station Road is now finally working. The Parish Council first reported this dysfunctional sign in October 2017.

The Parish Council has a community savings type of account with one of the prominent banks, but we were advised recently that it was no longer going to pay interest unless there was a minimum deposit of one million pounds! As a consequence, we are trying to move what savings we do have (not a million, nor even close) to a suitable/comparable interest earning account at the Metro Bank. Few banks seem to offer this type of account these days. It is proving to be somewhat a protracted business due to bank requirements that need to be met prior to opening an account. This is currently ongoing.

Should you have any questions you wish to direct to WCPC then please do come along to one of our monthly public meetings or contact the parish clerk.

Allan J. Hannington  
Chairman, Wakes Colne Parish Council

**Since writing the above report** – Mr Graham King has resigned from the Parish Council due to work commitments, Wakes Colne Parish Council now currently have two vacancies. VAS Sign in Station Road, Highways are asking engineers to look at the sensor to see if it is damaged.

#### **Wakes Colne Award 2017.**

Presentation to Trudi Cresswell by Cllr. S. Scrase for the Wakes Colne Award 2017. For outstanding work in supporting Parishioners of Wakes Colne and adjacent Villages.



