

## **Report to Little Ouseburn Annual Parish Meeting May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2019**

I became your Councillor on Harrogate Borough Council a year ago. I have not had anything to do with local government before so all of you here on the Parish Council have more practical experience than I have.

### **There has been a lot to learn:**

I have learned about Planning, flooding, litter and waste, dog fouling, traffic congestion and speeding, rural crime and of the importance of playgrounds and village halls to our villages.

I understand much more about Local Government finance and the funding issues faced by Parish Councils. I am very impressed by the care taken by all the Parish Councils to use public money to best effect.

Sadly I am also now aware of the difficulties that arise when a resident becomes aggrieved and the effect this has on a community and its Councillors.

### **This is what I have done:**

I have attended courses on Planning and update meetings on Community Infrastructure Levy and the Draft Local Plan. I attended some of the sessions of the Examination in Public of the Draft Local Plan conducted by the Planning Inspector earlier this year.

I have spoken up at four Planning Committee meetings in support of residents against housing developments in the Ward (two in Green Hammerton and two in Marton cum Grafton). Unfortunately it was 4-0 to the developers.

I have supported individual residents with queries on planning applications.

I have taken every opportunity to emphasise the strength of local opposition to siting the new settlement in the Green Hammerton area.

I have attended Parish Council meetings here in July, October and January, given reports and answered questions.

I thoroughly enjoyed the Open Gardens in Little Ouseburn, a day blessed by beautiful weather. More recently, I attended the opening of the newly refurbished playground. The heavy rain did not dampen spirits - it was a joyful occasion. The playground is a credit to all the hard work put in by the community.

It has been a pleasure to serve residents of Little Ouseburn over the year. Thank you for your courtesy and patience and also many thanks to Cllr Andy Paraskos for his support.

Ann Myatt  
District Councillor for Ouseburn Ward