

Parish Councils make small but significant changes to the lives of local people. The biggest problem they encounter is finding enough people who can participate in the local meetings. In a busy world many have so many professional and family commitments. This year saw the departure of Linda Grey after many years as both Chair and council member. Again family commitments had priority. Trying to recruit new people is a constant problem.

So what has happened in the first year of Charles III. Since the Coronation event of last year the tree has been acquired but as yet to be planted. Finally, the diocese has granted permission so with any luck it will be planted officially.

Thinking of trees the community Orchard was finally started. At first we had lost out on the funding but Councillor Hammond alerted the association that money could be found last minute. E mails were literally sent across the world to get the paperwork completed in time and finally £2010 was allocated to the Gravelpits Allotment association. With the help of Matthew Atkinson trees were selected and a group of volunteers planted the fruit trees in February. In true allotment style two bamboo sticks were put in place and a piece of ribbon was duly cut by Leo Hammond to declare the orchard open or at least planted. It will take time to develop but again another small achievement by working together.

Money was received for the Wild life project .

Other improvement were also the increase of bus services. Again the will be monitored to see how effective they are.

I think everyone is aware of the issue of potholes. My own son was driving to see me and on a wet night his car hit a pothole and completely destroyed the tyre. He is much younger than me but he was concerned that it could have been an older person driving or worse a cyclist or motorbike

The other issue has been fly tipping. At least East Riding is encouraging traders to take the stuff to their tips- it is cheaper than collecting rubbish from wherever it is dumped.

Fortunately ,we increased the precept a few years ago. Clerks were awarded back pay and we could afford to honour this agreement. For the moment we have not increased the precept but we are aware of rising costs such as insurance and utilities.

It is a difficult time for all but working together we can achieve small things which make a difference