

Property Chairman's Report 2021

Since I became the Chair of the Property Committee the Council has seen many changes. These are as a result of the Covid 19 pandemic. It has meant there have been no Annual updates on the activities of the Property Committee since then, so this report is covering the past 20 months or so. It's not quite as bad as it sounds as for six months prior to council meetings being run via Zoom all business was conducted by the Town Clerk, in consultation with Committee Chairmen, under delegated authority.

Town Hall and Chattels

The Town Hall and Mayor's Parlour were opened to the public for Heritage Weekend from the 13th - 15th September 2019, the weekend was a great success and many people visited the building. The Council has also agreed for the Town Hall to be opened to the public again for the heritage open days in September 2021, subject to government guidelines.

The portrait of "Henry Guy" has been successfully restored to its former glory. The decision was made to defer the restoration of the "William Poultney" painting for the time being. The Civic Mace needs a few repairs to ensure it is preserved for future generations. This will be completed in the near future.

Children's Play Area / Skate Park

Repairs have been carried out to the children's play park on Far Bank. The works consisted of repairs to the surface of the area and also the repair of the gate to the play area.

Watson Park

A tree came down in Watson Park due to the high winds and this was removed. It was noted that the wildflower meadow needed reseeding. This has not been completed yet due to the proliferation of dock leaves, but should be completed sometime next year. The sign at Watson Park has also been replaced.

Elsiegate

In July 2019 a working group was set up to arrange a lease for Elsiegate so the " Holderness Community Orchard Project" led by Kelvin Hurd, Neal Everingham and David Langcaster could be set up. Over the following months all details were finalised and the project is now active and flourishing, despite the loss of a few trees along the way. Some 30 trees were planted in Elsiegate by the project. The Volunteers included children from local schools.

Cemetery and Churchyard

Landscaping works have been carried out in the churchyard and annual maintenance of the church boundary walls.

Market Place.

Planters have been put into the market place to prevent further pedestrian casualties after incidents of cars hitting people. The East Riding made controversial changes to the parking arrangements in Hedon.

Town Signs & Bus Shelters.

The town entrance signs on Hedon's boundaries have been refurbished and the bus shelters have been repaired and repainted.

Arboriculture Matters

Unfortunately, many trees had to be felled in the past couple of years, predominantly due to Ash Dieback. However, Lime trees have been planted on Far Bank, under the direction a professional arboriculturist.

A full review of Hedon's amenity areas has been initiated so the council can make the best use of the areas available. This is still under discussion

Cllr S Rommell
Chair of the Property Committee