



HEIGHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Annual Report 2024-25



Our council – We were proud to achieve the Local Council Award at Foundation level, run by the National Association of Local Councils (one of only 6 other Lincolnshire councils who currently have the award).

We received positive reports from our internal and

external auditors, and these can be found on our website.

We said a sad goodbye to our good friend and colleague **Denis Manning**, and hello to **Mark Robinson** our new Caretaker.

Thanks to **Jacki Rushby** for her service on the council and welcome to our newly co-opted councillor.

Community – Once again we have been able to run our well-supported free community events for children, including Hoolahoop Megastructure, Halloween and circus workshops, and a pre-school workshop featuring vegetable critters and lots of bubbles!

A summer sporting day, run in conjunction with NKDC and also involving the Bowls Club, was well attended.

The Olympics came to Heighington when we took part in the annual village scarecrow festival.

The wonderful, knitted poppies once again helped us commemorate Remembrance Sunday.

Our annual Festive Tea was once again popular. Everyone got in the festive spirit, singing along with the Branston & District u3a ukulele band.

We were happy to support A Good Yarn and their amazing, knitted 'Tree For All Seasons'. Look out for its brand-new spring coat.

The old village flagpole top has been commemorated via a specially commissioned



bracket and plaque, and this now proudly sits at the front of Jubilee Hall.

We installed a new noticeboard in the bus shelter and replaced internal noticeboards at Jubilee Hall.

Play areas - As part of our ongoing play area maintenance programme, we've repaired a number of safety surfaces and replaced various chains, shackles, and hand grips.

New sensory boards and a 'How tall are you?' panel have been purchased for Station Road play area, and we're just awaiting delivery and installation. NKDC have now confirmed they are looking at renewal of the lease for the Almond Avenue play area.

Litter – Two community litter picks were held, collecting 15 bags of rubbish from around the village. In addition, our regular volunteer community litter picker generously donated just under 28 hours of time in 2024, collecting 24.5 large bags of rubbish.

Environmental – A number of old bins have been replaced and more are on order. The new bins are 'dual use', so can also be used for dog waste.

Two new benches have been installed at Potterhanworth Road sports ground, following a request from residents.

10 fruit trees have been planted at Potterhanworth Road ground and a Whitebeam tree, celebrating 50 years of North Kesteven District Council, has been planted at Station Road ground. Wildflower seed bombing is planned for the

autumn, with help from Brownies.

Jubilee Hall - Our Book Swap continues to be well used and we're now looking for a new bookcase to accommodate more of the donated books. Unfortunately, the phone box proved to be too damp to host any books but we're investigating other uses for it.

We're happy to support the Garrett's Charity aluminium can recycling, part of their fund-raising programme for a new roof, with the can collection points in the foyer and the rear car park.

Speeding and traffic –

Our solar powered speed sign was finally installed on Washingborough Road, following LCC delays installing the supporting pole. The battery powered speed sign has now been relocated and will be swapped between the Fen Road and Potterhanworth Road locations.



We still need more volunteers to come forward for Community Speedwatch before we can get this initiative off the ground. Please let us know if you are interested.

Flooding - A public meeting was held as part of the LCC investigation on flooding in Heighington. The LCC Section 19 flooding report is now out ([see link on our website](#)), and the hydrologists' report is due out soon.

Working with the Lincolnshire Resilience Forum, we now have our Emergency Plan and Emergency Team in place and will shortly have access to real-time information from newly installed groundwater sensors in the village.

Finally, thank you to everyone who generously gives their time, whether helping at our events or ensuring that Heighington is a great place to live, work and visit. This includes the councillors who freely give their time over and above our monthly meetings and office staff who ensure that all our statutory and financial commitments are met in a timely and appropriate manner.

Heighington Parish Council