Chairman's Report.

A warm welcome to everybody and thank you for attending this year's Annual Parish meeting.

This is a chance for parishioners to meet and discuss anything about the parish and community, also to comment on what the P. C. has done in the last year.

The P. C. continues to report and liaise with the District and County councils, reference roads, pavements, paths, signs and road markings. Particularly annoying is the failure of Council Highways to re-instate SLOW signage on roads that have been surface dressed.

With planning matters we make comments and observations on planning applications received. The P. C. strongly opposed the reduction of affordable housing in Breckland Councils development to the north of the village. Litcham P. C. offered its support to a group of villages and organisation opposed to a development of approximately 5000 houses between North Elmham and Bawdeswell, siting an increase of traffic through the village and the potentially dangerous Bull crossroads. We have organised the erection of posts around the recently refurbished village sign to offer protection from parking cars. Some new refuse bins have been sited around the village. The P. C. maintains the village green and provide the Church with a donation towards the grass cutting of the churchyard. Donations have also been made to the village hall trustees, Litcham common conservation group via the Litcham common management committee and to the British Legion.

Parking continues to be a problem around the village particularly at school drop of and pick up times.

Unfortunately, after a recent cut in the precept, it was unanimously agreed to raise it to its current level.

Long Meadow, owned by the P. C., was last year comprehensively surveyed by an adviser of the Norfolk Wildlife Trust, who recommended it be added to a N. W. T. register. However, the P. C. declined to register at this time.

I would like to thank all Councillors for their support in the last year. All councillors volunteer their time and I am sure they have the best interests of the village at heart. Thanks, must also go to the Clerk for the safe, secure and financial running of the Council.

It was sad to hear of the recent passing of Liz Christie, a long-time member of the Parish Council and more recently the Community car co-ordination. She was a much-valued member of the community, having lived here for many years. Much remembered for her on-stage partnership and sketches with Mary Osborne. Sadly missed.

Mike Oldfield. Chair.