

## **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT FOR THE WALGRAVE WARD ANNUAL PARISH MEETINGS – 2017**

As always at this time of year, the Annual Parish Meeting gives residents the opportunity to meet with their various representatives at Parish, District and County Levels.

Many of you already know me as I have represented the Walgrave Ward for the last 14 years, but it is fair to say that a large proportion do not know me as they have never had cause to make contact. Those that have had a wide range of concerns and queries, mainly on the planning side but equally on such matters as missed bins, flytipping, antisocial behaviour and general concerns about the rules and procedures of Local Government.

In all cases, I try to explain what I can and cannot achieve in these areas and where possible, intervene on behalf of residents who feel uncomfortable when dealing with Officers at DDC. This report is also meant to appraise residents of what is happening in and around the District. As you know, Daventry Calling does try as best it can to let all residents know the up-to-date position as does our Facebook and website pages. On this subject, the Spring issue is a wealth of information from applying for community grants to the major projects planned for 2017.

The Council has also voted to pursue a contract with Daventry Norse when the current contract ends with Amey in 2018. Many of you will know that the current cost of waste collection is set to rise considerably and it was this fact that decided us to radically rethink our waste collection service to keep the cost down as much as possible. Please remember that it is not just your waste/recycling costs but also the cost of clearing flytipping, street cleaning and keeping Daventry town and its surroundings, clean and tidy. There will be changes to the current system – one good thing is the blue and red boxes will disappear to be replaced by one bin for all recyclates. Normal waste will be collected every 3 weeks, recyclates every week as will food waste in the small brown bins. Green waste will still be an option at a small yearly extra cost for those that wish it. Nearer the time, all households will be fully informed of the new arrangements and the effective date.

As far as your District Councillor is concerned, I am still very much involved as Chairman of the Licensing Committee and currently making waves about the (in my view) very jaundiced report that has emerged from the Lords on the future of Licensing. As we are now facing a General Election, naturally such matters have been shelved for the time being and possibly shelved for a considerable length of time.

I am also very keen on promoting the concept of Affordable homes in our villages and regularly sit on the Affordable Homes subcommittee which brings together representatives from all Housing Associations that have homes already in the District.

Added to that, I am very supportive of the Walgrave Wellbeing Centre concept and meet with the Partners on a regular basis. It was disappointing however, that the open meeting held late last year in the Church room did not attract many residents.

I have nothing else to add to this report other than to thank all residents for their continued support and as always, consider it a privilege to be your advocate in many areas. I may not always give you the answer you would like to hear, but rest assured, it will be truthful, fair and without prejudice.

Ann Carter  
The Stables, Church Way  
Guilsborough  
Northants NN6 8QF  
Tel: 01604 743591  
Mobile 07890 967756  
Email: [acarter@daventrydc.gov.uk](mailto:acarter@daventrydc.gov.uk)