**CROFT PARISH COUNCIL**

**Chair’s Annual Report 2021 – 2022**

Once again 2021/22 has been a busy year for the Parish Council, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our councillors for all their hard work and dedication and support during my period of office.

My thanks also go out to Mike Pope our clerk who retired at the end of September, but has continued to give support to our new clerk Helen Buckley whilst she settled in. Also to welcome our new clerk Helen and thank her for fitting in quite quickly into the post. Below are just some of the things that have discussed and processed during the last 12 months:

HS2 – We have continued to oppose the building of the Golborne Link by joining a new group called The Golborne Link Action Group which consisted of Croft Parish Council. Culcheth & Glazebury Parish Council, WBC Ward councillors, CADRAG, local resident groups as while as seeking support from our local MP’s, which we have got. At the present moment we are looking at other groups such as in Lowton who are also very active in their opposition to the proposals. A Environment Statement was prepared and submitted before the 31st March 2022 regarding the HS2 2b (West) Highbred Bill which will be debated in the House of Commons over the next year or so.

Junction 11 Motorway Service Station Planning Application

I represented Croft Parish Council at Warrington Borough Councils Development Control meeting we was successful in the councillors refusing the application. Unfortunately the applicant appealed and has been allowed by the Inspector.

Toilet Block

After a lot of discussions, it was decided that we would renovate the building and try and have it open for Picnic in the Park which is on June 5th. I am pleased to say that work has commenced on it.

Round Thorn

After a number of years by the residents of Round Thorn complaining about traffic problems of parking the work has now started on providing more parking spaces. Well done to all those concerned who never gave up the fight. Just shows you can win if you keep trying.

Heath Lane

Well we did manage to purchase and erect speeding signs along Heath Lane, However after a few weeks it was found that not only are they in the wrong place, but also the speed signs were not like the ones that were erected on Mustard Lane. Discussions are ongoing with Warrington Borough Council to relocate and change the signs.

Queens Jubilee Celebrations

Croft Parish Council are holding & supporting two events, The first one is Cllr Phil Sharpe’s Lighting of a Beacon on Thursday 2nd June and Picnic in the Park on Croft Playing Fields on Sunday 5th June. Parish Councillors, and local residents have been organising this. Looks like a really good Fun day.

Bus Service

We are still campaigning with Warrington Transport to provide a better service through Croft Village, especially during the evening and also to provide a better reliable service through the week and weekends.

Flooding

Whilst we have had some success with the cleaning of some of the gullies WBC have a long way to go before the flooding problems that we have will be solved.

Finally I would like to thank those residents of Croft who attend our meetings on a regular basis.

It really is appreciated by all the Parish Councillors and please carry on doing so.