

ANWICK PARISH COUNCIL

THE CHAIRS REPORT 2025-2026

1. The Community Centre

The Parish Council continues to control the full responsibility of the Community Centre, including the running and maintenance of the building, this being fifty years old this year. We continue to manage regular bookings, as well as events such as birthday parties, baby showers, funeral wakes etc. Our regular bookings include, Over 60's meetings, coffee mornings for the church, both held monthly. Weekly events arranged are 'Warm Space' held every Wednesday morning in the small meeting room. An event where anyone can attend given a warm welcome with tea/coffee and biscuits. Games and jigsaws are available or just a chance for a chat. Our thanks are extended to the ladies who knitted and crocheted the poppies for the Remembrance Day event, they made hundreds which made a fantastic display around the church and display on the Main Road. Thanks also goes to Cllr. Mervyn Head for organising the cut out soldiers made of wood also displayed on the Main Road.

Also on a Tuesday afternoon there is 'Keep fit' session held every week in the hall with gentle exercise, again anyone can attend. Taekwondo continues to have a regular Tuesday evening session for all ages, which is very well attended.

The Community Fundraisers have held many events throughout the year including regular bingo sessions always very well attended. Christmas event to tie in with the official lighting of the Christmas tree on the Main Road in Anwick. A 1940's event which was really well attended in August with entertainment, a BBQ and various stalls. We thank you for all your hard work in organising these events. Our caretaker decided to withdraw from his post for which we thanked him for his past service. The Community Centre is now managed by members of the Parish Council covering bookings, maintenance etc.

Wi-Fi has also been installed in the Community Centre and a De-Fib has been installed on the outside wall of the Centre.

The FILL project was introduced whereby villagers can purchase cleaning products etc at a reduced price, which continues to provide additional money towards the upkeep of the Centre.

2. Grass cutting

Martin has given us good service with cutting the play grass, public footpaths and verges, however, he has decided not to continue, but still cuts the grass for the church.

We already had a contract with Glendale who gave us excellent service, so after obtaining various quotes, it was agreed that they cut all the grass areas in the village with their most competitive quote.

3. Contributions

The Parish Council paid half towards the cutting of the very large hedge in the churchyard. Also a yearly contribution was made to LIVES.

A big thank you for all the villagers who contributed toward the additional costs of paying for a professional report regarding odour and smell that would be generated if the BioGas project was to go ahead.

The Parish Council are very grateful for the very generous donation of oil for the Community Centre from residents in the village. A card of thanks, together with a gift voucher for the Spire Café in Anwick to enjoy a meal was sent.

Thanks also to those who contributed their time and financial contributions towards the new fence and plants in the grassed area on Anwick Drive. It has improved the area immensely.

4. Outside area of the Community Centre

The Parish Council arranged for a large safety gate to be specially made and installed to the side and rear of the Community Centre, which is locked when the Centre is not in use.

We were given a selection of fruit trees from NKDC which some of those were planted outside the pumping station and the remainder on a grassed area in Anwick Drive.

Also Anwick Garden Centre contributed a number of bulbs which have been planted.

The yearly inspection of the play park equipment undertaken by RoSPA showed no urgent work was required.

5. Local Councillors

The Parish Council welcomed Cllr. David East for LCC. David has been very supportive and given us some valuable information and advice with the ongoing BioGas project.

We must express our grateful thanks to Cllr. Mervyn Head as District Councillor. He has given so many, many hours of very hard work in bringing together our objection against the threat of the BioGas project in Anwick.

A warm welcome was given to Cllr. Judith Head who has joined our team.

Finally, Cllr. Maureen Corbett has decided to withdraw from the Parish Council and we would like to place on record our thanks for all the hard work Maureen has contributed whilst being a Councillor.

6. Finance

We looked at the ever increasing cost for the upkeep of the Community Centre and unfortunately, we have had to increase the cost of the Precept to cover the expenses.

7. The Future

Well, we are all very focussed on stopping the BioGas project being built on the edge of the village. So much hard work has been undertaken by not just the Councillors but the villagers too. We have some very supportive villagers with this and we would like to take this opportunity of thanking them all very much. We are arranging an event to celebrate the Community Centre being 50 years old this year. This will be held on Sunday 21st June and would be free for the residents of the village by way of a numbered ticket system and collected at nominated places in Anwick. We are looking at an afternoon and evening event. The food to be supplied by Anwick Community Fundraisers, also a BBQ would be kindly arranged from residents.

Finally, the Parish Council is always looking for volunteers who would like to help in any capacity possible – thank you.

Signed

Dated

The Chairman