

HAXEY WALKERS - CHAIRMAN'S REPORT JANUARY 2019

Thank you to all Committee members for all their support throughout the year. A special thanks to Roger who has proven a wizz kid on the computer and has developed a very professional website. (A task that I certainly would not have clue about.) Apart from comprehensive information about our group, the website also contains an excellent collection of historic photographs, as well as descriptions of 10 local walks ranging from 2 miles to 7.5 miles.

Five walks have been organised so far in December 2017, March 2018, June 18, September 18 and December 18 and we provided assistance for Operation Lifestyle team walk in August.

All walks have been very well attended apart from March when there was snow, sleet and a icy wind. 7 very hardy souls braved that day.

Financially we opened our bank Account and managed to stay in the black with donations made from walkers for tea, coffee and biscuits
Also additional much needed support from Isle of Axholme Hatfield Chase landscape Partnership who will cover our costs for the next two years.
Haxey Parish Council has supported us once more by paying the Annual WaW subscription of £60.

Footpath maintenance was in my view a little disappointing. Dave Sanderson, PROW Officer for NLC, attended our August meeting and offered support but in practice this has been disappointing. The grass cutting contractor did a good job with 4 cuts in the year, helped by the very dry summer slowing the growth of the grass. Only seven out of at least 24 finger posts have been replaced. More have been added to the original list and discussions are planned between Parish Council and North Lincolnshire Council about the future maintenance programme.

A new Information Board has been installed on the old Railway line footpath, and Parish Council are in the process of replacing the Heritage Information Boards by the church and Park pond.

In summary, it has been a very pleasing first year. I hope that as a group we can continue to thrive and meet our principal aims of

1. Promoting walks in Haxey Parish as a healthy and entertaining activity for residents and visitors
2. Identify repairs and improvements to the footpath network
3. Support local business by attracting visitors to the area.