

# Belsay Parish Council

## Chairman's Report 2015

The past year has been a strange one and certainly seems to have flown by. We seem to have had a great deal more interest from members of the public in the business of the Parish Council than in previous years. The main reason for this has been the possible planning application by Belsay Estate to build a number of houses in the field next to the school, as well as providing car parking spaces for parents dropping their children off at school.

Belsay Estate displayed their proposals in the school hall for members of the public to view. There appeared to be a great deal of interest and concerns being voiced at the following Parish Council meetings. The Parish Council undertook to hold a Public meeting if and when any plans were submitted to the Planning Office. We did also make it clear that until any plans were submitted we were unable to discuss the matter as in theory there was nothing to discuss!

We have been having issues with the Council Planning Department, despite many requests we find that some planning applications are not been sent through to our Parish Clerk, in fact some applications have been sent to other Parish Councils. We monitor the Planning website but it is not an ideal situation.

As in my report last year, I would like to thank our Parish Clerk, Ian Humphries for his help and support, I feel we are very lucky to have a Clerk with an extensive knowledge of how Parish Councils operate. Also I must thank my fellow Parish Councillors who have supported me as Chairman of the Parish Council.

Rachel Batchelor  
Chairman