

Chairman's Annual Report for 2024/25

Presented to the Parish Council's Annual Meeting on 7th May 2025

A frustrating year with planning matters.

The growing seasons of 2024 saw inadequate weed management control provided to the parish by Lancashire County Council's contractors. Dissatisfied with the weed growth, the Parish Council engaged a commercial company, Rose and Thistle to weed-spray, trim and litter-pick along our roads and streets.

We have had some success in eventually persuading Lancashire County Council Highways to repair the broken drains that were causing so much flooding along Lunecliffe Road. In addition, and after many months of representations to Lancashire County Highways, they have finally agreed to resurface the much-potholed Lunecliffe Road.

Stodday Councillors have spent some time building a rapport with the United Utilities Wastewater Treatment Works management team in order to mitigate inevitable noise, light and traffic pollution that will be caused by the forecasted three-year construction work on that site.

It is regrettable that, yet again, we have not been able to rectify what has now become a linear canal-side eyesore of parked cars, vans and overnight sleepers along Aldcliffe Road, recently joined by over half a dozen permanently moored canal boats.

Despite many attempts to find help to improve the road congestion from East Lodge to Haverbreaks Bridge, neither the City, the County nor the Canal and River Trust will do the slightest thing to rectify a daily congestion problem that besets our residents, which only goes to illustrate the frustrations of being a Parish Councillor. What things will be like if the proposed Unitary Authority is created, I dread to think...

Finally, I wish to thank my fellow Councillors and our meticulous Parish Clerk for their unstinting efforts to safeguard the best interest of all parishioners in both hamlets that together make up our Parish.

Nick Webster, Chairman

7th May 2025