CHAIRMAN’S REPORT 2020-21

A strange and difficult year in which the Council has ,at times, found it difficult to move forward. Remote meetings have led to a higher average attendance but have lost that personal interaction that enables it to reach an entirely satisfactory decision. We have had less planning applications but learnt more about the processes involved. You do not need permission to have trees or a sign as long as you have official permission to plant. Yes, it applies to both. With the Airfield development, we seem to have passed the planning stage and now we are learning about the application and all the intricate detail that governs it.

Our work to improve the environment of the village residents has struggled; the information board has left scars, but more worrying is that our work with other agencies, apart from one, affecting the village has not found much support and often ideas ventured have been dismissed with little discussion.

Liaison work carried out by individual Councillors has worked; problems arising from the Vital Earth operation have been readily addressed and the Council continues to support the Polo Ground committee where possible, and now we have a professional oversight of the proceeding construction work.

As to the future, the Airfield will continue to need our input and now the Electoral Boundary Consultation has raised the question as to what representation Osmaston and Yeldersley residents require and/or want. These are questions that we must answer.

Lastly, my thanks to Fiona without whose work and expertise, Council work would be a much harder task.