

Report to the Annual Parish Meeting

19 April 2018 / 19:30 / Parish Hall, Launton

I am pleased to report that once again Launton Lines has had a very successful year- our 23rd year since the first publication.

This year we have had to face increases in printing costs (5%) and the new postal charges that came into force recently. The number of commercial advertisers has decreased slightly, but, even so, we are in a stable financial position and we do not anticipate seeking extra funding at present.

I'd like to highlight that the continuing success of Launton Lines is largely due to the dedication of everyone involved:

- the regular team (Robert Cornford, Michael Stack and Shirley Johnson) who make the production of each issue go smoothly, ably assisted by Nikki Fine, who has been helping as Editor and contributor this year
- the distributors who regularly deliver Launton Lines to their neighbours
- our advertisers, some of whom have supported us for very many years, and
- Launton Parish Council, without whose grant Launton Lines would struggle to continue.

This is my first report to the Annual Parish Meeting, since taking over from Pat Tucker last year. I'm please to say that Launton Lines is still in good shape and we have a number of exciting plans and aims for the year ahead:

- A constitution/operating document
 - At next AGM (July 2018) we will propose the new constitution, having circulated beforehand, and elect committee with a minimum of Chairman and Treasurer plus others who are willing to join/continue.
- Linking LL with the website so it's all run under the same committee
 - We have reached out to others in the village who are involved in these communication channels and will ensure they are involved too
- Putting LL online
 - This can be done as soon as we have carried out a suitable risk assessment of GDPR-compliant data protection considerations
 - As part of this, we will document the methodology for acceptance of articles

- Create T&Cs and Privacy Notice
- Liability insurance
 - e.g. to cover LL distributors while walking around the village
- Created a new email forwarding address launtonlines@launton.org
- New software for editing
- Implement new technology which will allow any editor to create the pdf copy from any browser by using a cloud-based virtual machine.
 - This will help hand-over from one editor to another and increase resilience in our processes. It also means we are not reliant on individual's own equipment - the virtual desktop will be controlled by the LL committee.
- Create/publicise a way for interested parties from outside the distribution catchment to buy a copy
- Archiving:
 - We remain on the lookout for anyone who can help electronically archive the rich history we have built up over 23 years of Launton Lines publications

As you can see, it's an ambitious programme of actions and, as always, we would welcome anyone help from anyone who would like to be either regularly or occasionally involved with Launton Lines at our AGM in July 2018.