

A tribute to Cllr Jim Morrison

It is my sad duty to inform everybody of the passing of our friend and colleague, vice-chairman, Jim Morrison. He was admitted to Derby hospital on 20 March and passed away on 3 April. Having contracted coronavirus.

Jim, a resident of Breedon for almost 30 years contributed a huge level of enthusiasm, drive and a forensic level of investigation into all matters, coupled with his own inimitable humour and modesty.

A Cambridge University educated engineering graduate who worked in the oil industry most of his life and latterly became chairman of Queens Hospital Burton on Trent, until final retirement.

Jim was elected to the Parish Council in 2015 and many of the projects in which he was involved on behalf of this community will endure for many generations to come.

To mention but a few; the Bull field footpath project. This particular problem plagued the Parish Council for some 10 years previously, and without relating every detail Jim converted what was merely a public right of way into a fully adopted footpath with a replacement bridge over the stream. Even that taxed Jim for some 18 months before a successful conclusion and his colleagues on the Parish Council voted that it should be known as Morrison's Way in future.

Other projects in the community include, the electricity supply on the village green in Breedon, which we now enjoy, the restoration and installation of the round seat, installing replacement noticeboards, litter picking, bulb planting to mention a few, and indeed the many unseen projects, some involving detailed paperwork on health and safety issues, policy issues which will have to be aware of and comment on accordingly, which Jim delighted in resolving.

I turn now to Breedon Summer Sunday, which would not be the success it is without Jim's organisational abilities and particularly the classic car display and rally together with of course, including his own pride and joy Jaguar C type.

Jim was also chairman of TABAG, Tonge and Breedon action group relating to HS2. It was a combination of his drive and incessant campaigning of Parliament and other bodies that ensured that HS2 was moved further east from its originally intended course to minimise the effect on this community.

If the foregoing was not enough, Jim was also a volunteer driver for the Castle Donington Volunteer Centre and was seen regularly around the district in the centre minibus which he gave at least one day a week of his time.

Our thoughts and best wishes go to his wife Ginnie and children, Sarah, and Richard.

Rest in peace, Jim.

Written and read by Ray Morrison, Chairman of Breedon on the Hill Parish Council.