Couple have done 68 years of council work between them

Della has only missed two parish meetings in 34 years



David and Della Skells are retiring from Gosberton Parish Council after racking up 68 years of experience between them. (0903075t81)

report by JOHN BAKER

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SIXTY eight years of parish council experience will come to an end later this month when Della and David Skells retire.

Della is clerk at Gosberton Parish Council and has missed only two meetings in 34 years, both due to hospitalisation, while David was a South Holland district councillor for 17 years, acting as chairman in 1990-92.

Forty three members have served in that time, but only Coun John Dennis remains from the council Della joined back in 1972.

She will now hand over the reins to Sue Roe, who officially begins on April 1, and said: "David came on the parish council about six months after I did.

"I was already clerk of the school governors at Gosberton Primary School and honorary secretary to the youth club, which I did for 19 years.

"I think the highlight was working towards the playing fields in our village. The highlight was working towards the playing fields in our village

- Della Skells

"It took seven years and a lot of work but we got there."

The Lowgate couple, who are both 76, attended their last meeting on March 5 at Gosberton Public Hall.

They will now concentrate on their three children and three grandchildren, gardening, and their activities with Friends of Speyer, which they have enjoyed for 17 years.

Della is due to become honorary secretary at Gosberton Good Companions, where she has been treasurer for four years.

She said: "There have been a lot of changes since I started – an awful lot more paper and computer work – but I have thoroughly enjoyed it."