

Chairmans report April 2024

It has been an eventful year where we seemed to have had wave after wave of issues to contend with. In the absence of our Ward Councillor, Mark Versallion, we have had to enlist the support our MP Andrew Selous and I thank him for his interventions. We are extremely pleased that Mark has recently rejoined us at our monthly meetings, and we sincerely hope this continues.

Firstly, our finances are on budget. The bank account remains healthy with a large portion of our 'traffic calming' fund being transferred to a higher interest account. We were able to hold our portion of the of the Council Tax at last years figures so that none of the percentage increase that appeared on your recent bills, were due to the Parish Council.

Our greenbelt & conservation land has had several attacks. The PC's stance remains to protect these areas of the village for future generations.

The work to our grade one listed clock tower is well underway and all credit to the village for raising such a significant amount of money.

Thrift Road residents have recently completed a parking survey in response to multiple concerns. The response rate was 52%, much higher than the expected average. These will be discussed further in tonight's PC meeting.

We are in the process of realigning all our land agreement termination dates.

Bryants lane bookings remain at a satisfactory level and quotes for car park repairs are currently being sourced.

Traffic calming is no further forward so the PC will be looking at reallocating the money.

With regards to the terrible flooding issues in the village we can only apologise for further delays to the 'spades in the ground' that we had been led to believe were imminent. Our efforts were intercepted and progress taken out of our hands.

We welcome Chris Reading to the team and thank all members, including the Clerk, for a year of hard work, much of which goes unseen.

Cllr. Dawn Fitzpatrick.