

CHAIRMANS REPORT
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
ANNUAL REPORT 2015/16

We welcome Jane Allman , who was appointed as Assistant Clerk earlier in the year,.

As all the Chairman of the various Committees have written reports on their particular responsibilities which are available at the door I am just giving a roundup of some of the projects which we have achieved during the year

The railings around the village hall site have been looking in need of attention and some repair. After long discussions and advice we decided the best and most cost effective remedy was to replace them. They do certainly make the site look better and I hope they will last as long as the last ones.

We; have three village ponds, Rudds, Banks and Church. Both Rudds and Church ponds were in need of some work, the former needed a complete clean out and Church pond required some major work to the bank. I am pleased to announce that this work was undertaken and has considerably improved both ponds.

During the year we have decided to form two new committees. The Facilities Committee which includes representative from all the Sports Clubs and Art and is in the process of discussing how the 106 money which is earmarked for sport and recreation should be spent. The personnel Committee will be involved in staffing issues.

The old Medical Centre has been empty for several years and I am pleased to report that Stephen Gregory has bought the building from the NHS and is in the process of renovating it to provide a Fitness Centre. We wish him well. The Day Centre part of the village Hall is also now not required as a Day Centre and we are in discussions with the County Council as to its future.

As I expect you all know the Churchyard will be finally closed in November. We will then be responsible for finding land for a new burial ground. This could be costly to the Parish.

We received resignations from two Parish Councillors during the year, Lindsey Poole and Rachael Martin. due to pressures of work. We thank them for their contribution and wish them well.

I am pleased to announce that last Monday we welcomed a new member to the Council, Amanda Capp. Amanda has lived in the village for over two years and is keen to take part in the community.

This has been a busy and difficult year for the Council with all the problem planning issues. I will leave any further mention on this to David Truesdale who is willing to give an update and further information after my report.

As I have said it has been an exceptionally busy year particularly for Sue Gilbert. She has done incredibly well to achieve all she has done and I know at times it has been very stressful getting all the papers together on time. She seems to have always remained cheerful though I do wonder how!!! We are so lucky with both our Clerks whose commitment to the Council has been brilliant and I would like to take this opportunity to say a very big thank you to both of them.

My thanks too to the Councillors for their support and commitment, I would like to mention David Truesdale for all his work regarding planning .Without his professional knowledge and contacts I do not know how the Council would have dealt with some of the difficult issues we have been faced with. Also David O'Hanlon for bringing the Council into the 21st century with the accounts.

Margaret Aston - Chairman