

3. Chairman's report

Welcome everybody to this Annual Parish Meeting, we have many reports from the various bodies. Some will give their reports and others have submitted their reports to be read out. I would ask you to keep your questions on the things you have heard until the end of the evening unless someone has to leave early.

The Parish Council has a full compliment of Councillors, this has been partly achieved by moving the Council meetings dates to a Monday.

The Chicklade Road site has proved to be a very fraught project with many twists and turns not helped by the bureaucracy at Wiltshire Council. After long negotiations between the developer and WC on a 106 agreement the developer was willing to sign but WC would not do so. Then came along another cost to the developer the Phosphate mitigation levy. A cynical person would say the delay to sign for 106 was deliberate. The funding for the surgery is not certain as the NHS FUNDING GROUP who gave assurances last April funding was available is now not so sure. The developer was going to provide the sewage piping, the water and electricity supply as part of the rest of the development infrastructure.

The Parish Council has sent a letter to the Leader of Wiltshire Council asking for his explanation to the people of Hindon why after spending so much time on the Neighbourhood plan where a suitable site for housing and a surgery was identified this has been put in jeopardy by the frequent delays in planning by his Council. We await his reply.

PLANNING

The planning committee meet regularly to look at Parish planning applications on buildings and trees. The committee are David Robertson, Charlie Bowen and Mike Constable.

PRECEPT

The precept has gone up slightly to pay for our extra cost of our clerk and contractors who have increased their rates.

VILLAGE HALL

The village hall has a representative of the Parish Council on its committee. The hall continues to flourish. It has recently been redecorated and had a new carpet laid with underlay.

FLOOD WARDEN

Our flood warden is Charlie Pickup, he will inform villagers at risk of flooding as he monitors water levels at a local bore hole. He attends meetings of the area flood working group. The once in ten years flood events are now too regular. Charlie would like to say a few words.

RIGHTS OF WAY

Our rights of way man is Charlie Bowen who regularly walks the different paths.

PLAYGROUND

The playground person is Ros Gough. If the weather ever improves she intends to have the goal mouth areas repaired. You will have noticed the planting of willow along the fence. Our thanks to a local resident.

HIGHWAYS

Frank Freeman is our go to man on Highways, he is awaiting work to start on the traffic management of Stops Hill. This has been delayed by change of road contractor and lack of staff. Frank looks after our Community Speed Watch and is always looking for volunteers

ALLOTMENTS

The Council has agreed to provide extra water troughs to the East side of the site at the same time a little bit of levelling will be carried out on walkways for disabled access and easier mowing.

SWWAB

I attend the three monthly meetings of the South West Area Board and listen to reports from the emergency services and the various departments of Wiltshire Council.

NEWSLETTER

The Council continues to support the local information magazine and welcomes its new editor Ben Broad, he has already made his mark by revamping the layout and giving the magazine a new name