

Parish Council Chairman's report 2020

At the start of the year we could not have for seen how it would end and the circumstances which I find myself writing this are unprecedented. The impact of the covid19 pandemic continues to reverberate around the Parish but it has brought out the best in everyone including the PC Staff who have continued to work throughout the crisis supporting the community effort, adapting to new legislation whilst maintaining standards of work. Thanks must go to Jane Bowd, Alison Jackson, Ian Armstrong, Ricky Storr, and Lorraine Pearce who are all working hard towards resumption of "normal" whilst abiding by government advice. Please monitor PC website and Facebook for all the latest guidelines.

Planning continues to take up considerable time with 37 applications having been considered in the past year some more contentious than others. Rest assured PC do value resident comments and continue to work for the benefit of the community when deliberating.

CIL projects are ongoing but I am pleased that the extension to the footpath Millfields to the cemetery has finally been completed bar minor landscaping, this will benefit many and improve road safety.

Decision taken to develop a 5year plan to regenerate the Overcote lane playing field and for the existing under11's play equipment to be painted.

Rural exemption site finally got underway and it is pleasing to finally see houses rising from the ground. Please remember, to register your interest if you meet criteria for these Homes.

Environment ever important. Allotment plots Still popular and there is a waiting list for plots. The PC continue to support the forest school project. Council have supported the community environmental group by providing a location for growing if wildflowers and our hedgehog box initiative proved popular.

Work comes at a cost and it was necessary to place a small inflationary increase on the precept which equates to £1.61 per annum for a Band D property.

Regular updates on PC projects are provided via the villager, Facebook and the website and all councillors and staff are available should you have any suggestions or ideas as we work towards coming out of this crisis.