

CHAIRMANS REPORT

Parish Assembly

The last year for the parish council has been one of transition and change. We have gone from bi-monthly to monthly meetings in a bid to provide a better service to the parish, allowing decisions to be made sooner, and hopefully make the process of parish business to be more efficient. We have three new councillors, and may I take this opportunity to welcome, Keith, Bob and David.

Last year we sadly lost Mervyn Sennet and John Harvey from the council, and I would like to thank them for all their years of service. Their experience will be greatly missed. We also had the sad news of the passing of Chris Abbott, and again, his experience and knowledge will be missed.

I have struggled to find actual achievements to report from last year, however, as I explained, changes have taken place and we have numerous plans in progress..... we have the continued project with HARA and the affordable housing plans. These are progressing, and we have all reached an agreement on a site we all think would be suitable, and hopefully we will have some updates very soon.

We have continued to keep in contact with the RSPB since their acquisition of the heath, and I hope that this relationship will develop allowing us to work alongside them professionally and sympathetically for the benefit of our parishioners who live on the heath.

We have also got the on going management of Hound Green village green, this is working very well, and the green is now thriving. Unfortunately, so are the moles ! This management plan should ensure that the greens biodiversity is safeguarded for future generations. The plan has allowed us to add some furniture and this will hopefully be in place during the summer. We also have some bird boxes going up to encourage the wildlife of the green to flourish.

We have been talking to the woodland trust about the poor state of Glebe wood. Hopefully this will soon be entrusted to the Parish Council to manage and make into a more user friendly environment for all who visit it. I was one of the volunteers who helped plant the wood, and so I especially look forward to seeing it become the habitat we initially planned

Next year's assembly should hopefully contain more news on achievement, and I am sure that with the continued hard work from all on the council we will have great year. Thank you.