

Wyre Piddle Parish Council

Annual Parish Meeting May 25, 2017 in the Village Hall, Wyre Piddle *Chairman's Report.*

It has been another busy year for the Council with various Community events having taken place thanks to the "joined up events" team who have helped to keep, alive community spirit by putting together a variety of entertainments in the Village. The Ester Bonnet parade in April and the Summer Fete in June were well attended and enjoyed. The Christmas Carol Concert was as popular as ever. Thanks, must go to all those who helped to organise all these and the other various events which took place.

The Parish performed brilliantly in the Wychavon Games and special thanks here are due to Carrie Oakley for the superb way she kept the organisation of all the teams who participated in the various events so well on track.

The Council has continued to seek to improve the general environment of the Village and our outdoor contractors continued to maintain general areas such as Smiths Meadow, Avon Green and the Poplar Avenue estate to a very high standard. They also undertook a range of works to tidy up various parts of the Village on request and these works were always carried out very efficiently. The flower plant tubs throughout the Village were well maintained and added a splash of colour to the street scene during the summer months – thanks to all those who contributed to the work involved.

The Parish Lengthsman – Mr Peter Hurst – undertook a range of maintenance, clearing and repair works throughout the Village with funding for the work being received directly from the County Council. Thanks, must go to Peter for his continued efforts and liaison with the County Council on various issues.

The problems with the access to traffic over the Eastern Bridge continued to persist during the year but it is hoped that the replacement barrier system which is now in place will help to mitigate these difficulties. The issue of the excessive speed of vehicles through the Village has also continued to cause concern. The VAS sign on Wyre Hill has been relatively effective in helping to spread the message to drivers to slow down as they enter the Village

The Parish Council has continued to work with to work closely with the local policing team on these matters and we had representation at all of the local PACT (Police and Community Together) meetings where we raised these and other issues of concern.

The council's finances have continued to be well managed. Our total budget is only some £11,930 but we do a variety of things with it leveraging in additional grant and other funding where we can. We increased the parish precept for 2017/18 by only 1.99%.

Despite these limited funds, we still managed to carry out a range of activities to enhance the village environment and, as well as refurbishing the Poplar Avenue play area we shall continue to look for other grant funding to help us to continue to enhance village facilities

The general administration of the Council remains on a firm footing and thanks must go to Nigel Wood, Gladys Smout, Gary Johns And John Paul all of whom have done a great deal of work (much of it unseen) in their roles as Parish Councillors on behalf of the Village throughout the year.

Nigel has now decided to step down from his role as Vice Chairman of the Council and I am very grateful for all his help and support in recent years.

The AGM will also mark the retirement of David Taverner from the post of Parish Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer a position he has occupied for more than ten years and we wish him well for the future

We intend to remain watchful over major planning proposals where they are likely to detract from the existing character of the Village, and members of the public are invited to comment directly to us as Parish Councillors on any individual applications which are brought before the Council for consideration.

The Parish Council will continue to look for new initiatives and ideas that will help to benefit the local community generally and are keen to encourage volunteers to come forward to help with any projects which they may be interested in.

Dev Naraine
Chairman
25 May 2017