

Report from Chairman APM 2018

Good evening everyone and thank you for coming out on the first nice evening of the year, I expect you'd all rather be sipping a gin and tonic in your gardens rather than listening to me rabbit on, so I'll keep it brief!

This last year has been a good year for the parish council. We have a full council, with a diverse but much needed range of skills, and a clerk who has had the tenacity to stay with us for now over a year, despite volumes of unpleasant correspondence. Please could we all acknowledge Mary's hard work? 🙌

The past year has focused on setting budgets, checking audit requirements and ensuring that councillors have allocated roles and responsibilities, these roles and responsibilities are listed by each councillor's name on the website, if you are unsure who to approach.

Working parties and committees have been set up to address many areas that the council needed to update, and these continue to prove both useful and successful exercises.

There are also many groups and individuals in the village that the council needs to thank for their continued support and hard work.

The information the PAG group provides is invaluable to the council, so thank you to them.

Bill's scroll and heritage hut committee have worked tirelessly submitting applications for grants, drawing up design plans, and seeking out the views of concerned parties over the use of the hut in the future, thank you.

The charity have also continued to be a tower of strength for us, and have generously agreed to pay for the speed indicator sign after consultation with councillors Sutton and Winyard, our thanks to the charity.

Emma and Esther Freud and Richard Curtis have generously paid for a digital copy of the scroll, which in due course will be displayed in the village hall, but it also safeguards the scroll should anything awful happen to that, and we thank them for their generosity.

The plans for the coming year are to renovate the existing play equipment so that it maintains its unique look but is viable in the long term, to resurface the bark area on the green, rebuild the financial reserves of the parish council, comply with the new data protection laws, and to continue to go from strength to strength.

In hindsight our motto for the last few years should have been nil desperandum because there were times for despair, but I truly believe they are over now. Thank you to everyone who has supported us, helped us and believed in us.