

Parish Council Chairman's Report

Annual Parish Meeting - March 2016

Council membership - at the elections last May, Clare Cross and Gathorne Girdlestone did not stand, and Claire Lawton and Fiona Hassard were elected in their place. The Chairman thanked Clare and Gathorne for their support to the Council. In November Christine Hunt announced that she would retire at the next AGM, and after a competition Louise Callan has been appointed to take over in May.

Village Design Statement - the Working Party are to be congratulated in producing an excellent draft document, heavily based on the results of last year's questionnaire, which is with BANES for comment. If the Statement is adopted by BANES it will give greater authority to our community over planning matters.

The Queen's 90th Birthday - arrangements are in hand to light our brazier on Pensdown Hill in celebration.

Finance - developing our Village Design Statement cost less than expected last year, and this has led to small decrease in the Precept this year.

Planning - This has been a relatively quiet year, but responses have been sent to the following applications:

**Parcel 5856 High Street Priston, variation of condition.
Truespeed Cabinet, Church Farm Lane, Priston**

There has been no response yet from BANES to our proposal to change the Housing Development Boundary to exclude the garden between the apple store at Church Farm and the Village Hall.

Highways and footpaths - with the assistance of our District Councillor David Veale we are still negotiating with Highways for a solution to reduce the flooding by the dairy on Farmborough Lane.

Defibrillator - Thanks to John Wilkinson for his continuing support to this project, and to an unknown benefactor who has paid for a second, more capable defibrillator, positioned as before at the Village Hall. The original defibrillator has been re-positioned outside Willow Barn, thanks to the Pais.

Priston Website - Once again thanks to Richard Bottle for his efforts on our behalf, and for his assistance with:

Broadband - BT and BANES "Connecting Devon & Somerset" have installed "fibre to the cabinet", in Tunley, which gives some homes in Priston faster broadband, though definitely not superfast. Truespeed are installing their cabling at the moment, which should mean that superfast broadband is available to the whole of Priston village.

Thanks - Finally thank you to our Parish Clerk, Christine Hunt, and all of our Councillors for their good work and support over the past year.