

Pitminster Parish Council

Chairman's Report for Annual Parish Meeting 11/5/2015.

A warm welcome to you all.

Councillors

Although no Parish Council election was needed as, like so many of our local Parishes, there were only the same number of nominations as places; in our case 8. I am pleased we have a full council. Welcome to Cllr Liz Christie and farewell to Cllr John Cannon.

World War 1 remembered.

A splendid exhibition of memorabilia and reminiscences was held at the Lamb and Flag. Organised by Richard Holt, Michelle Sanders, Nicky Yoxall and Jenny Fogg this was a poignant and moving reminder of the sacrifices and hardships endured. A permanent record will be held in the County Museum and in the National Archives. A Portland Stone memorial has been placed on the Green as a more accessible site for those who wish to pay their respects to the war dead. It will be the focus for the Remembrance Day service in November.

Go online at www.pitminsterww1.co.uk and see the wealth of material that was assembled.

War Memorial cleaning

After some delay a grant has been agreed by the War Memorial Trust towards the cleaning of the memorial. It is hoped that this will be completed before November 11th.

Telephone Boxes retention and renovation.

After feedback from local residents Council agreed that the three boxes should be retained. They are, however in need of considerable restoration and renovation and it is expected that those who wished them saved for the community will be active in this work in the near future. An estimate of required works will be sought and then the money will have to be found from the Precept.

Planning decisions

As you will know Pitminster Parish Council is one of the few in the County to have some planning powers designated from TDBC. Last year we deliberated on a total of 38, 6 of

which were delegated to us for decision; 32 were for observation only.

Councillor attendance record

Total 10 meetings

Edmondson 8; Cannon 8; Morgan 10; Whatmore 10; Wakefield 7; Sanders 4; Lee 9;
Neale 8.

Youth Club

The Deane Discovery Centre is no longer able to offer them the required space needed. so moving to Corfe Village Hall was their only option as there is no Hall large enough in our own Parish. They also have a new leader in Emma King who has taken over from Trudi Morgan who inspired the idea in the first place and has worked tirelessly, with help from Sheila Coe, among others, to make it so successful.

New Sports Pavilion and Parish Hall

Duncan Meikle is leading a small working group of the PFA and plans of a possible Hall/Pavilion will be on view at the Fête on June 6th. It is expected that funds will be needed from the Big Lottery Reaching Communities Fund as well as many local fund raising initiatives.

Angersleigh Village Room rebuild

This has started and the new building should be completed in September. The Angersleigh Fair on July 25th will be at Lowton Manor.

Website

I am delighted to say this is up and running and I am very grateful to Cllr Whatmore in particular, for his work and enthusiasm in getting it to this stage. Our Clerk has also been very proactive and he will be keeping it up to date. The PFA have their own; as do the Youth Club. It is hoped that running costs will be offset by advertising revenue from local businesses. Chris Robinson is keeping the diary up to date.

Sophie Pollock, who lives in Angersleigh, will be looking after our Facebook page, so thank you to her also.

Precept

I am pleased to be able to report that we have been able to reduce this.

Voluntary work/Litter Pick

There is a large untapped resource in our community and it needs to be better organised. I am hopeful that over the next year we shall see this happen. Starting with the Litter pick which saw at least 20 people be involved I am sure much more can be done and will need to be done if we are to see convincing evidence presented to the Big Lottery Fund that our Community really does care about itself and all who live in it and is prepared to work together. Chris Robinson is keen to hear from anyone who would like to support the community

David Edmondson, Chair.
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